

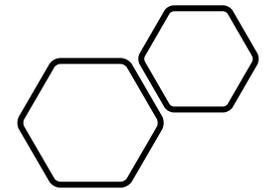
HB 3368: Responsible Water Accounting

Public Hearing

March 21, 2023

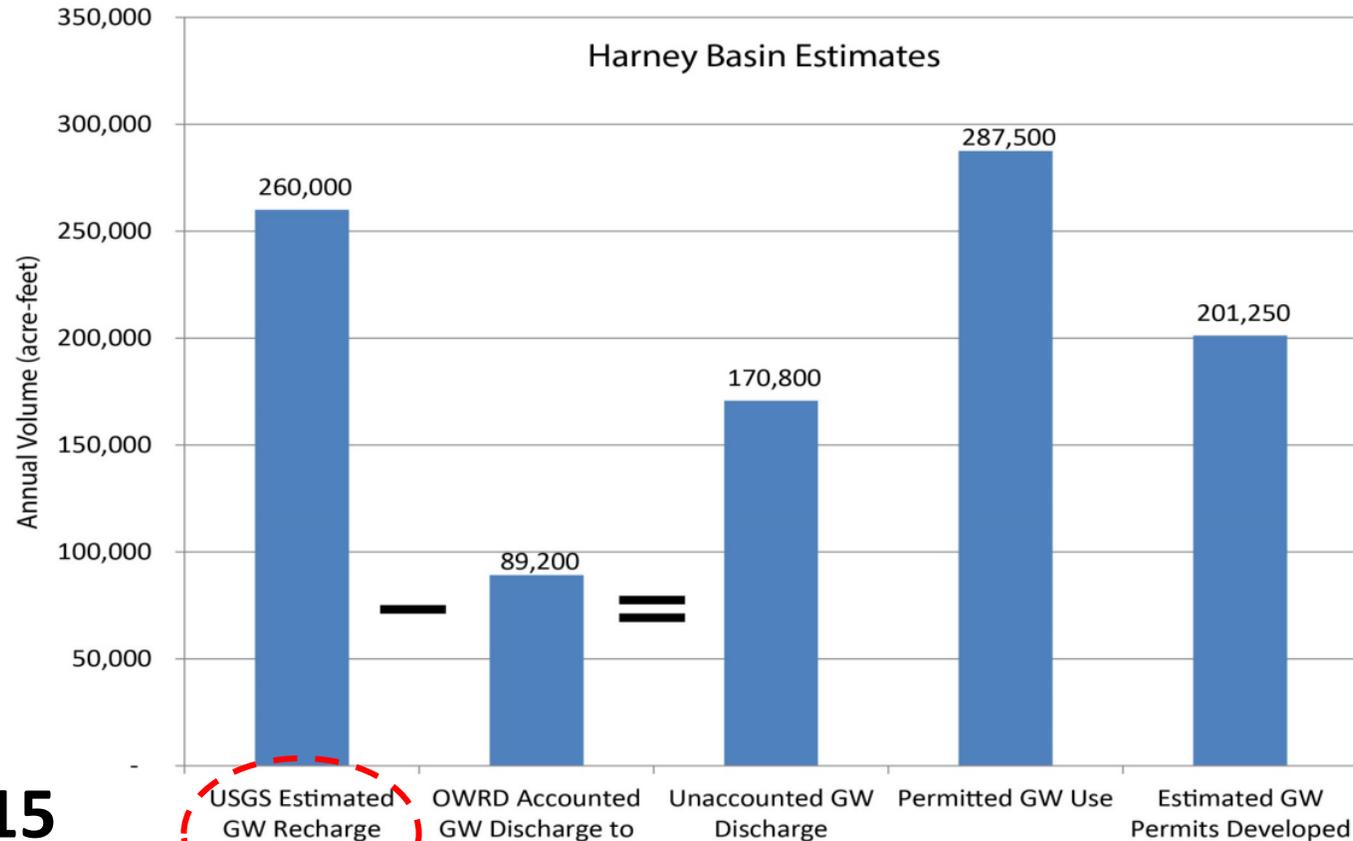


Representative Mark Owens
Why this matters to me

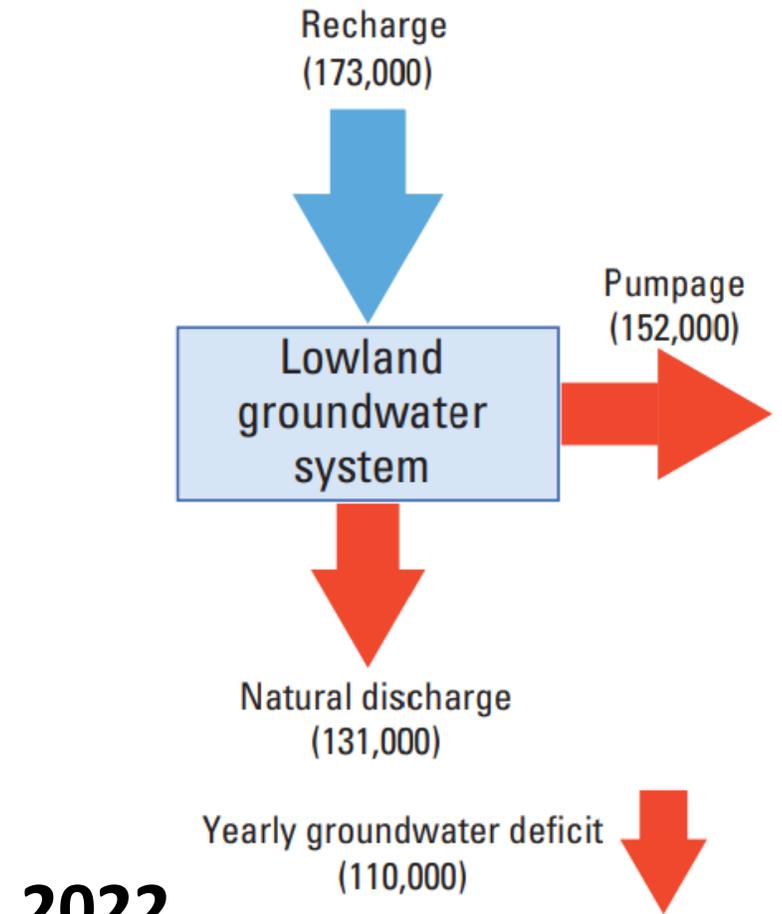


Over-Appropriation in Harney Basin

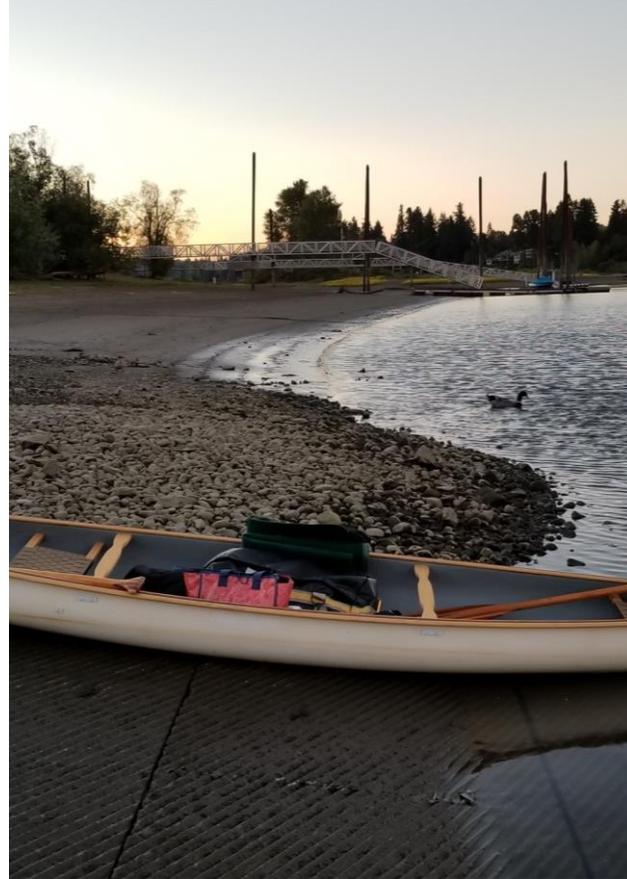
Harney Basin: Groundwater Budget Compared to Groundwater Permits



