



Oregon's Kitchen Table – Community Engagement on Oregon's Integrated Water Resources Strategy

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Oregon's Integrated Water Resources Strategy (IWRS) provides a statewide inter-agency framework for better understanding and meeting Oregon's instream and out-of-stream water needs. Oregon's Water Resources Commission adopted the first IWRS in 2012 and updated it in 2017. Oregon Revised Statute (536.220) requires that the IWRS is updated every five years. The current (2017) version of the IWRS includes 51 different strategies that the 14 state agencies who are involved in water issues can implement across four broad objectives.

During the winter and spring of 2023, Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) worked with Oregon's Kitchen Table (OKT), to conduct a public engagement process to hear from people throughout Oregon about what they want to see in the next version of the IWRS. Approximately 1900 people from every county in Oregon participated in the different forms of engagement activities. People participated in seven languages.

This Executive Summary provides an overview of the engagement process as well as high level findings. The attached report contains nine sections in addition to the Executive Summary:

- A description of the project's outreach and engagement activities;
- Awareness of the IWRS and water issues in Oregon;

- Concerns people have around water;
- Ideas to address some of those water concerns;
- How state agencies can work better with communities and community members on water issues;
- Recommendations about future engagement efforts;
- Remaining questions;
- A brief conclusion; and
- Appendices, including annotated survey results, the Regional Community Conversation design, and OKT's Kitchen Table Conversation discussion guide.

ABOUT OREGON'S KITCHEN TABLE

Oregon's Kitchen Table was created as a piece of permanent civic infrastructure to bring all Oregonians to the table, with a particular focus on reaching, engaging, and hearing from Oregonians that have been left out of traditional engagement processes.

OKT was the creation of the Hatfield School of Government, Kitchen Table Democracy, and a group of non-partisan, non-profit community organizations dedicated to helping Oregonians share their ideas, opinions, beliefs, and resources in improving Oregon and its communities. OKT creates simple, easy-to-use platforms (online and in person) for statewide community engagement and promotes in-depth community engagement with the trade-offs and challenges decision-makers confront in governing our state.

Using culturally specific and targeted outreach, as well as community partnerships, we work with organizers, translators, and interpreters to assure that materials and online and in-person engagement activities are available for all Oregonians. We honor and value the wide range of values, ideas, and lived experiences that community members share with us and with public decision-makers.

The National Policy Consensus Center (NPCC) and NPCC's Oregon's Kitchen Table are housed within the Hatfield School of Government at Portland State University.

OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

The purpose of this Oregon's Kitchen Table project was twofold: 1. to hear from people throughout Oregon about what matters most to them related to how state agencies understand and meet Oregon's different water needs; and 2. to hear from Oregonians who



have not been part of state-level discussions on water in the past. In order to meet these goals and reach those various communities, we created a number of ways for residents of Oregon to provide input in multiple languages over several weeks starting April 30th and ending June 30th, 2023. In partnership with OWRD, we held seven in-person conversations in communities around the state and one virtual conversation.

We worked with community organizers and partners to support community members in giving input through paper surveys, online surveys, in community discussions, and through different standing events and festivals, the majority of which were culturally specific. We also offered an online survey in nine languages: Arabic, Chinese, Chuukese, English, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Ukrainian, and Vietnamese. OKT also offered a Kitchen Table Conversation Guide for any community group to hold their own conversations. A county commissioner in Baker County and the Water League and Southern Oregon Pachamama Alliance in Medford as well as the Oregon Water Partnership (made up of seven statewide conservation groups) worked with OKT to host three conversations using the Guide.

OWRD, OKT, and multiple partners conducted outreach, primarily through online channels such as social media, emails, and group messaging platforms. Community organizers also connected with people through phone calls, text messages, and in-person outreach. Flyers were also distributed to a variety of community-based organizations and posted in venues in the communities where community conversations took place for posting.

The results of this engagement provide a sense of the values and beliefs held by those who participated at this particular time.

FINDINGS

The following commonly held perspectives emerged across various community conversations, interviews, and responses to survey questions:

- Many people talked about water as a public good that is larger than the sum of the parts in the IWRS. “Life” was often invoked when hearing “water” and was often connected by community members to climate impacts on communities, rivers, and other natural spaces. There is a recognition that water issues require more than technical and regulatory solutions alone.

- Nearly everyone recognizes that there are more demands on water than there is water available.
- There are significant concerns about water quality and safety, particularly drinking water. This includes concern about the quality and quantity of groundwater and a concern that access to safe and sufficient water is not equitably distributed.
- Many people shared concerns about the availability of water in the case of natural disasters and other extreme events, particularly wildfires and extreme heat.
- Many people expressed concern about Oregon rivers' and streams' capacity to sustain fish and other wildlife.
- Many people held the viewpoint that water governance is too complex for community members to understand and engage with. At the same time, there is broad agreement that there needs to be more education available to Oregonians about water science, conservation, and use.
- Many people shared their willingness to conserve water in their own homes and communities and are eager to learn more about specific, actionable conservation strategies.

There were also some areas that people disagreed about or as ones where they felt some conflict. These include:

- There is conflict over water rights, both historical and current. While some people suggest that water allocation should be reconsidered in light of modern realities, others contend that those pre-existing rights are not debatable and are necessary for producing food and other essential goods.
- The concerns expressed were often very localized and informed by conditions in the community of the participants.
- Many people talked about the need to balance water allocation between agriculture and other economic uses, drinking water (and other municipal uses), and water remaining in rivers and streams to protect fish, animals, forests, etc. Many of the differences came in how that balance should be struck.
- While there is strong agreement that “one size fits all” policies do not work in a state like Oregon, the range of opinions underneath that agreement is more

complex. Some people do not believe state government should be involved in their water rights or local decision-making at all, while others believe state government should amplify and support local successes.

- In addition, there is disagreement about the role of the state in water policy, and some individuals, communities, and stakeholders trust the state much more than others.

FUTURE ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS

In addition to providing OWRD and other state agencies with information about people’s values and beliefs around Oregon’s water, this engagement process also provided some insight into how OWRD and others might continue to engage people around future water issues. Responses from this effort provide some areas for OWRD and other state agencies to focus on as they continue to identify ways to engage people in future policy discussions and decisions around water in Oregon.

In terms of future engagement around the current update to the IWRS, OWRD may want to consider additional outreach and engagement with communities when they release a draft update and seek public comment prior to the Oregon Water Commission’s adoption of the next version of the IWRS. For example, we repeatedly heard from Spanish-speaking community members in particular that they want to know more and want to hear about what happens next.

