

Groundwater Administrative Controls and Criteria Allowing Implementation

Control	Criteria
Withdrawal of Unappropriated Waters ORS 536.410 OAR 690, Div 80	ORS 536.410: Withdraw from any and all uses if necessary: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To insure compliance with state water resources policy OR 2. To act in the public interest to conserve water for the maximum beneficial use
Classification of Water ORS 536.340 OAR 690, Div 500-520	ORS 536.340: Classify to highest and best types or quantities of use for the future
Serious Water Management Problem Areas ORS 540.435 OAR 690, Div 85	ORS 540.435: The Commission can require installation of a measuring device if it finds water use information is necessary because of serious water management problems caused by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Groundwater level decline OR 2. Unresolved user disputes OR 3. Frequent water shortages
Critical Groundwater Area Designation ORS 537.730 to 537.742 OAR 690, Div 10	ORS 537.730: The Commission may by rule designate and area a CGWA if: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Groundwater levels are declining or have declined excessively OR 2. The Department finds a pattern of well to well interference OR 3. The Department finds a pattern of substantial interference between wells and senior surface water rights OR 4. The groundwater is being or about to be overdrawn OR 5. The groundwater has been or is expected to become contaminated to an extent contrary to public welfare, health and safety OR 6. Groundwater temperatures are expected to be, are being or have been substantially altered except as specified in ORS 537.796
Groundwater Mitigation Area	Deschutes Mitigation Program in OAR Chapter 690, Divisions 505, 521, and 522

Withdrawal and Classification prevent new allocation within the designated area. Serious Water Management Problem Area designation allows the Department to require water use measurement and reporting. Critical Groundwater Area Designation is the only tool that can address over-appropriation by curtailing authorized use. Many of the terms found in control criteria are defined in rule (OAR 690, Divisions 8 and 400) and statute.