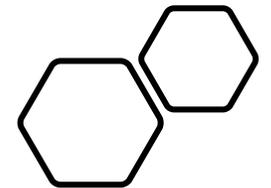
2015



2022



Representative Ken Helm
Why this matters to me

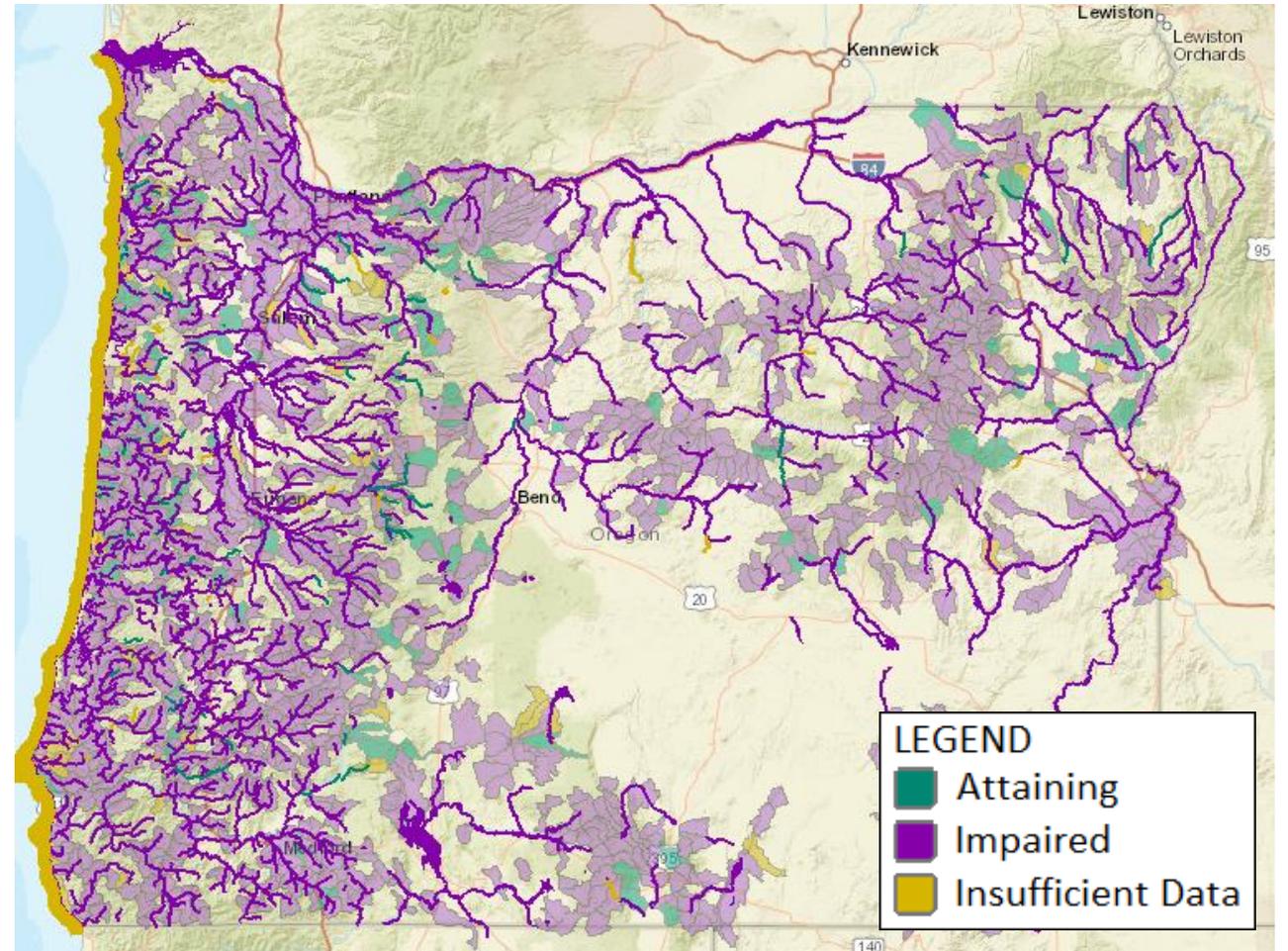


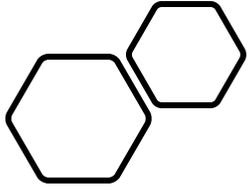
Water Quantity and Quality

According to DEQ, warm water is the top pollutant in Oregon waterways

Warm water is linked to other water quality issues like decreased dissolved oxygen