And finally, while many people did not specifically refer to the recent place-based planning efforts that OWRD has piloted in some regions of the state, Oregonians are keenly interested in more place-based planning and organizing in groups at a local or regional level to work in tandem with state agencies on water issues.

SECTION 1: PROJECT GOALS AND DESIGN

BACKGROUND

Oregon’s Water Resources Commission (WRC) adopted the first IWRS in 2012 in order to “bring various sectors and interests together to work toward the common purpose of maintaining healthy water resources to meet the needs of Oregonians and Oregon’s environment for generations to come.” The WRC intended the IWRS to be a living document that changes over time, and Oregon Revised Statute (536.220) requires that the IWRS is updated every five years. The current (2017) version of the IWRS includes 51 different strategies that the 14 state agencies who are involved in water issues can implement across four broad objectives. In 2023, as those state agencies worked to update the IWRS, OWRD partnered with Oregon’s Kitchen Table on a statewide community engagement process to hear from Oregonians what they want to see in the next version.

This engagement process occurred against a complex legal and political backdrop involving Tribal sovereignty as well as heavily contested property and water use rights. While many – if not most – of the Oregonians who shared their values, ideas, and opinions in this process did not refer to that legal backdrop specifically, questions related to asserted and contested rights continue to be a source of contention and litigation among highly engaged parties.

In recent years, Oregon has undertaken significant statewide studies and reports to address water issues. These include:

- Oregon’s 100 Year Water Vision (<https://www.oregon.gov/oweb/Documents/OWV-Full-Report.pdf>)
- Oregon Water Justice Framework (<https://www.oregonwaterfutures.org/water-justice-framework>)
- Oregon Secretary of State’s Office Advisory Report “State Leadership Must Take Action to Protect Water Security for All Oregonians” (<https://sos.oregon.gov/audits/Documents/2023-04.pdf>).



While these efforts did not focus specifically on the IWRS, they often name the IWRS update as an opportunity for OWRD and state agencies to apply some of the principles, values, and actions that they raise.

ENGAGEMENT GOALS

The purpose of this Oregon’s Kitchen Table project was twofold: 1. to hear from people throughout Oregon about what matters most to them related to how state agencies understand and meet Oregon’s different water needs; and 2. to hear from Oregonians who have not traditionally been included in statewide conversations about water. In order to meet these goals and reach those various communities, we created a number of ways for residents of Oregon to provide input in multiple languages over several weeks starting April 30th and ending June 30th, 2023.

DESIGN / OUTREACH

At the start of the project, prior to formal engagement, OKT staff talked to people representing 26 organizations from different sectors and different parts of the state. The purpose of these conversations was to learn how and where water is being talked about in Oregon. These conversations helped inform the design and outreach for the community engagement process.

In order to reach people throughout Oregon, Oregon’s Kitchen Table and OWRD developed a multi-faceted set of engagement activities. OKT and OWRD conducted seven in-person public meetings (called “Regional Community Conversations”) in English with Spanish interpretation available in some parts of the state. We also hosted a virtual (via Zoom) conversation for anyone in the state who wanted to participate. We also hosted an online survey in Arabic, Chinese, Chuukese, English, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Ukrainian, and Vietnamese and made paper surveys available in these languages at eight different community and culturally specific events.

Several culturally specific organizers and community-specific organizations helped with outreach, distributed surveys, and held small-group conversations. Several state agencies, including OWRD, used their email lists and social media platforms to let people know about the opportunity to participate. Outreach also included an email to Oregon’s Kitchen Table email list and social media posts. Participants in the community conversations and people who we talked to at community events were also invited to share the online survey with their networks.



We also worked with community organizers and partners to support community members in giving input through paper surveys, online surveys, in community discussions, and through a variety of activities in Chinese, Chuukese, Russian, Spanish, and Ukrainian. OKT provided a Kitchen Table Conversation Guide (*Appendix C*) for people to conduct their own community conversations on the IWRS update. Organizers and partners self-organized eleven community conversations (two in Spanish, three in Chuukese, and three with youth) using the guide. Two food bank organizations (one in Clatsop County and one in Malheur County) partnered with us to gather input from both English and Spanish speaking community members who utilize their services.

The Regional Community Conversations were designed as opportunities to hear more in-depth from residents in distinct parts of the state about their particular water concerns and ideas for solutions. They were also designed for participants to hear from and learn from each other to gain a better understanding of what might matter to their neighbors. In this format, facilitators were able to ask people to explain their thinking or reasoning in more detail. Participants also had the chance to ask each other questions and to build off of one another's ideas. The design for the conversations is attached as *Appendix B. Regional Community Conversation Slides*.

The locations for the seven in-person Regional Community Conversations were selected based on a number of factors, including where previous IWRS conversations have been held, different demographic make-ups (including age, race and ethnicity, and income levels), and where community members may be harder to reach through online outreach and OKT community organizers. We also worked with the inter-agency team working on the IWRS update for guidance on locations from multiple agency perspectives. Regional Community Conversations were held in Seaside, Hermiston, Roseburg, Ontario, John Day / Canyon City, Madras, and Corvallis.

In addition, staff and organizers from OKT attended and tabled at two community event and culturally specific events (Washington County Native Youth Powwow and Maxville Heritage Site Anniversary in Wallowa County). These events provided opportunities to talk with community members about the IWRS update process and to invite people to respond to questions, either through conversation, on paper or online. These events also provided an opportunity to have more in-depth discussions with people and discuss why they held the beliefs they did.

CONTENT FOR ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES



Because this engagement was intended for the general public, it assumes that respondents bring different levels of knowledge and familiarity regarding both the IWRS and Oregon’s water needs. It was our goal to ensure that those who are just learning about the IWRS can still respond and share what they believe and have experienced.

In all forms of engagement, people were given some background information about the IWRS and the need to update the Strategy. OWRD staff also provided a brief presentation at the Regional Community Conversations and the statewide Zoom Conversation. OWRD staff were also in attendance at a couple of the self-organized Kitchen Table Conversations to provide context as well. We developed questions and prompts for the survey as well as community conversations that fell under three areas of inquiry:

- What are your major water issues/concerns (both now and in the future)?
- What are some ideas for solving these issues/concerns?
- How can OWRD and other state agencies better work with your community going forward on water issues?

Through the survey participants were also asked where they lived in Oregon as well as their age, their race, ethnicity or Tribal affiliation, and their preferred language.

