

Place-Based Integrated Water Resource Planning

Pilot Project Updates:

Harney Basin, Upper Grande Ronde River, Mid-Coast,
Lower John Day River

Roadmap

- Updates and financial forecasts from each pilot group
 - Harney Basin
 - Upper Grande Ronde River
 - Mid-Coast
 - Lower John Day River
- State Agency Budgets
- Support for HB 3105

Harney Basin

Harney Basin

Conveners since beginning the effort in 2016: *Harney County Watershed Council & Harney County*

Project Manager: *Holly Mondo since 2019*

Facilitator: *Jack Southworth since 2019*

Full Collaborative: *Over 40 signatories on governance agreement, including irrigators, residents, conversation groups, agencies, Burns Paiute tribe and more. If you are interested in collaborating we have a process for all to participate.*

Coordinating Committee: *Collaborative partners interested in guiding only the process of the full collaborative meetings*

Strategy Team: *Works with project manager and facilitator to ensure we have best participation at the collaborative*

Working Groups: *Agricultural; Rural Domestic Wells; Vegetation Management; Ecological*



New outreach campaign
<https://harneyswaterfuture.com/>

What have you learned about your water situation?

- *The basin groundwater is over allocated between 120-160,000 acre feet*
- *Depth and extent of cones of depression are influenced by the rate and volume of groundwater pumping as well as the surrounding geology.*
- *Water being accessed is “paleowater” and not recharging*
- *Over 170 domestic well users reported decline in the yield and rate of their wells in the last 10 years.*

Critical Issues

- *Developing incentive-based programs for agricultural producers to reduce groundwater use*
- *Securing safe water supply for domestic well users*
- *Completing a plan that can be implemented*
- *Developing the surface water portion of the plan.*



What solutions/strategies are you considering?

- *Over 70 strategies have been suggested and worked on by the collaborative.*
 - *Currently working on:*
 - *Water Market Feasibility Study*
 - *Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program*
 - *Securing water supply for rural domestic wells (HB 3092)*



Previous and Current Funding Sources

OWRD Place-based Planning Funds received since 2016:

- *\$300,000 + dedicated staff time*

Fundraising by Harney Place Based Planning Collaborative and Harney Watershed Council:

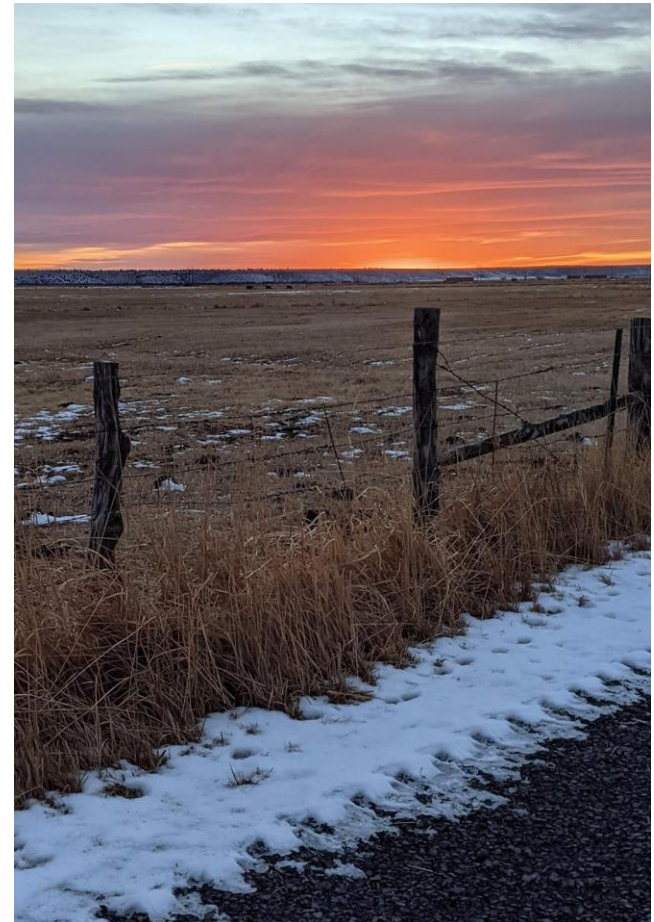
- *Foundation Grants:*
 - *\$213,000 from four different foundation grants*
- *Government Grants:*
 - *\$253,475 from three different government grants*
- *Outside funded feasibility studies:*
 - *\$162,000*

