



2023 Integrated Water Resources Strategy (IWRS)

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission

September 15, 2023

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Agenda

- Project Team
- Project Timeline
- Outreach & Engagement
- Proposed IWRS Revisions
- Questions & Discussion



Water Management in Oregon...

- 18 state agencies
- 10 federal agencies
- 9 sovereign tribes
- Local governments
- Utilities



IWRS Project Teams

State Agency Project Team

- Dept of Agriculture
- Dept of Environmental Quality
- Dept of Fish & Wildlife
- Dept of Land Conservation & Development



Other

- Water Core Team
- Federal Liaison Team
- OWRD Team

IWRS Update Timeline

2023

JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUNE JULY AUG SEPT OCT NOV DEC

Public Input

Draft IWRS

Public
Review

Revise
Draft

2024

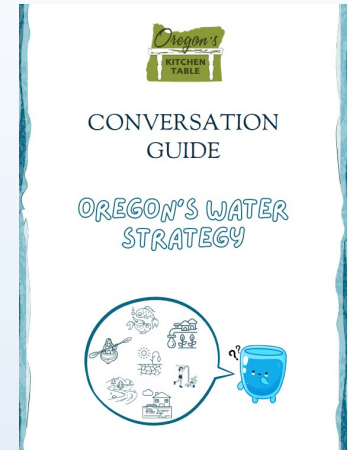
JAN FEB MAR APR

Public
Review

Final
IWRS

Outreach & Engagement

- Facilitated Engagement
 - 7 In-person Community Conversations
 - 1 Virtual Community Conversation
 - Culturally-specific conversations
 - 3 Youth-specific events
- Self-led Conversations
- Public Survey (9 languages)



**Oregon's
Kitchen Table
Summary
Report**

July 17th

Outreach & Engagement

- Agency Survey
- Outreach/Consultation with Tribes
- State Agency Boards / Commissions



Public Survey (~1700 responses)

Themes

- More demands than water available
- Access to safe & sufficient water is not equitably distributed
- Water rights: change vs status quo
- Need for water education
- Concerns about:
 - Water quality & safety
 - Availability during natural disasters
 - Ability to support fish and other wildlife



Outreach & Engagement

Quotes from the Public:

*“I want the **sense of urgency** and life and death to be reflected in the discussions.”*

*“Que tomen accion real y que me dejen saber la acciones (**take real action and let me know the action**).”*

*“Each area of demand (**industry/ag/recreation**) has **potential to improve conservation** but without guidance, rulemaking and enforcement, and/or incentives, each area continues existing approaches. These are no longer sustainable.”*

*“Agriculture and farmers/ranchers are needed to feed the state/country, yet the available water is being taken away from them more and more. **More regulations are not always the answer.**”*

Agency Survey

Findings

- Limited familiarity with the contents of the IWRS
- Call for summary or overview
- Need connections between agencies & IWRS recommended actions
- Request for enhanced online/digital access to IWRS

100-Year Water Vision

- Participants wanted connection to IWRS
- Need for education, awareness about state's water challenges
- Need for coordination & collaboration at all levels
- Emphasis on stewardship
- Data needs (outcomes from full-day technical workshop)
- Local/regional planning in addition to statewide

Proposed
IWRS
Revisions

What is missing?

- Historical context
- Tribal collaboration
- Climate change emphasis, including environmental justice implications
- Affordability and access
- Accountability, metrics for progress
- Reports & Initiatives since 2017 (e.g., 100-Year Water Vision, Secretary of State Water Advisory Report, many others)



Oregon's 2017 Integrated Water Resources Strategy

A framework for improving our understanding of Oregon's water resources and meeting our instream and out-of-stream needs, including water quantity, water quality, and ecosystem needs



(1) Understand Water Resources Today

Further Understand Limited Water Supplies & Systems
(groundwater, surface water, and their interaction)

Improve Water Quality & Quantity Information

Further Understand Our Water Management Institutions

Understanding Water Resources / Supplies / Institutions

- 1.A Conduct additional groundwater investigations
- 1.B Improve water resource data collection & monitoring
- 1.C Coordinate inter-agency data collection, processing, and use in decision-making

← OBJECTIVES →

← CRITICAL ISSUES →

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS →

(2) Understand Instream and Out-of-Stream Needs

Further Define Out-of-Stream Needs / Demands
(i.e., diverted water)

Further Define Instream Needs / Demands
(i.e., left-in-place water)