The content for engagement activities is available in *Appendix A. Annotated Survey*, *Appendix B. Regional Community Conversation Slides*, and *Appendix C. Kitchen Table Conversation Guide*.

PARTICIPATION

Approximately 1900 people participated in the different forms of engagement activities. A total of 1694 people responded to the OKT survey while approximately 200 people participated in a community conversation. These activities were conducted between April 30, 2023 and June 30th, 2023.

83% of survey participants indicated they prefer to use English, 9% prefer to use Spanish, 3% prefer to use Russian, 3% prefer to use Mandarin, and 2% prefer to use Chuukese. We also heard from smaller numbers of people who prefer Ukrainian and Vietnamese

In community conversations, out of approximately 200 participants, 30% identified as Spanish speakers and 25% as Pacific Islander (primarily Chuukese speaking). In survey

responses, participants identified in the following percentages by broad groups (see *Appendix A. Annotated Survey* for specific categories):

- 6% American Indian or Native Alaskan
- 9% Asian (7% Chinese)
- 1% Black or African American
- 3% Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- 12% Hispanic or Latinx
- <1% Middle Eastern or North African
- 4% Slavic
- 64% White

The two largest groups of participants in the online survey were people aged 60-69 years old (20%) and 70 years and over (21%). While 1% of survey respondents were under the age of 18, an additional 40 middle and high school students participated in three conversations with youth. Those youth reside in a variety of communities across the state.

19% of people who responded to the survey live in Multnomah County, 16% said they live in Deschutes County, and 12% selected Washington County. All 36 Oregon counties were represented across the different forms of engagement activities.

PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to summarize shared values and divergent values around water, discuss common themes, and point out areas where there may be some conflict and disagreement. This report is not intended to be a comprehensive list of every detail of every comment shared; however, all meeting summaries or notes from community conversations and all responses to open-ended comments were shared with OWRD and the other participating agencies. We also include a selection of quotes or comments we heard in different engagement settings. Quotes and comments included in the report either illustrate a particular point in someone's own words or echo what other people shared. Comments submitted through surveys are not altered or edited by Oregon's Kitchen Table except for length. They are presented as written by participants, in their own words. For quotes or comments in languages other than English, we have provided a rough translation. We have included the county of residence when known.

SECTION 2: AWARENESS OF THE IWRS AND WATER ISSUES

OVERALL AWARENESS OF WATER ISSUES

No matter where people are in the state or how deep their knowledge is about water, Oregonians care deeply about it. This extends to both who and what water sustains, whether it is an ecosystem, an individual livelihood, an economic system, or a spiritual or cultural practice. Water scarcity and the need for water stewardship is recognized almost universally.

Негде купаться летом.
Много людей, холодная вода, плохие пляжи. (I really love the lakes and rivers in Oregon!)

In community conversations and in responses to the survey, people expressed the desire to understand more about what is happening with Oregon’s water. Several people noted that while they are concerned about water, they don’t know enough about specific issues or challenges, and that the lack of information creates additional concerns for them. There is also a persistent worry that fellow Oregonians may not appreciate the urgency of certain local conditions regarding water – whether it is around drinking water quality, water availability for food production, or how increasingly volatile weather patterns affect water cycles and habitat health.

I want people in Portland, Harney County, and other place (to know) – that I care about your water. (Jackson County)

A little over half of all survey respondents (53%) answered that they knew of water issues that their community was addressing well. The types of projects varied across responses, though restoration projects to protect and restore natural areas involving water was selected most frequently by respondents (33% of all respondents chose this option).

People with different types of experiences and knowledge from a variety of communities shared a commonly held value of “land stewardship.” We heard this from people who emphasized environmental and conservation values, and we also heard it from people who identified as farmers or working in agriculture. We also heard it from community members from all backgrounds who simply feel a responsibility for future generations in caring for water.

While people grounded their priorities, values, and beliefs in their own experiences and what they see in their communities, they also expressed concerns and awareness of what was happening with water in other parts of the state. This was especially true regarding groundwater. At the same time, people in more rural parts of the state expressed feeling like urban areas didn't understand the needs and priorities of communities.

Don't assume we aren't doing well and don't have some of the same concerns as you do. (Baker County)

Overall, many people emphasized the need to increase awareness about water and water issues in Oregon, particularly within educational and community settings. Several of the ideas around solutions touched upon increasing awareness and are discussed in more detail in *Section 4. Ideas for Solutions*.

IWRS AWARENESS

I can only hope that the Strategy remains a relevant and useful approach to moving Oregon forward on water.

While there was some level of awareness of the Integrated Water Resources Strategy, a significant number of people had no knowledge (32% of respondents) or knew very little (27% of respondents) about it. For those who are very informed, we heard a combination of perceptions about the current (2017) Strategy. Several people expressed frustration that there were no "teeth" to the Strategy or no accountability measures directly tied to the actions presented in the Strategy. Some people said they view the Strategy as a key document in their work on water issues. Still others felt like the Strategy does not currently allow for enough of the local context or place-based differences in communities around the state.

I've been kind of ignoring the IWRS in past years because usually it just ends up in more rules and regulations.

SECTION 3: WATER CONCERNS

90% of survey participants shared some level of concern about having enough clean, safe water in their area with just over half (53%) saying they are very concerned. Most participants who attended a community conversation also voiced high or some levels of concern during the conversations.

People shared a variety of concerns, depending both on how much they know about water and the IWRS and where they live. In the survey, we asked people the following question: “Think about water in your part of Oregon. What are you most concerned about now? Please select the three things that matter most to you. Please choose only three. Right now, I am most concerned that. . . .” The three concerns that rose to the top amongst all respondents were:

- 63% of all respondents selected that they were most concerned that “The water where I live is clean and safe enough for people or animals.”
- 44% of respondents chose that they were most concerned that “We have enough clean water where I live for fish, food and plants to grow.”
- 29% of respondents chose that they were most concerned that “The systems like pipes or reservoirs that store and bring us water where I live are working well.”

The following section provides details about these and other concerns that people shared in both open-ended comments and in conversations.

BALANCE OF IN-STREAM AND OUT-OF-STREAM WATER NEEDS

The Strategy must strike a balance between instream and out of stream water uses. There are many competing needs for water in Oregon, but ecosystems are almost always the loser when water conflict occurs. (Deschutes County)

Many people talked about the need to balance water allocation between agriculture and other economic uses, drinking water (and other municipal uses), and water remaining in rivers and streams to protect fish, animals, forests, and ecosystems. Community members often paired a recognition of their community’s economic and human needs alongside a desire to protect water in place for fish and wildlife.