Streamflows and groundwater contributions are linked to water temperature





Harmony Burrig Why this matters to me

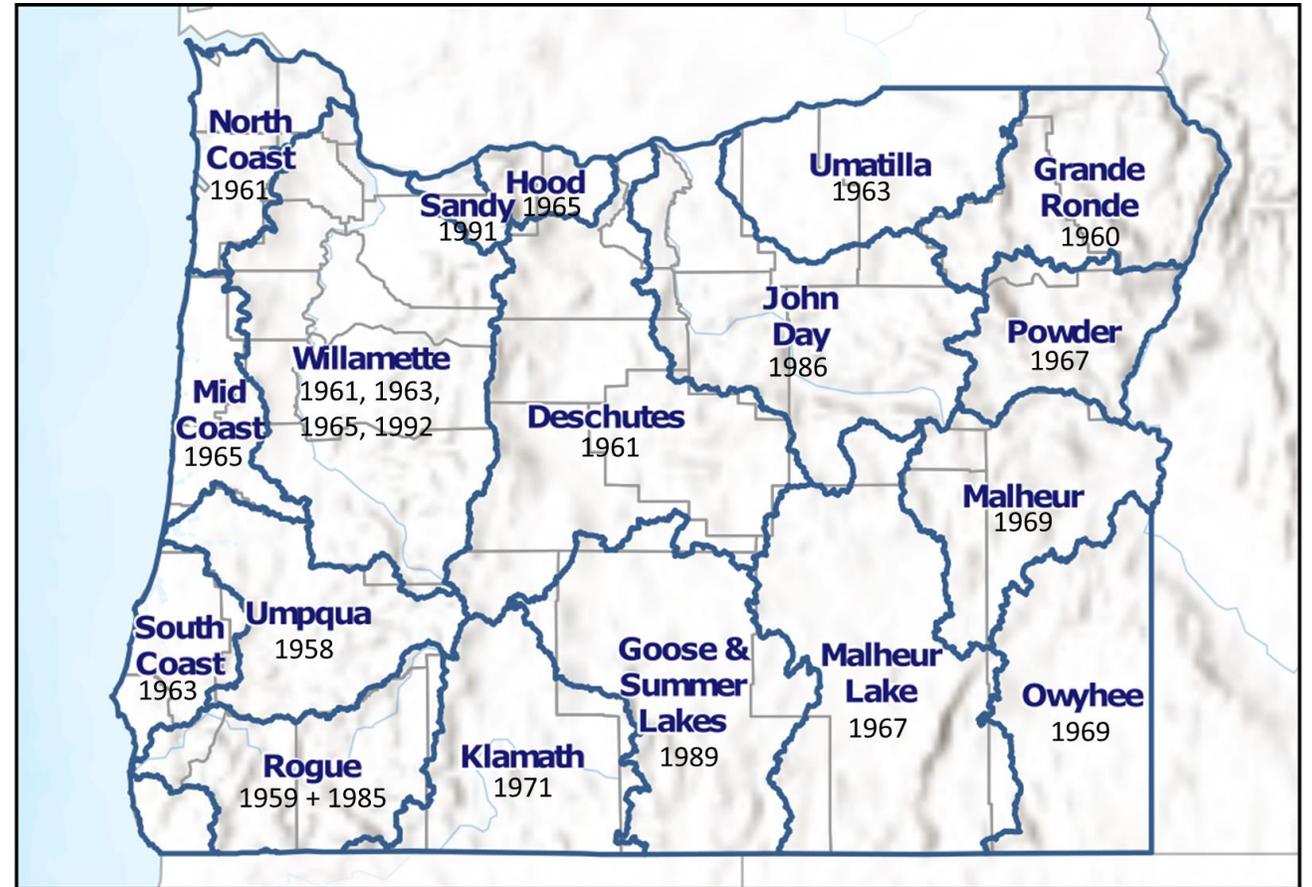


Harmony Burrig, a planning coordinator with the Oregon Water Resources Department, explains the timeline for changes around water use to Harney County residents and others at a collaborative planning meeting, December 12, 2019.
Emily Cureton/OPB



Solid but Dated Foundation: 1955 Basin Planning Statutes

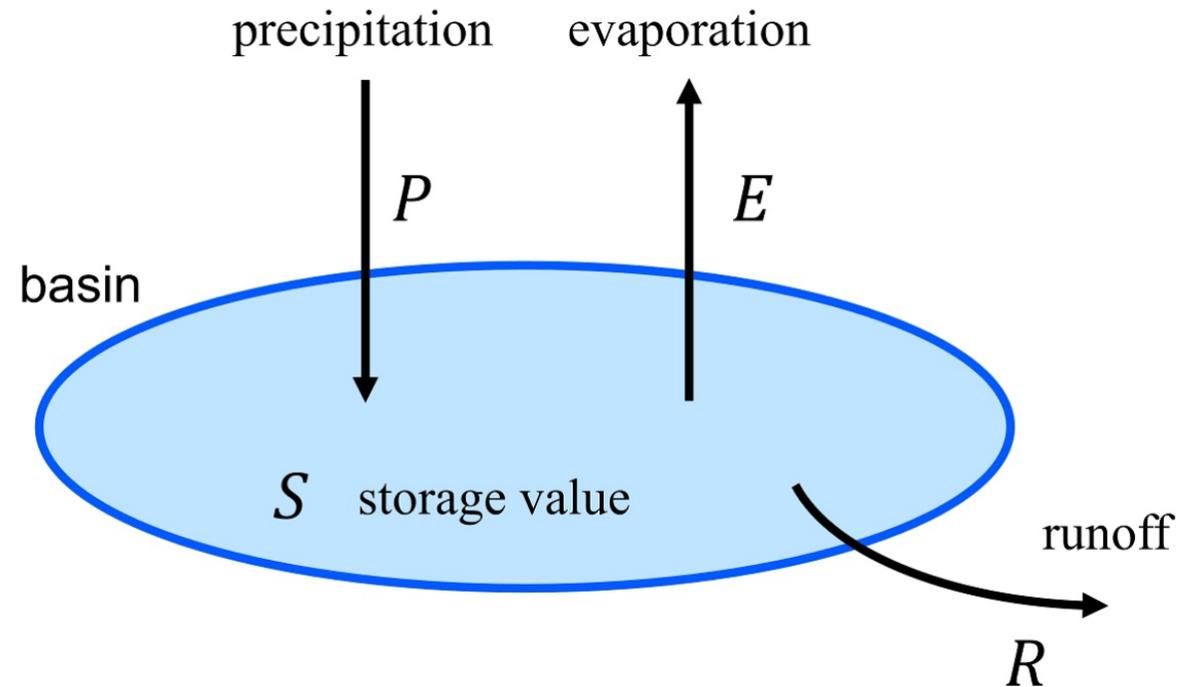
- “The Water Resources Commission shall proceed as rapidly as possible to study: existing water resources of this state...”
- “Based upon said studies...shall progressively formulate an integrated and coordinated program for the use and control of all water resources of this state.”