Funding Opportunities Applied to in 2021:

- *WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase 1 Grant:*
 - *\$99,000*

Volunteer Hours:

- *Estimated total community hours since 2016:*
 - *6,000 hours*



Financial Forecast

Base cost to run the Collaborative:

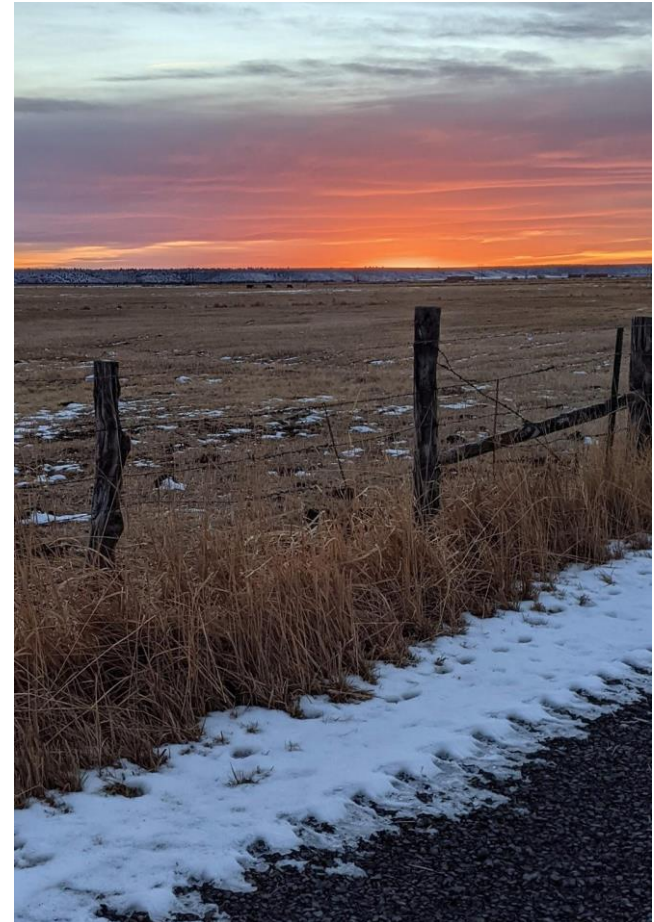
- $\sim \$144,400/\text{year} * 2 \text{ years} = \$288,800$

Funds we currently have:

- $\sim \$180,000$ (or enough to support our endeavors 8 months into the next biennium)

Funds we need:

- $\sim \$94,000$ (under the assumption that we are awarded funds from the WaterSMART grant)
- If passed, HB 3105 would provide us with **27%** of the funds we need to continue our work



Upper Grande Ronde River

Upper Grande Ronde River Watershed Partnership

Convener - *Union County*

Steering Committee - *Administrative Team (Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, OWRD, Union County Farm Bureau, City of La Grande)*

Over 25 Partners:

- **Agencies** (*OWRD, DEQ, ODFW, ODA*)
- **Agricultural Groups** (*NRCS, UCFB, UC seed growers, UC mint growers*)
- **Municipalities** (*La Grande, Union, Cove, Island City*)
- **In-stream Groups** (*GRMW, Union SWCD, TFWT, CTUIR*)
- **Individuals** (*politicians, funders, landowners, citizens*)



What have you learned about your water situation?