The differences we heard involved what should be prioritized as Oregon works to achieve a balance between in-stream and out-of-stream water needs. Some people prioritized water uses that served people, particularly drinking water, and water for growing food as a priority ahead of other out-of-stream water uses, for instance. Generally, people tended to think that the scales were tipped in one direction (environmental or ecosystem concerns) or the other (agriculture or industry) and we haven’t yet achieved that desired balance.

The constant promotion of growth, tourism, and residents. Whenever they add another tier of condos or another huge building, the toilet has to flush on the 4th floor up. But tourism is what runs this city and without tourism there would be no city. Real hard balancing act...when do you say that we’ve built enough? (Clatsop County)

WATER QUANTITY

Nearly everyone recognizes that there are more demands on water than there is water available. Very few people are free from that pressure even now, and those who say they aren't very concerned now often express a higher level of concern for the future.

I am a Native American that still practices traditional food gathering, and my family gathers natural and indigenous foods near Burns, Oregon. When I was younger, water was everywhere in that area, but lately, the water that was everywhere is now gone. The food we gathered was everywhere, and was abundant. Not (now) the land is dry, and the traditional foods we gathered are getting to be less and less each year. (Harney County)

People also described anxiously watching the snowpack in their regions for signs of how depleted that year's water quantity might be. Another person shared a concern that even if there was a healthy snowpack, spring runoff from snowpack was happening too quickly to actually meet needs in drier months.

WATER QUALITY

One of the themes that emerged across categories was a sense that water in many communities is or may not be safe enough to support people as well as fish, animals, and other wildlife. Different community groups listed the following contaminants they saw as diminishing their water quality: lead, chlorine, nitrates, garbage (including plastics), waste, chemicals (including chemicals used on farms), fluoride, bleach, pesticides, and herbicides. People described their water as being cloudy, yellow or brown, tasting metallic, or smelling bad. Spanish speaking community members in a variety of counties voiced significant and widespread concerns about their drinking water quality.

La preocupación de la gente al no beber el agua que no es confiable, no confían en que el agua se pueda beber y que sea más claro al respecto por parte de las autoridades en el informe, que la gente pueda beber el agua desde sus casas. (People are concerned about not trusting the water for drinking. They lack confidence that the water is safe to drink, and there is a need for authorities to provide clearer information. People should be able to drink water from their homes.)

IN-STREAM WATER CONCERNS

Oregonians have general water concerns related to ecosystems – both quantity and

Who advocates for the ecosystems in water allocation? It's not always easy for humans to adapt, but it's always much harder for ecosystems. (Umatilla Co)

quality. There were some people who were concerned that natural entities – rivers and streams themselves as well as the fish, plants, and wildlife that rely on them – have no status in decisions, which tips the balance of meeting needs toward people's needs and thus out-of-stream needs. People also pointed to climate change in a variety of ways, including changes to snow pack impacting water availability in-stream.

Among specific in-stream concerns we heard the following:

- Adequate in-stream flows for aquatic wildlife, especially fish
- Particular concern during droughts and drier months for fish and wildlife
- Pollution
- Warming water temperatures
- Impacts of timber harvest near rivers and streams
- Lack of monitoring and data to understand many of the above issues

Ecosystem health - As a prime example a healthy riparian area provides shade to benefit water temps, decrease flood risks, moderate flows, and provides tremendous habitat for plants and animals. (Deschutes County)

We also heard the belief that state agencies aren't adequately enforcing protections already in place for in-stream water needs, further exacerbating these concerns.

GROUNDWATER

Groundwater is not managed in a coordinated non-siloed manner across agencies (OWRD for water rights, OHA for drinking water, DEQ for water quality, etc).

When people talked about groundwater, they often included both water quality and water quantity concerns. There is widespread recognition – no matter which part of the state people are in – of groundwater quality and quantity concerns. Tied to groundwater quantity concerns is a sense that we don't yet have accurate information or data about groundwater use or measurements. Some people want to see the state stop granting groundwater rights – either for the long term or at least temporarily until there's more data.

COSTS

Concerns about water costs related both to individual rate payers' costs for water in their homes or businesses, as well as costs for community-wide (primarily city and particularly small cities) water infrastructure and projects. One person connected these both, saying "Better financial support of small towns for their water infrastructure. It is hard to get grants and increasing water rates for users will continue if we can't find federal or state funding." People also described the cost pressures they felt while trying to implement water efficiency, storage, and quality solutions on their property or in their household. There is also a sense that the cost of water varies dramatically from community-to-community (or as one person shared, neighborhood-to-neighborhood), and this differentiation often seems unfair.

I don't believe I should have to pay full price for water I and my pets can't drink nor should I have to pay extra for it to be filtered in order to bathe in it safely. I'm basically paying premium price for water to flush my toilet and wash dishes. I'm having to pay additional money for drinking water from the store and a filter in order to bathe safely.

EXTREME EVENTS

In this version of the IWRS, the agencies involved hoped to learn more about Oregonians' thoughts about extreme events. The survey asked people to think about what additional or new "Extreme Events" were of top concern. 76% of all respondents selected "Wildfires."

Several other comments connected wildfire and forest health to concerns about whether Oregon's ecosystems could now or in the future sustain enough clean water for

Особливо мені здається необхідно вирішити проблему з лісовими пожежами. (In particular, it seems to me that it is necessary to solve the problem with forest fires.)

fish, plants, and other wildlife. The second most often selected "Extreme event" was "Plants or animals like salmon not returning" (62%). Spanish speaking respondents were also more likely to include "Harmful algae blooms" and "mudslides or rockslides" in their responses.

While we did not ask directly what people thought about types of events that the current IWRS already explicitly plans for, people frequently raised drought as a concern. In addition to raising drought on its own, several people connected other extreme events to drought (such as fish or plants disappearing or not

Mitigation of fire risk on the uplands to prevent uncontrolled runoff after a weather event where the land has been denuded of vegetation loss in the fire. (Malheur County)

returning). In addition, many people included “climate change” as an overarching concern related to many different water issues, particularly extreme events.

I want the sense of urgency and life and death to be reflected in the discussions. (Clatsop County)

DESIRE FOR ACTION

A common concern is that too much time passes between talking about a problem, making a decision, and then finally implementing that decision.

In general, there was often a desire to reduce bureaucratic obstacles to problem resolution, regardless of what the issue was.

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

What to take action on, however, is often largely dependent on *where* that action is proposed to be taken or on different perceptions of the root cause of the concern. Other differences are described in *Section 4. Ideas for Solutions*.