HB 3368 Original Bill: Basin Water Supply and Demand

Technical analysis – What water enters the system, what water is used, what water is stored in the system, and what water exits the system

Not about changing legal entitlements to use water, just assessing what's on the books



HB 3368 Original Bill: State of Water Resources

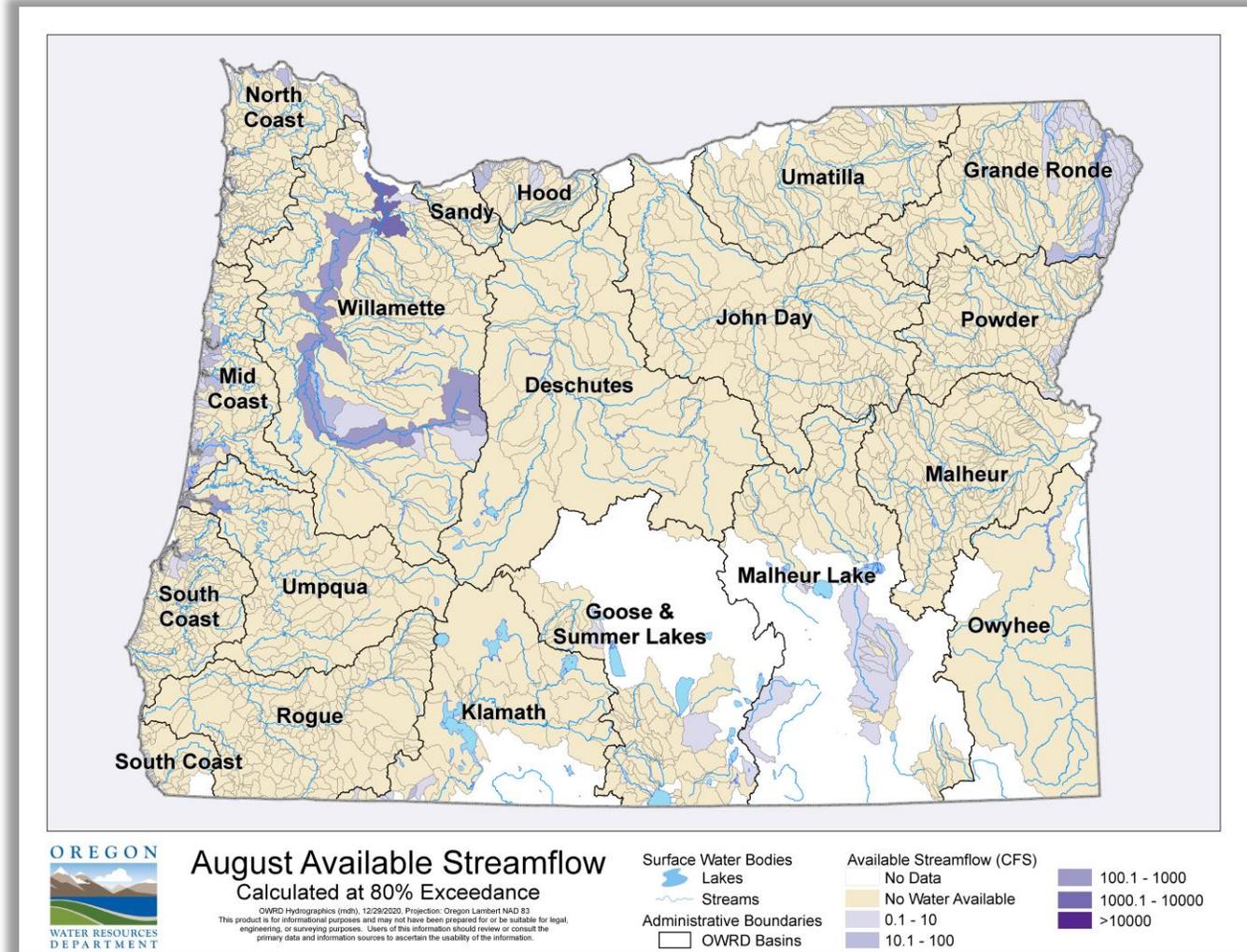
Water is not available at the times when demand is highest

Surface water availability is based on an old period of record - 1958-1987

Oregon has been in a 22 year mega-drought

“In 16 out of the last 22 years, Oregon has received below-average precipitation statewide” - Larry O’Neill, State Climatologist in 2021