Understanding Oregon's Out-of-Stream Needs/Demands

- 2.A Regularly update long-term water demand forecasts
- 2.B Improve water-use measurement & reporting
- 2.C Determine adjudicated water right claims
- 2.D Authorize the update of water right records with contact information
- 2.E Regularly update Oregon's water-related permitting guide

Understanding Oregon's Instream Needs/Demands

- 3.A Determine flows needed (quality & quantity) to support instream needs
- 3.B Determine needs of groundwater dependent ecosystems

← OBJECTIVES →

← CRITICAL ISSUES →

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS →

(3) Understand the Coming Pressures That Affect Our Needs and Supplies

Economic Development

Water & Energy

Climate Change

Extreme Events

Population Growth

Water & Land Use

Water-Related Infrastructure

Education & Outreach

Water & Energy

- 4.A Analyze the effects on water from energy development projects & policies
- 4.B Take advantage of existing infrastructure to develop non-traditional hydroelectric power
- 4.C Promote strategies that increase/integrate energy & water savings

Water & Land Use

- 6.A Improve integration of water information into land use planning (and vice versa)
- 6.B Improve state agency coordination
- 6.C Encourage low-impact development practices and green infrastructure

Water-Related Infrastructure

- 7.A Develop and upgrade water and wastewater infrastructure
- 7.B Encourage regional (sub-basin) approaches to water and wastewater systems
- 7.C Ensure public safety/dam safety

Education and Outreach

- 8.A Support Oregon's K-12 environmental literacy plan
- 8.B Provide education and training for Oregon's next generation of water experts
- 8.C Promote community education and training opportunities
- 8.D Identify ongoing water-related research needs

Economic Development & Population Growth (See Actions 2A and 3A)

(4) Meet Oregon's Instream and Out-of-Stream Needs

Place-Based Efforts

Water Management & Development

Healthy Ecosystems

Public Health

Funding

Place-Based Efforts

- 9.A Continue to undertake place-based integrated, water resources planning
- 9.B Coordinate implementation of existing natural resource plans
- 9.C Partner with federal agencies, tribes, and neighboring states in long-term water resources management

Water Management & Development

- 10.A Improve water-use efficiency and water conservation
- 10.B Improve access to built storage
- 10.C Encourage additional water reuse projects
- 10.D Reach environmental outcomes with non-regulatory alternatives
- 10.E Continue the water resources development program
- 10.F Provide an adequate presence in the field
- 10.G Strengthen water quantity & water quality permitting programs

Healthy Ecosystems

- 11.A Improve watershed health, resiliency, and capacity for natural storage
- 11.B Develop additional instream protections
- 11.C Prevent and eradicate invasive species
- 11.D Protect and restore instream habitat and habitat access for fish and wildlife
- 11.E Develop additional groundwater protections

Public Health

- 12.A Ensure the safety of Oregon's drinking water
- 12.B Reduce the use of and exposure to toxics and other pollutants
- 12.C Implement water quality pollution control plans

Funding

- 13.A Fund development and implementation of Oregon's IWRS
- 13.B Fund water resources management activities at state agencies
- 13.C Invest in local or regional water planning efforts
- 13.D Invest in feasibility studies for water resources projects
- 13.E Invest in implementation of water resources projects

2017 IWRS

Framework = Document Outline

Oregon's 2017 Integrated Water Resources Strategy

A framework for improving our understanding of Oregon's water resources and meeting our instream and out-of-stream needs, including water quantity, water quality, and ecosystem needs



(1) Understand Water Resources Today

Further Understand Limited Water Supplies & Systems

Chapter 1 DATA, WATER SUPPLIES

← OBJECTIVES →

← CRITICAL ISSUES →

← RECOMMENDED ACTIONS →

(2) Understand Instream and Out-of-Stream Needs

Further Define Out-of-Stream Needs / Demands (i.e. Groundwater)

Chapter 2 DATA, WATER DEMANDS

Understanding Oregon
2.A Regularly update
2.B Improve water-use
2.C Determine unadj
2.D Authorize the up
contact informati
2.E Regularly update

Instream Needs/Demands
led (quality & quantity) to
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groundwater dependent

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Chapter 3 PRESSURES

← OBJECTIVES →

← CRITICAL ISSUES →

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Chapter 4 SOLUTIONS

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Water & Land Use

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Climate Change

5.A Support continued by research efforts
5.B Assist with climate change adaptation & resiliency strategies

7.C Ensure public safety/dam safety approaches

Extreme Events

5.5A Plan and prepare for drought resiliency
5.5B Plan and prepare for flood events
5.5C Plan and prepare for a Cascadia subduction earthquake event