WATER EQUITY

Comments and responses we heard across different topic areas touched upon fairness, particularly around access to clean, safe water (particularly drinking water), whose opinions are sought, and who decision makers listen to. People talked a range of what they viewed as equity issues, from wanting to see ecosystems be included to focusing on particular types of activities (access to water for recreation, for instance).

For some participants, water equity applied to communities who have historically been excluded. Several people emphasized wanting to make sure that Tribes and Native and Indigenous community members’ water rights and water knowledge is at the forefront of decision making. Some people also wanted to see past – and continuing – practices harming Tribal and Native and Indigenous communities’ water rights and access are addressed.

Demanding the federal government uphold it's promises to the indigenous people (many of the in lieu fishing sites along the Columbia River have inadequate potable water and waste water facilities, they break due to lack of funding for maintenance, or simply no longer are there when they do break, making advocacy groups have to do water deliveries to these sites.) (Wasco County)

Spanish speaking participants shared that they didn’t have equitable access to clean, safe water in some communities. We also heard a strong desire to make sure that communications about water – particularly when there were serious water safety issues – were available in a wide variety of languages and were shared widely and often. A lack of

communication about water for people who spoke languages other than English or who could not read or write was a key component of water equity for several people.

For others, water equity applied to groups whose culture they feel is widely misunderstood, ignored or negatively judged, most often rural communities or agricultural / ranching communities. In these comments, people emphasized their desire

for more local control, for more interaction with statewide leadership, and for more understanding in general about food sources and water.

Farmers must be treated equitably when we remove their ability to make a living, support Americas food supply, make water contact payments, and devalue their farm land. (Jefferson County)

Almost everyone expressed a belief that certain groups had disproportionate access to decision-makers or had outsized voices in decision making. While people listed a variety of interest groups – environmental advocates, industry, agriculture

– alongside more vague “powerful and wealthy” individuals or groups, people often think someone else has more power and ability to influence decisions. We also heard a belief that some sectors were positioned to avoid monitoring or enforcement, and again, people shared a variety of interests and sectors. What is consistent is a belief that influence is tilted in favor of some and against others in our current water governance system.

OVERUSE / MISUSE

Many people shared some skepticism in allowing water to be commoditized. We often heard people refer to “over-allocation” or “waste.” This takes different forms, but ranges from private corporations extracting/selling water for private profit, or using water in ways that people view as extravagantly without adequate monitors. It also includes individual or household “waste” of water through activities like washing cars or driveways or “leakage” in larger systems.

People shared concerns about particular industrial uses—from tourist facilities (golf courses, etc.) to large data centers and semi-conductor plants to industrial agriculture and timber. In terms of agriculture, people sometimes took care to differentiate between large scale, industrial agriculture or non-food crops, like cannabis. Other people specified that they were concerned about out-of-state industries or business profiting off of Oregon’s water, particularly in communities severely impacted by drought or groundwater issues.

Many people also expressed uncertainty or frustration with whether state agencies were using their existing regulatory authority (either through monitoring or enforcement).

I would like to see better enforcement on current laws. When the Watermaster for my area was off on medical leave during a drought it took weeks for me to get someone to respond to me about very low stream flows in the Siuslaw. I believe there are multiple people taking water they have no legal right to.

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

In both the survey and community conversations, people were asked to also think further into the future (20 – 50 years) and consider whether their concerns might change. Respondents echoed themes similar to what was shared when asked about water concerns now. Significantly, many people predicted that those concerns would be more urgent and further intensified. People also shared a heightened sense of concern for their children and for future generations.

Some of the concerns that people shared in response to other questions, though, were framed as thinking about the future. Several people voiced concerns that Oregon might consider “selling” water to states or communities outside Oregon; people who shared that concern did not want to see that occur.

We did hear hope, however, regarding the future of water in a few significant places:

- Development of new devices and technology for both addressing water quantity (such as more efficient tools for agriculture or for households) and water quality
- Empathy and care for what people in other parts of the state might be facing with water in their communities (or as one Marion County resident put it, “There are so many of us who care deeply about water, and there are not many ways to show that or ways to find each other if we are not already

involved in water management as large-scale customers, professional experts, or administrators.”)

- A desire to learn more (see “Education and Outreach” in *Section 4. Ideas for Solutions*)
- Hope in future generations as water and land stewards
- Appreciation for opportunities to be part of the statewide conversation on water

SECTION 4: IDEAS FOR SOLUTIONS

The critical issues and actions outlined in the current IWRS include both areas where individuals, small groups, or communities might play a part and where state agencies might play a part. We asked participants to think about what solutions to water concerns they were most interested in themselves as well as what they wanted to see government (particularly state agencies) do.

In response to the survey, the following individual, household or community actions rose to the top:

- 57 % of all participants chose “Conserve, store, and reuse water at home or at my place of work.”
- 53 % of participants selected “Learn about ways to protect and restore habitat for animals, plants, and the land.”
- 50% of all respondents selected “Learn how to prepare for and respond to extreme events.”
- 43% of respondents chose “Help my community better understand the amount and quality of the water where I live.”
- Spanish speaking and Chuukese speaking community members also chose “Explore or help develop jobs connected to water for youth” and “Find job opportunities to work in the water sector” more often than respondents as a whole.

Repwe aora ew me ew bekin angangen nimenimeochen konik (They should provide the work for clean water.)

The following sections explore what people want to see institutions working across communities or state agencies take.

RULES and REGULATIONS

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.

Not surprisingly, one of the key conflicts that arose relates to the level of regulation and enforcement people thought necessary and appropriate. We heard both a desire for the state to reduce or eliminate government rules and regulations as well as a competing strong desire to see an increase in rules and regulation (and a stronger enforcement of current rules and regulation). Those who talked about wanting to see enforcement of existing rules and regulations mentioned permit conditions, illegal use, protections around fish and wildlife during drought, and waste. Several people mentioned rules and regulations around installing water storage as barriers in meeting their water needs. People held differing views of State Scenic Waterways designations, with some viewing expanding the act as an important tool the state can use for protection of in-stream needs. Others viewed expansion as a barrier in limiting access to water for out-of-stream needs.

Agriculture and farmers/ranchers are needed to feed the state/country, yet the available water is being taken from them more and more. More regulations are not always the answer. (Grant County)

EDUCATION and OUTREACH

Oregonians involved in water at any level, at any geography, in any capacity, feel strongly about the need to educate both themselves and their fellow Oregonians about water. Many people expressed a desire to focus on K-12 education, particularly given concerns around impacts on water for future generations. Some of this is happening for young students in schools, though it is unclear exactly where curriculum is being developed, and where and how it is being used. Some people want to see water integrated into curriculum for a wide variety of subject, such as Oregon history.