An update is long overdue

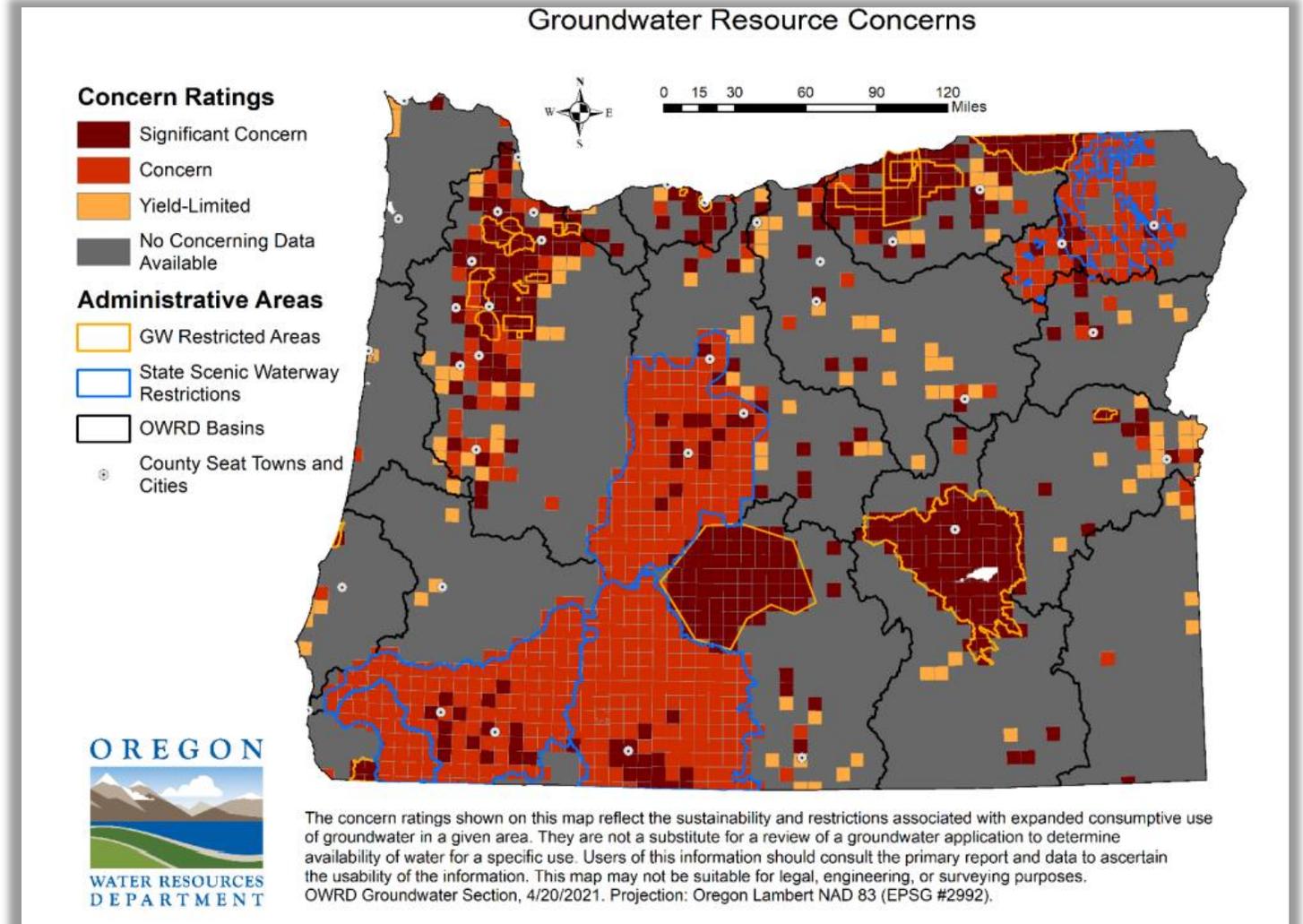


HB 3368 Original Bill: State of Water Resources

Limited surface water availability has increased the demand for groundwater

Limited groundwater data to inform sustainable decisions

History of chasing problems rather than preventing them



HB 3368 Original Bill: Managing Versus Allocating Water

- 100+ years of allocating water resources
- Distribution and regulation are getting more and more difficult and complex
- Over-allocation leads to costly conflict for individuals, communities, and the state
- Need to increase our focus on conservation, storage, and novel water supply options to meet instream and out-of-stream water needs
 - Most solutions require working together
 - No silver bullet

HB 3368 Original Bill: Pathway to Sustainability

2016

Secretary of State Audit Report

Jeanne P. Atkins, Secretary of State
Mary Wenger, Interim Director, Audits Division



Oregon Water Resources Department: Enhancing Sustainability Efforts and Agency Planning Needed to Better Address Oregon's Water Supply Needs

Executive Summary

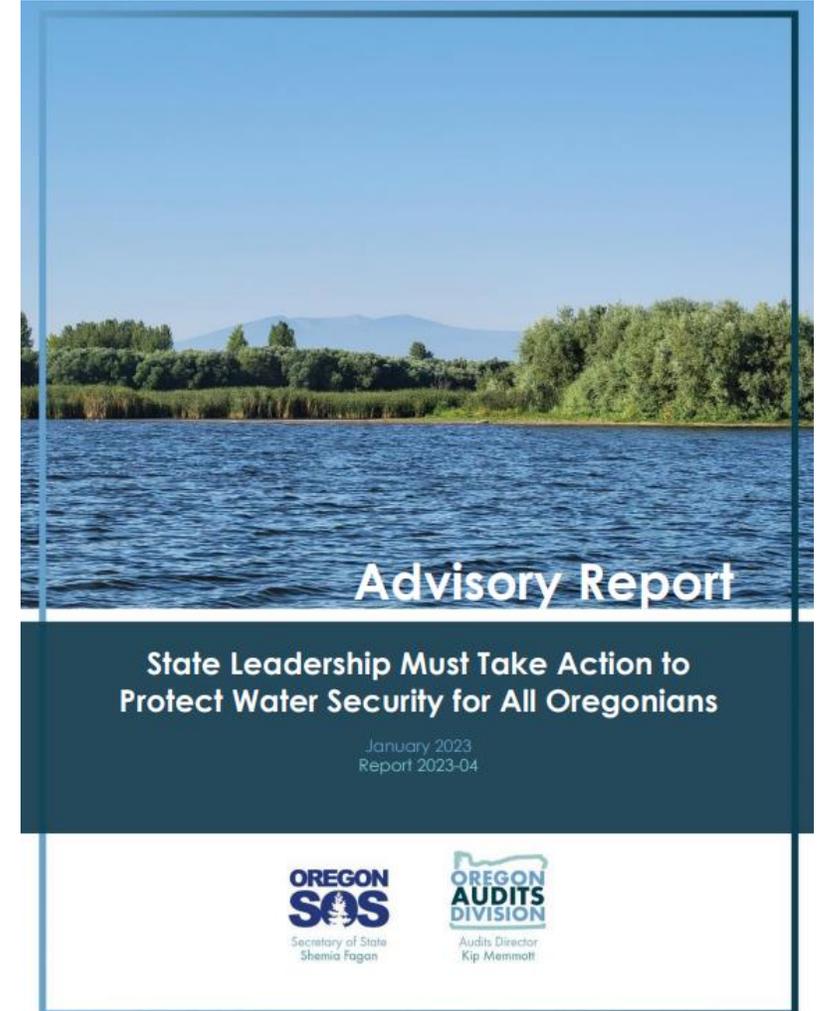
Oregon is facing growing pressures and concerns related to its water supply. The Water Resources Department (WRD), charged with managing the state's water resources, could better balance water rights issuance and management with actions to sustain current and future water needs. The agency can also enhance its focus on groundwater protection, data collection and analysis, and workload and staffing. A long-term agency plan would help WRD strategically focus and prioritize the agency's efforts and align them with available resources.

