

# INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES STRATEGY

UNDERSTANDING AND MEETING OREGON'S INSTREAM AND OUT-OF-STREAM WATER NEEDS

August 23, 2016

## Policy Advisory Group Meets in September & December

The IWRS Policy Advisory Group will hold its third meeting on Wednesday, September 14 at the Water Resources Department in Salem from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. The fourth meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 7, 2016, also in the same location. If needed, a wrap-up meeting may occur in 2017. Meetings are open to the public. For more information, including agendas, meeting materials, and notes, please visit this [website](#).



IWRS Policy Advisory Group

## Open House & Survey Results Available

The results from the seven open house events, online survey, and individual comments are now available on the IWRS website. Nearly 200 people attended the open houses and more than 65 individuals responded to the survey. The public input received to date was shared with the Water Resources Commission during its August 18 meeting. The open house presentation and poster displays, featuring key implementation activities, are also available online. Thank you to everyone that participated or helped promote these events, donated materials for our kid's activity table, or assisted in numerous ways during the open houses.



Bend Open House | June 23, 2016

### Online Links

<a href="#">Open House Presentation</a>	<a href="#">Salem Notes</a>
<a href="#">Open House Posters</a>	<a href="#">Newport Notes</a>
<a href="#">Individual Comments</a>	<a href="#">Medford Notes</a>
<a href="#">Online Survey Results</a>	<a href="#">Bend Notes</a>
<a href="#">Pendleton Notes</a>	<a href="#">Beaverton Notes</a>
<a href="#">Ontario Notes</a>	

## Application Window Open for Feasibility Grants

The Department is currently accepting grant applications for water conservation, reuse and storage feasibility studies. This is the final application cycle for the 2015-2017 biennium. Feasibility Study Grants fund studies that evaluate the feasibility of a proposed conservation, reuse, or storage project where important details are necessary to determine whether or not to proceed with implementation. A Feasibility Study Grant can provide up to 50 percent of the total cost of the feasibility study. Applications are due by **5:00 pm, Friday, October 14**. Have questions? Contact Becky Williams at [fsgs@wrdd.state.or.us](mailto:fsgs@wrdd.state.or.us) or 503-986-0928. More information is also provided in this [handout](#).

## Place-Based Planning Underway

The IWRS recommended that the state help communities undertake an integrated, place-based approach to water resources planning. Place-based planning is a voluntary, locally initiated effort in which a balanced representation of water interests within a particular place partner with the state to understand and meet their instream and out-of-stream water needs.

Four areas were selected out of 16 places that submitted letters of interest. These planning areas are being supported by grants from the Department. Over the next 2-3 years, planning groups will work to develop solutions to meet the water needs of communities, the economy, and the environment while taking into account water quantity, quality, and ecosystem health. These efforts will help to inform future updates to the IWRS.

Grant agreements are now in place and the conveners have begun the first planning step. The conveners will initiate the process, invite and involve diverse interests, engage state agencies as partners, define the planning scale, agree upon operating principles, and ensure an open and transparent process that fosters public participation.

Place	Converner(s)
Upper Grande Ronde Sub-Basin	Union County
Lower John Day Sub-Basin	John Day Partnership
Malheur Lake Basin	Harney County Watershed Council and Harney County Court
Mid-Coast Region	City of Newport and Oregon Water Resources Department

More information about place-based planning and the planning areas can be found online at <http://bit.ly/owrdplanning>. You can also contact the planning coordinators:

### Malheur Lake & Mid-Coast planning areas:

➔ Harmony Burright | 503-986-0913 | [harmony.s.burright@state.or.us](mailto:harmony.s.burright@state.or.us)

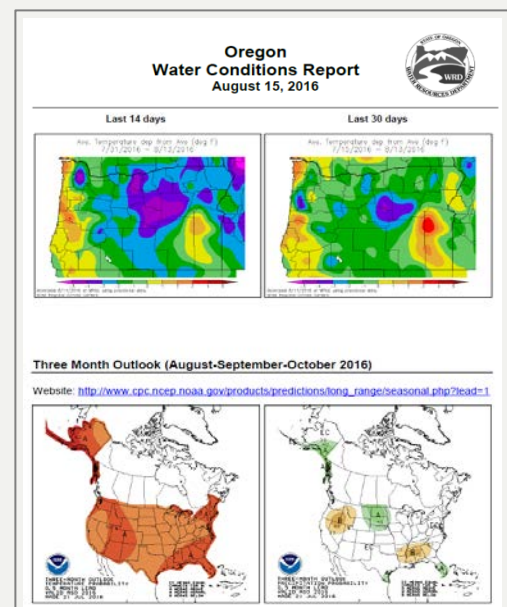
### Upper Grande Ronde & Lower John Day planning areas:

➔ Steve Parrett | 503-986-0914 | [steve.w.parrett@state.or.us](mailto:steve.w.parrett@state.or.us)

## Drought-Related Updates

**Drought Task Force** – Co-Chaired by Representative Helm and Senator Roblan, the Drought Task Force held its third meeting on Monday, August 15, 2016. Task force members and several guests discussed the effects of drought on agriculture and fisheries. All meeting agendas, presentations, and materials are available [online](#). The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 15 at the Water Resources Department's office in Salem. The Task Force will deliver a final report with recommendations to the Water Resources Commission and Oregon Legislature by November.

**Water Supply Availability Committee** – Water supply conditions are continuously monitored by the state's Water Supply Availability Committee, which provides updates and reports to the state's Drought Readiness Council. All meetings, including materials, are available on the Department's [Drought Watch Website](#) under the "Committees and Councils" Section.



A report covering water conditions across the state is issued every two weeks by email. To subscribe, [click here](#).