There is a strong sentiment that Oregonians of all ages do not understand the essentials of water, whether it is about water cycles and ecosystem health, food production (where food actually comes from), or conserving water in drought-prone areas. Many people shared that they feel like they themselves lack knowledge, either because they haven't spent much time thinking deeply about water issues, or because they feel at a loss about where to find out more information.

There is great receptivity in partnering with different agencies and a variety of institutions from schools to libraries to areas with high public traffic (such as airports) in

One thing our community has done well over the past 20 years is have a very strong science department in high school and middle schools with a real focus on water, the ecology and how everything builds together. (Clatsop County)

helping implement a public education initiative. A couple of specific examples people offered include the High Desert Museum’s past exhibits of 'Water in the West' and 'Damit' in Deschutes County and “Follow The Water” in Multnomah County. Other participants suggested using education and outreach techniques already in use for other outreach campaigns, such as a water usage comparison tool in app form, or earthquake drills.

INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

Many people and communities value both human and built infrastructure. People consistently voiced wanting to see more proactive preventative infrastructure development, such as replacing aging pipes in municipal systems, maintaining reservoirs, or creation of water storage facilities in drought-prone areas. Some communities also talked about the need to re-think where existing infrastructure is located versus where current and even future needs might be.

Natural infrastructure was less frequently mentioned, but some people expressed strong desire to restore and protect floodplains and wetlands as part of supporting water systems and creating storage. Some people pointed to a lack of support and funding alongside a lack of agreement among natural resources agencies as barriers in incorporating natural infrastructure.

Functioning floodplains mitigate floods and return cool clean water to rivers in the summer. (Crook County)

One type of water infrastructure that people hold significant differing views on is dams. Some people feel very strongly that dams are detrimental to habitat and fish needs and seek dam removal or requirements for fish passage on dams. Others see dams as critical and vital to water storage and irrigation needs and worry about impacts on communities if dams are removed.

STORAGE and WATER REUSE

On both individual and community-wide levels, people strongly support exploring a variety of types of storage options. Some people want to see state agencies make it easier

Many of us would love to store and reuse water at home, but getting started is expensive. The same goes for preparing for extreme events. (Linn County)

for individuals and local governments to develop water storage options and systems. People in both “drier” parts and “wetter” parts of the state expressed interest in both storage and water re-use. Other participants talked about water storage in terms of emergency preparedness, whether for extreme drought conditions or emergencies in general.

INCENTIVES

Another common theme we heard across a variety of responses related to both individual and community-wide actions was the need for incentives provided by the state. This was mentioned in connection to most of the potential actions that individuals, small groups, and communities might take.

Some people talked about incentives in terms of what water behaviors our current water system does or doesn't reward, particularly related to water allocation and conservation. Several people referred to what is commonly referred to as a “use it or lose it” approach that they viewed the state as centering, versus incentivizing conservation activities.

We heard a desire to see incentives for some of the following activities or approaches to addressing water issues:

- Filtration systems, particularly for households that have concerns about water quality and safety of drinking water. Many Spanish-speaking community members expressed this need.
- Water efficiency tools, projects, and devices, both at the household and community-level.
- Incentives to give up water rights to instream use.

政府应该提倡节水，鼓励建筑商和家庭在园林设计中取消草坪 (The government should promote water conservation and encourage builders and households to remove lawns from their garden designs). (Washington County)

Por haber sembrado mariguana en este estado, el año pasado no hubo agua para la agricultura y no hubo trabajo para los agricultores de Peras y Duraznos. (Because of having planted marijuana in this state, last year there was no water for agriculture and there was no work for the Pear and Peach farmers.) (Jackson County)

- Promoting builders, households and home owners’ associations in removing lawns or planting more drought resistant landscapes.
- Cultivating more drought resistant crops
- Growing crops that are food products as opposed to growing non-food crops. Alfalfa and hemp or cannabis were mentioned by several people as examples of non-food crops.
- Home and community-scale water catchment systems

DATA

People also expressed a desire to make sure we have data about Oregon’s water and that data is shared widely. Many people perceive that the state, communities, and individuals lack accurate, ongoing data and information about how much water is available – both at particular times and in particular places - as well as how much is being used and for what purposes. Achieving a balance between different in-stream and out-of-stream water needs seems additionally challenging without such data.

Beyond collecting data, people emphasized sharing data widely and in particular ways. Other people suggested annual reports on a regional, watershed, or basin level that show “water basin trends” or “state of the water supply”. For some people, collecting and sharing data is connected to consistent monitoring and a current lack of staff capacity at state agencies. People recognize that these data collection and sharing activities would require additional funding and direction for staff in various water agencies.

每年提供居民用水质量报告 (Provide residents with water quality reports every year). (Clackamas County)

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS FOR ACTIONS OR SOLUTIONS

Participants shared hundreds of thoughts about what they want to see individuals, communities, regions, and the state do to address water concerns. Many of these are captured in the above sections. Some additional suggestions include:

- Permaculture methods and approaches
- Reducing use of plastic in order to reduce waste and decrease pollution or contamination in water

- Ways to share water, such as through “water banking” or “water trading” (either between senior and junior water rights holders or to “preserve quantities necessary to maintain ecosystem function at the right times of year.”)

SECTION 5: HOW STATE AGENCIES CAN WORK BETTER WITH COMMUNITIES ON WATER ISSUES

Besides learning about people’s values and beliefs around water needs, this public engagement effort also provided some insight into how people want to continue to be engaged on water issues and see state agencies work with them and their communities on water issues. In response to a question on this in the survey,

- 47% of all respondents selected “Offer a website that clearly lays out each part of the Strategy. This includes what has been done or is being done.”
- 40% of all respondents chose “Make it clearer what agencies’ roles and responsibilities are for our water needs.”

Language is a big barrier. Being able to understand, ask questions, and being understood in our language and be a resource for questions and answers. (Morrow County)

- 34% selected “Ensure that the Strategy and materials are in plain language and in multiple languages.”
- “Use social media to update people about the Strategy and what is happening” and “Create images and short videos to share what is in the Strategy and what is happening” were also selected by 30% or more of all respondents.