Critical Issues

- Groundwater Uncertainty
- Surface Water Quality
- Surface Water Deficit
- Natural Hazards/Climate Change
- Data Gaps



What solutions/strategies are you considering?

9 Major Strategies to address group identified critical issues

Of the nine strategies the top 5 are considered priority (shown in bold).

- 1) **Built Storage - Aboveground Storage and Underground Storage**
- 2) **Land Management - Agricultural Land**
- 3) **Data Collection, Monitoring, and Research**
- 4) **Non-structural Water Storage and Habitat Management**
- 5) **Land Management - Public Land**
- 6) Infrastructure/Land Modification
- 7) Administrative Actions
- 8) Land Management - Municipal Land
- 9) Outreach and Education

A few exciting things we are currently working on to implement these strategies include:

- In-stream flow and aboveground storage feasibility study (grant applications)
- NRCS led conservation pilot project for on-farm conservation (grant application)
- Working to expand an existing BOR hydraulic model and GRMW sedimentation study to identify areas at risk for flooding
- Coordinating County update of FEMA Natural Hazards Response Plan to include cities within the watershed that are too small to write their own





How can the state agencies support you in finishing and implementing your plans?

- Support (technical and funding) for implementation of projects - feasibility studies and construction funding

What has gone well/not so well in the planning?

- Learning, collaboration, and community awareness of water issues has gone well
- Ability to obtain data and analysis support from state agencies has been a challenge
- Ability to develop strategies has been limited by data gaps



UGRRW Partnership Financial Forecast

We are currently on Step 5

Stakeholders are reviewing a draft of our Step 5 Implementation Plan

We hope to gain Stakeholder approval of our plan in April, 2021

- 1) Amount of funding received to date (both philanthropic and state/federal funds);
 - \$275,000 OWRD Grant
 - \$10,000 Ford Family Foundation Grant
 - \$100,000 OWEB Implementation Grant
- 2) Number of estimated hours spent by Collaborative members, agency staff, and volunteers;
 - Stakeholders have volunteered approximately 2,500 hours to date on this planning process
- 3) Amount of additional funding needed for Step 5;
 - We do not anticipate needing additional funds to complete the Step 5 Plan.
 - We will need additional funds to implement the plan.
 - An additional \$25,000 from OWRD for the next two years would be helpful to use as match for feasibility study funding
- 4) Percentage of needed funding that state funds would supply

Mid-Coast

Mid-Coast Water Planning Partnership

Conveners – Seal Rock Water District & Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD)

MCWPP Coordinating Committee -12-14 volunteers representing a range of Partnership perspectives whose primary purpose is to coordinate and support the efforts of the Partnership.

MCWPP Planning Partners - 70+ partners have signed the Charter & 180+ stakeholders have engaged with the Planning Process

Project Support – MCWPP Local Planning Coordinator & Consulting Team Composed of Creative Resource Strategies, LLC, OSU's Institute for Natural Resources, OSU Extension Services, and Oregon Sea Grant.

Funding partners - City of Newport, OWRD, Meyer Memorial Trust, Oregon Community Foundation, Seal Rock Water District, City of Lincoln City, City of Yachats, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Lincoln County Farm Bureau, Gibson Farms, Ford Family Foundation, Lincoln County and thousands of contributed hours by Public & Private partners & participants.



We are working collaboratively to understand and meet the water needs of communities, the environment, and the economy in coastal watersheds from Cascade Head to Cape Perpetua.


Defining Key Water Issues




Source Water
Development
and Protection




Reliable Water
Infrastructure
and Operations



Water
Conservation
and Efficient Use



Ecosystem
Protection and
Enhancement



Enhanced
Regional
Collaboration

Developing Actions to Address Key Issues

Actions

Tier Actions (Priorities)

Define Implementation Components

- Who will implement?
- What will it cost?
- What are likely sources of funding to support action?
- What is the predicted timeline?
- How will we measure success?