Education and Outreach

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Economic Development & Population Growth
(See Actions 2A and 3A)

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PRESSURES

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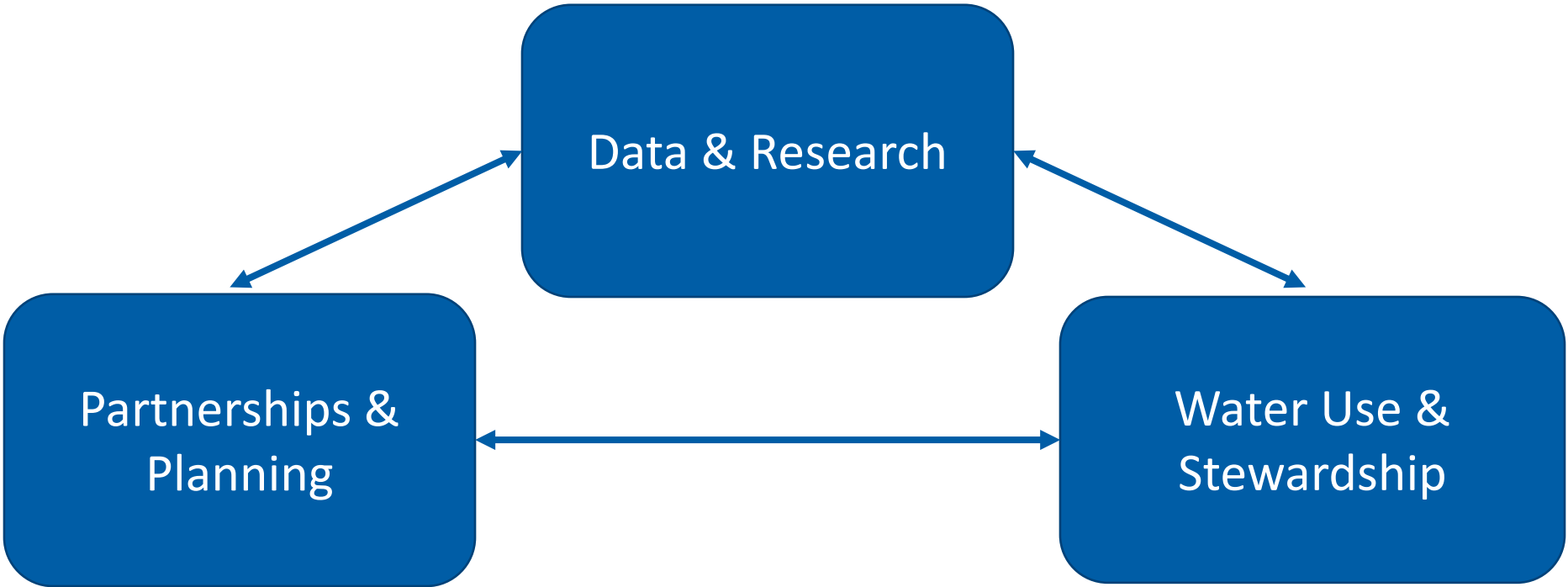
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SOLUTIONS