Together, these responses speak to a desire for clarity, simplicity and accessibility. This holds true both in terms of how people want to see the Strategy (and related actions and projects that agencies conduct) presented and shared, as well as in the structures around decision-making and water. We heard this echoed in comments to open-ended questions on the survey as well as in several of the community conversations.

Make it as easy as possible for people to understand what they can do to help. Be region specific. Be audience specific (apartment dweller, home owner, manufacturer, farmer...). Give them attainable options and alternatives. (Deschutes County)

COMMUNICATIONS and OUTREACH

In regards to communication and outreach approaches, people shared the following suggestions:

Que se aseguren que podamos tener acceso de estas actualizaciones. yo pienso que las charlas como en la que ahora estamos participando sean mas seguidas para poder informarnos. (Make sure that we can have access to these updates. I think that the talks like the one we are participating in now should be followed with more in order to be able to inform ourselves.)

- Pay attention to language, both translations and interpretation, as well as language that is understandable to a wide variety of community members.
- Connect to people about water in a variety of settings and gathering places, even if there doesn't at first seem to be a direct connection to water (schools, churches, libraries, farmers' markets and other community-based settings were all mentioned).
- Use different types of communication methods (online as well as in-person or on paper) to meet different learning approaches, reading and writing abilities, and accessibility.

RELATIONSHIPS and TRUST

Overall, we heard three components that people feel are key to building even small amounts of trust in relationships between community members, state agencies, and with one another: follow up, follow through, and show up.

- *Follow up:* People want to know what happens next, both with the update to the IWRS, as well as regarding other actions related to water. How to follow up may look different, based on the cultural norms of different communities.
- *Follow through:* We heard perceptions that because agencies aren't using the authority they currently have, people don't trust that future commitments will be honored.
- *Show up:* This may take the form of actually physically being present in communities across the state (either by visiting or making sure there is on-the-ground staff from state agencies living and working in communities). When community members talked about the water agency staff who

If you could have those real partnerships...that's what you want government to do. A real partnership. The expertise that you don't have. (Grant County)

live in their same local communities, they often spoke of their finding resources (grants to support projects), navigating Byzantine bureaucratic systems, providing frequent updates, or just listening.

INTER-AGENCY COLLABORATION

In addition to thinking about relationships between state agencies and communities in working on water, people also shared their views on how agencies work (or don't work) with one another on water issues. People used terms like "fragmentation" and "overwhelming" when talking about all of the state agencies involved in water decisions in some way. People shared feelings of bewilderment about who to go to for information or assistance. One Polk County resident suggested providing a "Who do you call" list for typical issues associated with water. There are also people who want to see fewer agencies tasked with water decisions.

There are also people who want public agencies – no matter the number involved – to work better together. A few people said they view inter-agency collaboration to be core to the IWRS; yet, across different viewpoints, water programs and responsibilities continue to be seen as scattered and siloed across state agencies. Even with so many agencies involved – or perhaps because of that – people pointed to general "gaps" in the state's ability to understand and meet water needs. Some people expressed interest in re-thinking missions and roles for state agencies around water. In particular, some people wanted to see OWRD's culture move from focusing on water allocation to water management.

LOCAL vs. STATE DECISION MAKING

Please integrate into this state strategy the activities and aims of locally-based community groups that are already engaged with seeking strategies to protect our water supply. (Tillamook County)

There is strong agreement that "one size fits all" policies do not work in a state like Oregon; people recognize that conditions vary dramatically across the state, based on both community size as well as geography. The range of opinions underneath that agreement, however, is complex. Some people do not believe state government should be involved in their water rights or local decision-making at all.

Others believe state government should amplify and support local successes. When people strove to find a balance of local autonomy (or agency) alongside statewide decision making, grounding planning and implementation work in the truth of the water in local communities emerged as an important value. Several people wanted to see state support and resources for collaboration and place-based planning efforts.

Some individuals, communities, and stakeholders view communities across the state as interconnected and interdependent when it comes to water, with conditions in one part of the state having implications for water availability and quality in other parts of the state. They want to see state government take more steps to oversee water planning and implementation happening at all levels.

Ensure Oregon's water is for the entire ecosystem, fish, rivers, terrestrials, plants, wildlife, and humans. Ensure counties enforce and abide by state regulations. Make sure they don't defer from the states water strategy.
(Douglas County)

SECTION 6: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS

In addition to the suggestions and ideas that people shared above about how state agencies can work better with communities and community members, we offer some additional recommendations for OWRD and other state agencies to consider for future engagement efforts, particularly related to the IWRS update.

As OWRD and partner agencies continue work to draft the update to the IWRS, there will be additional opportunities for Oregonians to provide input, particularly in response to proposed changes or additions to the Strategy. We heard from a number of people that they want to continue to stay informed and connected as OWRD goes through the next stages of the updating process. The official public comment period on the draft update will offer one such opportunity; however, OWRD and other state agencies will need to make concentrated efforts to provide the draft in different formats, to use plain language and to translate it into multiple languages.

Because the draft itself will likely include technical and complex language and concepts, OWRD and partners may want to consider including engagement activities during the public comment period that will allow for people of all levels of knowledge and

experience to engage deeply with the draft and provide meaningful feedback. These may include and are not limited to models for group dynamics such as citizen assemblies, wisdom councils, popular education, and more. These and other methods bring people together to share their lived experiences, build collective knowledge, and spend time in deep learning with each other and with those who have expertise in particular topic areas.

After the Oregon Water Resources Commission completes the next version of the IWRS, the 14 state agencies will each make budgetary and workplan decisions based on the actions and projects outlined in the updated IWRS. This will be another time that state agencies can invite community members to be part of Oregon’s water strategy. For example, many people have expressed concerns about water quality, particularly related to pollution or contamination in water. Since Oregon’s Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) makes decisions related to water quality, DEQ could invite people to share what they think about ways to address contaminants and improve water quality. People also were interested in a variety of ways that land use decisions are made in relation to water access, and the Department of Land Conservation and Development could invite people to respond to a series of trade-offs related to the intersection of development issues and water issues.

We recommend that OWRD and other state agencies take the time to share what decisions are ultimately made at different steps and how they came to those decisions. This will be another key component in building trust and letting the public know how their input was used. Prioritize going back to communities in person to share the results – a combination of following up and showing up.

SECTION 7: OPEN QUESTIONS

The IWRS – and thus this engagement process – covers many aspects of how we think about and approach water in Oregon. There are, however, a few areas outside the scope of what the IWRS is intended to do and even what it legally can address. These issues – some of which are foundational to the state’s water system – are clearly still important to Oregonians. While the current IWRS update does not – and cannot – directly address those foundational legal and cultural questions, they will continue to arise until there is an appropriate forum in which to resolve them.