Better balance needed to ensure water sustainability

Parts of the state are experiencing regular and large scale water supply availability issues. There are indications that this trend will continue, intensify, and spread. Many water sources in the state have been fully allocated, and groundwater levels are decreasing in several areas. By 2050,



2023

The cover of the Advisory Report, featuring a photograph of a lake with mountains in the background. The text "Advisory Report" is overlaid on the image. Below the image, the title "State Leadership Must Take Action to Protect Water Security for All Oregonians" is displayed, along with the date "January 2023 Report 2023-04". At the bottom, the logos for the Oregon Secretary of State (Shemia Fagan) and the Oregon Audits Division (Kip Memmott) are shown.

Advisory Report

State Leadership Must Take Action to Protect Water Security for All Oregonians

January 2023
Report 2023-04

OREGON SOS
Secretary of State
Shemia Fagan

OREGON AUDITS DIVISION
Audits Director
Kip Memmott

HB 3368 Original Bill: Pathway to Sustainability

2016



MARK GRAVES/STAFF

Rolling irrigation pipe stands ready in a Dufur Valley field, farm country along Fifteenmile Creek south of The Dalles. In Oregon, the amount of water landowners are allowed to extract statewide totals nearly 1 trillion gallons annually – enough to fill 150 million tanker trucks. An analysis by The Oregonian/OregonLive has found farmers in a quarter of eastern Oregon, the driest part of the state, are allowed to pump more underground water each year than rains deposit.

DRAINING OREGON

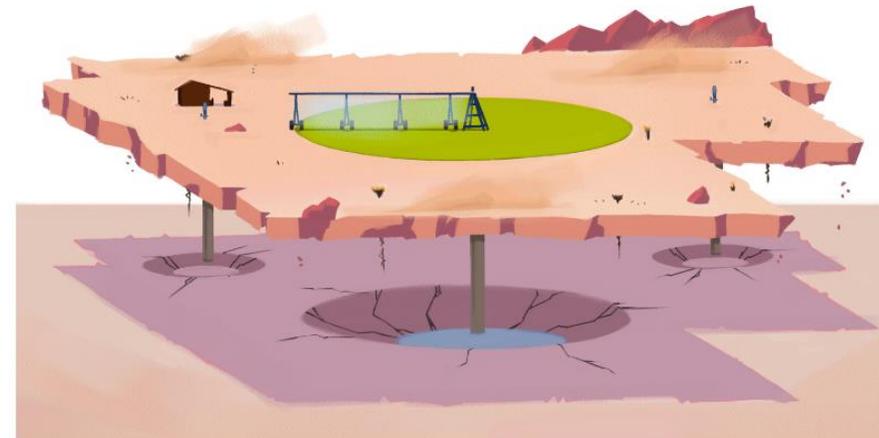
By KELLY HOUSE and MARK GRAVES

The Oregonian/OregonLive



2022

Race to the bottom



Deep wells lead a race to the bottom for Oregon's groundwater.

Managing and mismanaging Oregon's groundwater

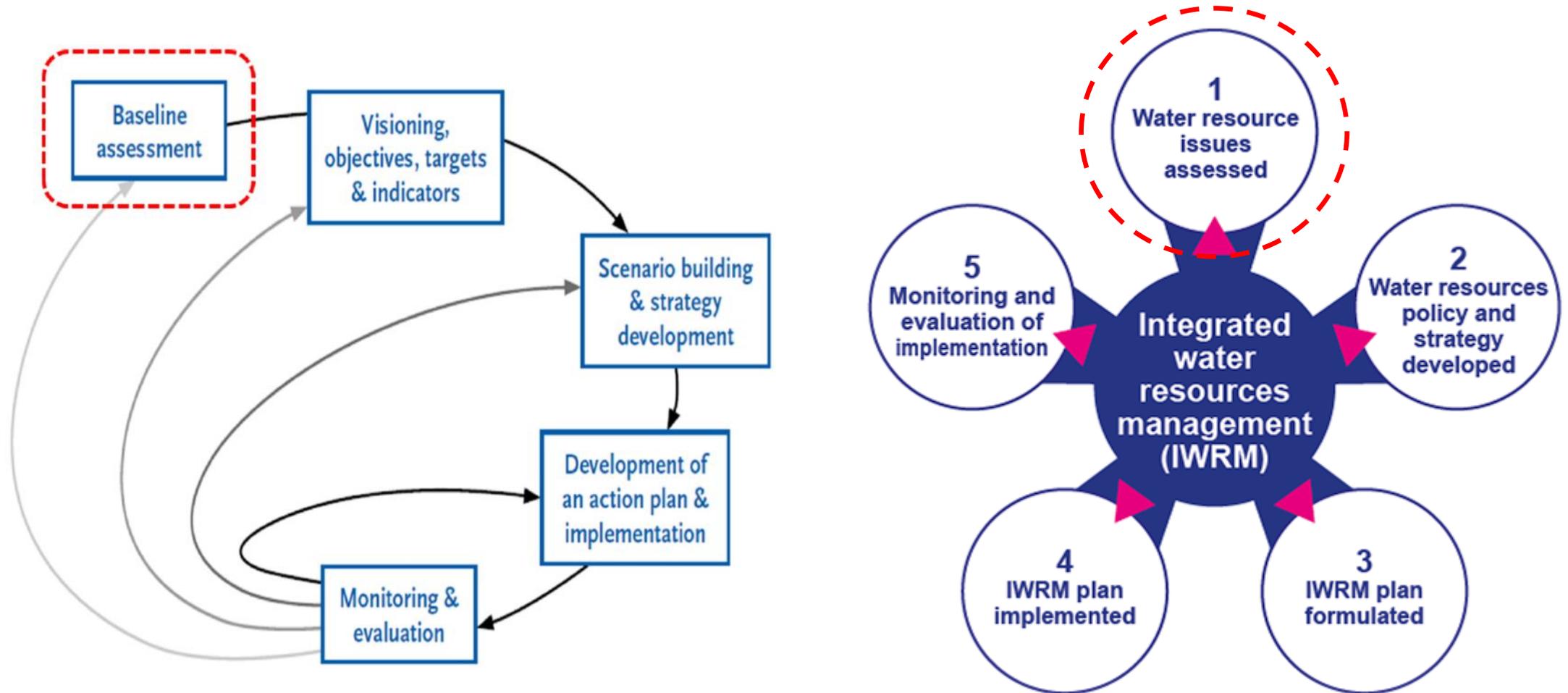
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Oregon officials managing the state's groundwater supplies have fueled crises and inequities, leaving the state ill-prepared to meet the growing challenges of drought and climate change. OPB's Emily Cureton Cook tells us about a series of stories she is working on looking into the management of groundwater across Eastern Oregon.