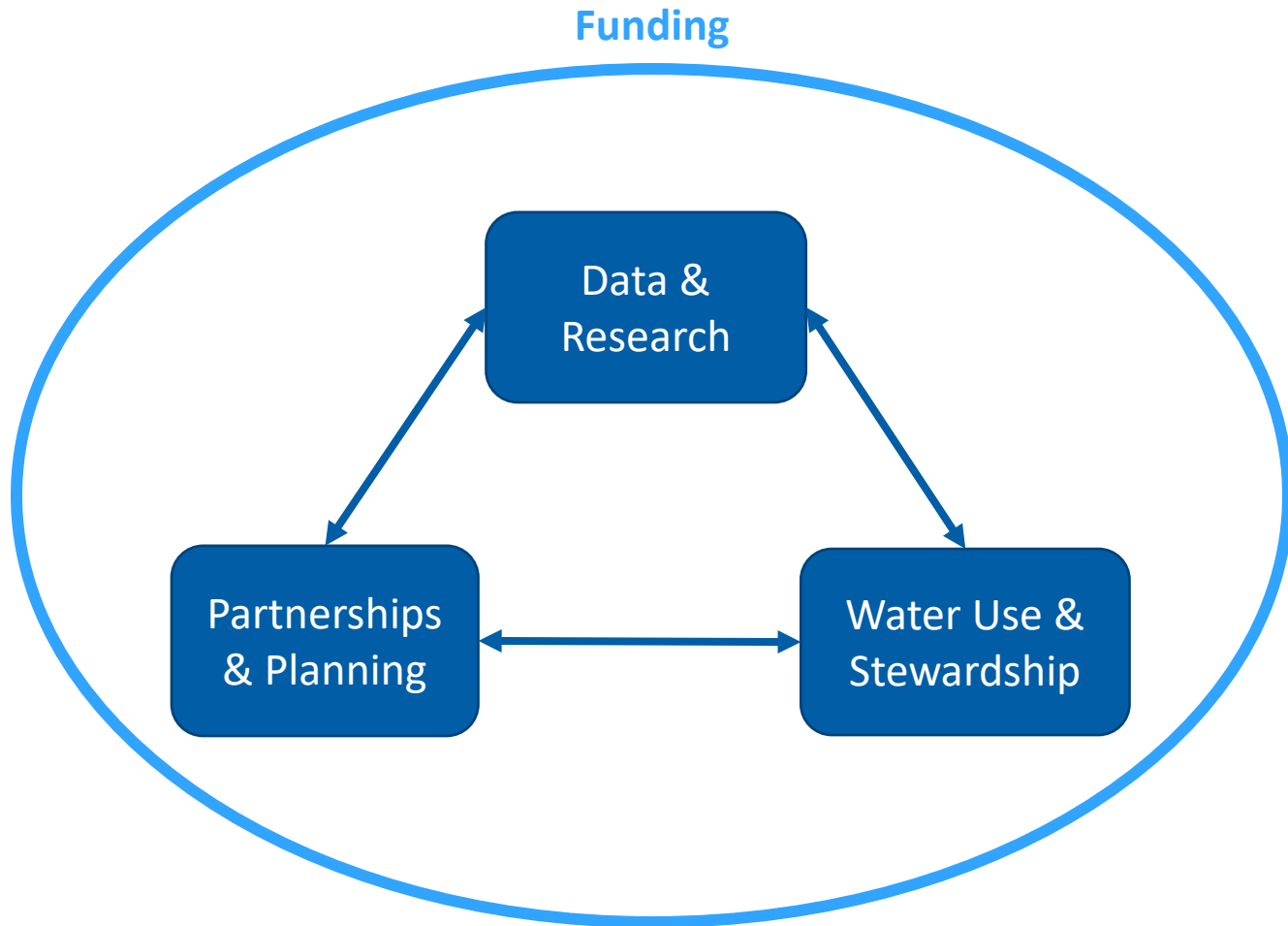
2023 IWRS

Framework = Action Types

Types of Actions called for in the IWRS (and 100-Year Water Vision)...



Importance of funding for all components...



Oregon's 2023 Integrated Water Resources Strategy - DRAFT 9/2023

FUNDING

**Partnerships
& Planning**

- Education
- Collaborative Leadership
- Place-Based Efforts
- Land Use & Hazard Mitigation Planning
- Extreme Events

**Data &
Research**

- Water Quality & Quantity Information
- Out-of-Stream Water Needs
- Instream & Ecosystem Water Needs

**Water Use &
Stewardship**

- Healthy Ecosystems
- Pollution Management
- Water Use & Management
- Water Infrastructure
- Water and Energy

INFORMS

INFORMS

Climate change, population growth, land use change, economic impacts, and energy demand are all important stressors considered throughout the Strategy

New!

1-page IWRS Recommended Action Summaries

Critical Information:

- Example Actions
- Lead / Supporting Agencies, Partners
- Equity Considerations
- Workgroups
- Documents
- Resources

2017 IWRS Recommended Action and Example Actions:

Recommended Action 3.A Determine Flows Needed (Quality and Quantity) to Support Instream Needs

Examples of how to implement this action:

- Prioritize and install gages in additional locations to monitor the status of instream flows and water rights
- Identify basins with listed species and install monitoring equipment to help characterize the suite of flows through these basins
- Conduct instream needs studies, such as base flow studies and elevated flow requirements or prescriptions
- Pursue a consistent, model-based framework for characterizing long-term instream demand and integrate projections of future climate for planning purposes
- Develop models/studies to quantify the economic, social, and cultural value of instream uses
- Support state agency instream flow efforts and programs (e.g., ODFW, ODEQ, OPRD)

Legislative Changes

2023 Legislative Session resulted in:

- Requirement to produce biennial progress reports
- IWRS updates now required only every 8 years

What's Next

- IWRS Draft development with inter-agency project team
- Review and comment on the 2023 IWRS Drafts (~October & ~January)

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OREGON



WATER RESOURCES
DEPARTMENT