Proposed actions address key water issues in the Mid-Coast.

Funding to Date

- **Funding partners** - City of Newport, Oregon Water Resources Department, Meyer Memorial Trust, Oregon Community Foundation, City of Lincoln City, City of Yachats, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Seal Rock Water District, Lincoln County Farm Bureau, Gibson Farms, Ford Family Foundation, Lincoln County, Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund.
 - **Raised to Date: \$786,590.00**
- To date, representatives from over 50 different stakeholder groups have participated in the Mid-Coast Planning Partnership, contributing **at least 7,737 hours of time to partnership meetings and events**. This is an estimated \$309,480 of in-kind time value at \$40/hr.

Funding Needed to Sustain the Collaborative

- The amount of additional funding needed for Step 5
 - **Total Cost for Planning Steps 1-5(a): \$828,614.00,**
 - **Budget Shortfall: \$42,024.00**
- Amount of funding is needed to keep the Collaborative moving over the next two years Step 5(b)
 - **Coordination/facilitation: \$160,000** (\$80,000 per year)
 - **Partnership Meetings: \$6,000** (2 per year at \$1500 per meeting)

Funding Needed to Sustain the Collaborative

- The **percentage of needed funding that state funds would supply**
 - \$166,000 to keep moving the next two years
 - Partner Contributions: ~\$6,000,
 - Private/Philanthropic Organizations: ~\$50,000,
 - State: \$110,000, **over 60%**

Lower John Day River

Lower John Day River

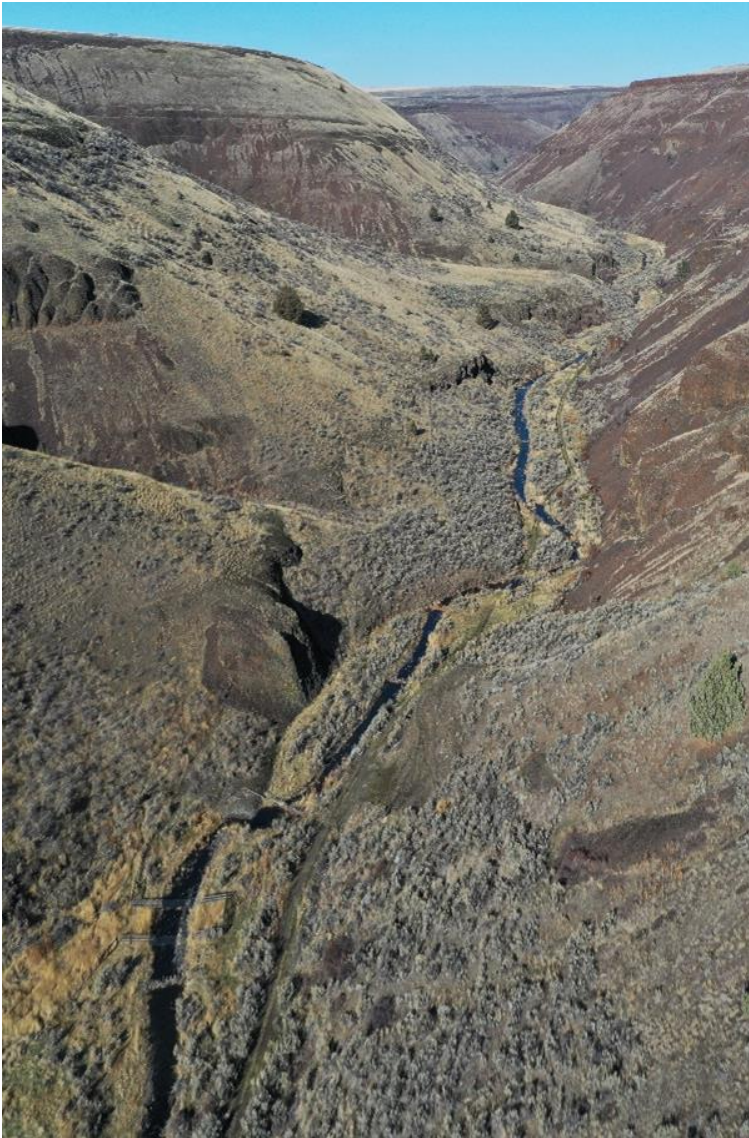


Co-convenors: Gilliam Soil and Water Conservation District and Mid John Day-Bridge Creek Watershed Council