March 16, 2022

HB 3368 Original Bill: Rational Framework for Planning, Allocation, and Management

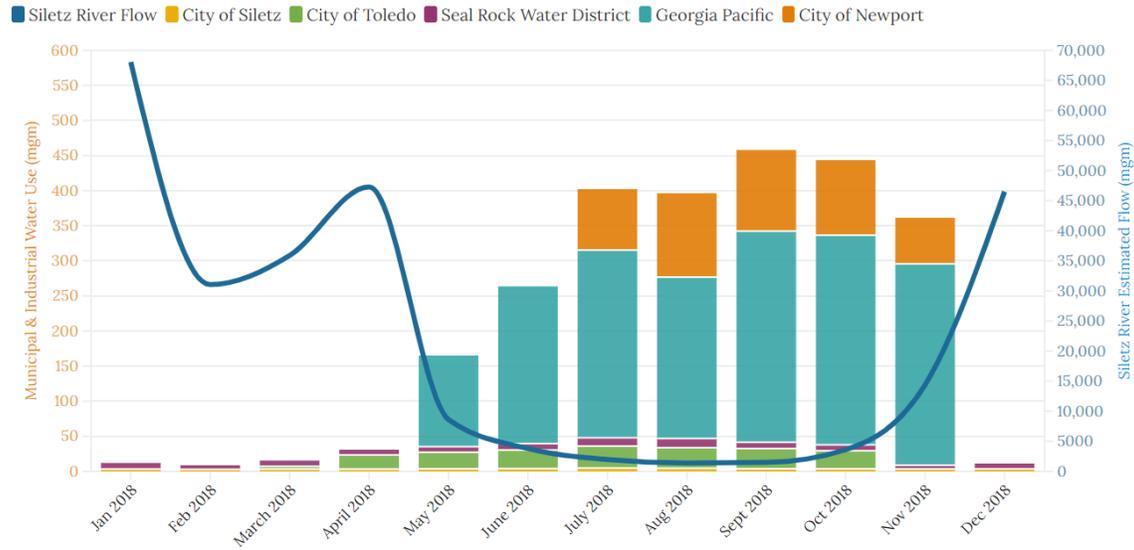


HB 3368 Original Bill: “The Pause”

- Protect existing uses from incremental depletion
- Set realistic expectations and common baseline regarding water availability before additional investments are made
- Provide a transparent, publicly available accounting of our water situation and a common technical basis for planning
- Allow time and space for the Department to take stock of our current situation
- Allow for a purposeful shift and deliberate approach to understanding and meeting our instream and out-of-stream water needs
- Wake up call and call to action - stop kicking the can down the road

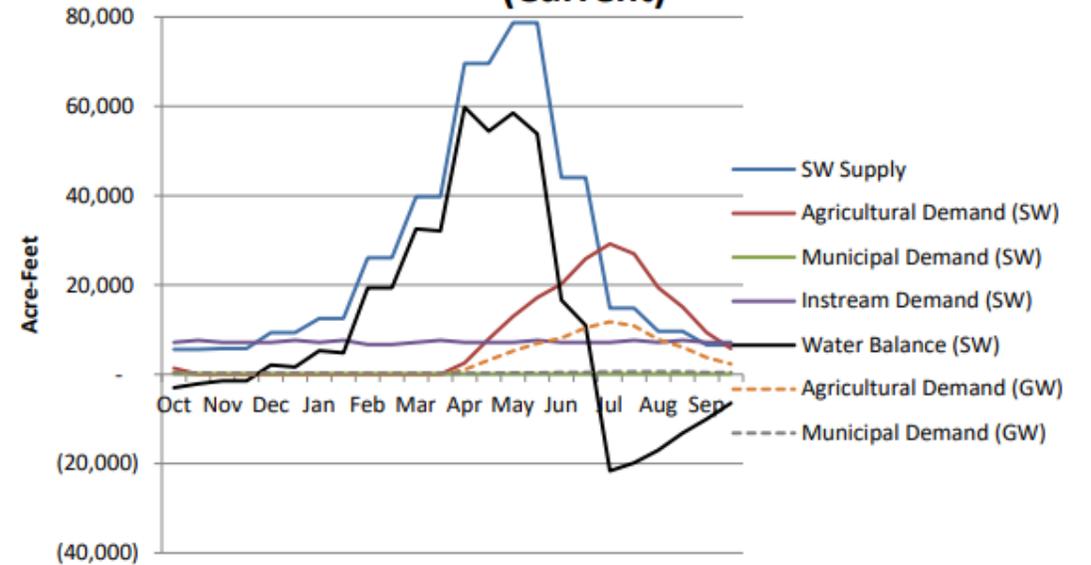
-1 Amendment – The Bare Minimum

2018 Water Demands on the Siletz River
Municipal and Industrial Use - Millions Gallons/Month



Source: Oregon Water Resources. Water Use Report, 2018. USGS National Water Information System, 2018.
Note: Georgia Pacific use is derived from the Water Availability Reporting System and a NPDES permit. Two separate axes are used to show volumes. Municipal and industrial use on left, Siletz River flow on right.