Lower John Day River Place-Based Integrated Water Resource Planning Pilot consists of:

- over 70 participants
- including 17 organizations

The **Lower John Day Working Group** acts as the Steering Committee of this process.



What have you learned about your water situation?

- Low summer flow (July to October)
- Instream Water Quality (Temperature)
- Fish Passage Barriers
- Unmet Water Demand
- Data Gaps



What solutions/strategies are you considering?

Top critical issues (20):

1. Poor riparian habitat
2. Elevated summer stream temps and oxygen
3. Insufficient instream flow
4. Off channel storage needs
5. Degraded native plant communities

Priority Strategies (46):

- Protect riparian areas from livestock
- Protect, enhance, and/or restore native riparian vegetation
- Reconnect floodplains (BDA's, beaver restoration)
- Restore upland function by improving plant and forest communities.

How can the state agencies support you in finishing and implementing your plans?

- Funding and technical support for project implementation and feasibility studies.

What has gone well/needs improving?

- Strong collaboration amongst diverse workgroup members. Partner and agency technical support. Improved awareness of sensitive issues and strong community outreach.
- Data gaps (what data exists/how do we address the gap/ensure gap is addressed for near and long-term planning)



5 Step Process



- STEP 1- Build a Collaborative and Integrated Process -COMPLETE
- STEP 2- Characterize Water Resources, Water Quality and Basin Conditions -COMPLETE
- STEP 3- Quantify Existing and Future Needs -COMPLETE
- STEP 4- Develop Integrated Solutions for Meeting Long-Term Water Needs- DRAFT COMPLETE
- STEP 5- Plan Adoption and Implementation – IN PROGRESS

Planning Steps	Approved Grant Budget*	Grant Expenditures to Date	Remaining Grant Balance	Partner Contributions (match funds) to Date**	Total Cost (Grant Expenditures Plus Partner Contributions)
PS 1	30,016.00	30,016.74	0.00	58,795.00	88,811.74
PS 2	51,940.43	51,940.43	0.00	18,470.00	70,410.43
PS 3	53,000.00	53,000.00	0.00	44,720.00	97,720.00
PS 4	53,859.57	53,859.57	0.00	53,142.10	107,001.67
PS 5	86,184.00	5,324.00	80,860.00	7,825.75	13,149.75
Totals	275,000	194,140.00	80,860.00	182,952.85	377,092.85

Partner Contributions

To date, the Lower John Day Working Group has a total of 7,753 hours of stakeholder collaboration.

Over the last five years, average annual costs have been about \$75,000 with approximately \$40,000 from state funding and \$35,000 in-kind match.

To continue the process at the same involvement level over the 2021-2023 biennium, we would need a total of approximately \$150,000.

After Planning Step 5, the group suggests a less rigorous schedule to maintain implementation progress and support needed feasibility studies. This would reduce annual costs to \$50,000 of which 50% would be covered by in kind or grant matching funds.



Issues with State Agency Budgets

- The place-based planning groups have great concerns about the budget proposal to remove \$165,000 General Fund dollars for gaging stations
- The place-based planning groups have great concerns about the budget proposal to remove \$778,000 for observation wells

HB 3105

- The PBP conveners support the spirit of HB 3105, which provides for the continuation of PBP efforts, but have not had the opportunity to discuss this bill with their respective Collaboratives.
- Still, we sincerely ask for the support of the Committee to help us move HB 3105 through the legislative process