Total Biweekly SW Budget and GW Demands (Current)



State of Water Resources and Basin Assessments – provide a common technical basis for future discussions and planning

This is Not a New or Novel Concept

- 1955 Basin Planning Statutes
- 1983 Strategic Water Management Group
- 1998 Water Stewardship and Supply Initiative
- 1999 Joint Task Force on Water Supply and Conservation
- 2007 Oregon Water Supply and Conservation Initiative
- 2008 OSU Statewide Water Roundtables
- 2012 Integrated Water Resources Strategy Development
- 2016 Place-Based Integrated Water Resources Planning
- 2017 Integrated Water Resources Strategy Update
- 2019 Oregon Water Vision
- 2022 Regional Water Planning and Management Work Group

Stewardship and Supply Initiative

Initiative Overview, Partner Groups, and Budget Concepts

State of the Water
Resources Report
Basin Assessment
Information Sharing
Data Analysis
Internet Access
Surface Water
Storage Site Inventory
Aquifer Recharge
Identification
Water Availability
Reporting
Public Involvement
Sustainable Watersheds



October 1998



State of Oregon
Water Resources Department
1501 12th Street NE
Salem, OR 97310
www.wrd.state.or.us

“Despite Past Efforts”

- 1999 Policy on Water Supply: “It is the policy of the State of Oregon to ensure a water supply sufficient to meet the needs of existing and future beneficial uses of water...in recognition of this, the planning and management of the water resources of this state shall be conducted in a consistent and coordinated manner.”
- 2003 Joint Task Force on Water Supply and Conservation: “Despite past ‘basin planning’ efforts dating back to the mid-1950s, the state does not have a comprehensive plan to ensure it can meet the water needs of streamflow-dependent resources and a growing economy and population.”

Oregonians Have Been Asking For a Long Time

OREGON ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS
Going green, green living, eco friendly tips and articles

Sponsored By: **United Way**
United Way of the Columbia-Willamette

INSIDE ENVIRONMENT with The Oregonian

- Environmental News
- PDX Green Blog
- Oregonian Newspaper
- Oregon Traffic News
- Weather Center
- Contact the Environment & Sustainability Team
- Send us news & photos

Browse by day:
Select a date [] GO

Browse by week:
Select a date [] GO

HOT TOPIC

AccuWeather.com
home - news: **WATER**
12/31/2008 8:07:00 AM

Confidence in Oregon's water supplies evaporates
MITCH LIES
Capital Press

Despite Oregon's abundant rainfall, Oregonians don't believe the state and definitely not in the future.

A recently released report from five water roundtables held last fall in 300 participants are wary about the state's ability to meet its current

Confidence in Oregon's ability to meet its future needs is even lower. years, the quantity of water in Oregon won't be adequate to supply C

The water roundtables were held last fall in Salem, Bend, Newport, C

"This was an effort to simply find out what was on Oregonians' minds," says Michael Campana, director of the Institute for Water and Watersheds at Oregon State University. "We were not optimistic about future water supplies, and that there are a lot of

OSU's institute has compiled findings from surveys taken at the roundtables

Among key findings, according to the report, Oregon needs to integrate basin level, Oregon should integrate its water and land-use planning, management.

Oregonians also, according to the report, believe the state should do more to restore wetlands, floodplains and in-stream flows and develop a long-range water management plan.

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Water supply concerns Oregonians
By the Gazette-Times

In a state that's known for abundant water — at least the kind that falls from the sky — a number of Oregon residents nevertheless worry about whether the state has enough water to meet future needs.

That pessimistic outlook was one of the findings of a series of water "roundtables" organized around the state by Oregon State University's Institute for Water and Watersheds.

But there was good news to emerge from the five sessions, according to Michael Campana, director of the institute. Many of the participants in the sessions obviously had thought deeply about water issues, and were focused on searching for common solutions.

"People were very interested in seeking those local and regional solutions," Campana said.

The institute recently released a summary of the roundtable discussions, held last year in five locations: Salem, Bend, Newport, Ontario and Medford. More than 300 people attended the sessions, although Campana noted that some people attended more than one session.

Campana said the idea for the roundtables came from Oregon state Rep. Jackie Dingfelder, D-Portland, who approached the institute about a year ago. The institute went to work raising the estimated \$20,000 required for the effort, and tried to schedule the five sessions with the widest possible geographical distribution.

"We were very careful to tell people the purpose was not to create a water plan," Campana said. "We were listening to what they were saying. The report just was what we heard."

And one of the overwhelming sentiments was that Oregon would not have adequate water to support its needs by 2028. In all, some 80 percent of the participants believed that, Campana said, although he notes that the attendees at the forum were self-selected, and that the roundtables likely tended to attract people concerned about the issue.

Despite that pessimism, Campana said he was consistently impressed by how many of the participants were searching for solutions — and were emphasizing the importance of crafting local and regional answers, instead of a one-size-fits-all approach mandated by the state or federal government.

"I came away more optimistic about water resources in Oregon than when I went into this," he said.

2008

Survey: Most Oregonians concerned about water management

Michael Kohn/Oregon Capital Bureau August 06 2021

Political affiliation and where people lived played a big role in how they saw statewide water issues.

2021

Time to Make This a Reality

- “Water is a finite resource with growing demands; water scarcity is a reality in Oregon. Water-related decisions should rest on a thorough analysis of supply, the demand / need for water, the potential for increasing efficiencies and conservation, and alternative ways to meet these demands.”

- 2017 IWRS Policy Advisory Group

Oregon's **2017**
Integrated Water Resources Strategy



Closing Thoughts

- Our current approach is not working
- We've got more water to manage than we have left to allocate
- Understanding our current water situation is an essential first step
- Communities have been asking for this information for a long time and continue to ask for this information
- This is not about pointing fingers or placing blame – solutions will require us all working together
- We owe it to the next generation