WESTERN WATER LAW

Throughout this process, some community members expressed concerns about how the legal doctrine that has governed Western water law for over 100 years – Doctrine of Prior Appropriation or what is colloquially called “first in time, first in right” – restricts the potential for timely and systematic responses to threats to water quality and water quantity (like persistent drought, rapid population growth, and climate change). Other community members countered that they are likely to lose vested generational water rights upon which their livelihoods depend. These legal matters rest beyond the scope of the IWRS yet infuse people’s views on many different water issues in Oregon.

LEADERSHIP

Across many forms of engagement, community participants identified that leadership “at every level” must work together to get results. People frequently talked about the role leaders play or the role they want to see leaders play, though it wasn’t always clear who or which type of leader people were referring to. What it means to have a set of people or a singular entity acting as a leader around statewide water issues calls for further exploration.

WATER STRATEGY vs WATER PLAN

The emphasis on action (preferably sooner rather than later) echoed throughout the process raises what it means for Oregon to have a statewide strategy versus a statewide plan. As with lingering questions about leadership, the idea of a strategy versus a plan raises questions about accountability on water issues.

SECTION 8: CONCLUSION

This engagement process provides OWRD, the Oregon Water Commission and other state agencies working on water issues in Oregon with a sense of what people most value and prioritize. We encourage OWRD to return to community members to share how their input was used in making decisions related to updating the IWRS as well as what the Oregon Water Resources Commission ultimately decides on. It will be important to highlight how they balanced the varied values and experiences in making those decisions so people understand how their input was used.

Community members engage with this topic from a wide range of perspectives: as individuals and households; as small groups; as communities that plan, live, and work together; as larger formal entities with authority and responsibility; and as communities working across geographic, jurisdictional, regulatory, economic, and other boundaries. The range and levels of responses reflect community members' willingness to do their part – individually and collectively – and offers guidance for implementation and continued engagement at all levels of scale.

Many participants see Oregon as a community with widely differing interests, experiences, values and beliefs. They are understanding of how conflicts will inevitably arise in that statewide community; some have seen it for decades and have grown weary of what seems irresolvable issues (where they don't always feel heard or understood). Many more appreciate the invitation to enter a space created to resolve conflicts with the assistance of skilled and trustworthy conveners. Helping people sort through difficult issues themselves, and where they are, and on a continual basis, will help build vital community resilience as we try to find ways to meet Oregon's many water needs.

Appendix A. Annotated Survey Results

A Strategy for Oregon's Water

Welcome! Would you please answer some questions in this survey to share your thoughts about water in Oregon?

In Oregon we have a plan for our water. It's called the Integrated Water Resources Strategy. This Strategy helps us understand what water we have available in Oregon and what we need for people, plants, animals, and the land.

Now it's time to update that plan. The Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) and 13 other state agencies are working with Oregon's Kitchen Table (OKT). OKT is a program of Portland State University. We want to hear about what you want to see in Oregon's water Strategy.

Your input will help the state make decisions about our water. This includes:

- To decide about how we plan for extreme weather like droughts.
- To decide how to make our water healthier and safer.
- To decide what kinds of systems we build to get water where we need it.

We will also host community talks throughout the state as part of this survey. Learn more at <https://bit.ly/water-conversations>.

Please fill out this survey if you live in Oregon. You can fill it out through June 15, 2023.

BACKGROUND

What is Oregon's Integrated Water Resources Strategy?

This Strategy helps us know about what water we have in Oregon and what we need for people, plants, animals, and the land. It also has actions that state agencies and groups can take to meet those goals.

How will the state use the results of this survey?

State agencies will update the Strategy with your input. Oregon's Kitchen Table will give state agencies a report with the results of this survey. We will also include a report of community talks and other events.

You will be able to see the report on our website at <https://www.oregonskitchentable.org/results>.

How can I help?

Please share your thoughts in this survey. Ask people you know who live in Oregon to take this survey.

You can also attend a community talk. You can learn more here - <https://bit.ly/water-conversations>.

Are you part of a group that may want to hold a conversation about Oregon's water? Contact us (info@oregonskitchentable.org) if you have an event this spring where you think people would be interested in talking about water.



Appendix A. Annotated Survey Results

How can I learn more?

Learn more about the Strategy and the update on OWRD’s website at <https://www.oregon.gov/owrd/programs/planning/iwrs/pages/default.aspx> (in English).

Will my answers on this survey be linked with my name?

No. We will not tie your answers to your name or contact information, if you choose to share those.

You can read about Oregon’s Kitchen Table’s privacy policy at <https://www.oregonskitchentable.org/privacy-policy>. Please email info@oregonskitchentable.org or call 503-725-5248 if you have questions.

QUESTIONS

First, we are going to ask a couple of questions about your own experiences with water in Oregon.

Total respondents will not add up to 100% in some cases, because respondents were able to select multiple responses to some of the questions. We show what percent of respondents chose a particular option in these questions. In questions where people were limited to one response, percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

1. Which of these describes how you interact with water in Oregon? Check all that apply.

RESPONSE CATEGORY	Total Respondents = 1694
For recreation (like swimming, surfing and more)	66%
For business or industrial use	11%
For personal or home use (like drinking, cleaning and more)	89%
For commercial fishing (or fishing for work)	4%
For recreational fishing (or fishing for fun) or fishing for food	37%
To feed animals or livestock	28%
To grow food and plants	70%
To access and protect First Foods	14%
For healing	25%
To enjoy wildlife and nature like bird watching, fish restoration or picking up trash	66%
To enjoy water in a cultural or spiritual way	33%
To enjoy in a scenic way, like taking photos, having a picnic, or looking at water	75%
For my work such as advocacy, providing drinking water, or research	21%
Other (please describe)	5%



Appendix A. Annotated Survey Results

2. Before today, how much did you know about Oregon’s Integrated Water Resources Strategy?

RESPONSE CATEGORY	Respondents to This Question = 1652
I knew a lot	7%
I knew a little	27%
I knew very little	29%
I didn't know anything about it	32%
I'm not sure or I don't know	4%

3. What are your major water issues or concerns?

Responses provided to the Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD)

4. Do you know of some water issues that your community has addressed well?

RESPONSE CATEGORY	Respondents to This Question = 1583
Yes	53%
No	47%

If you checked "Yes", please mark all that apply

RESPONSE CATEGORY	Total Respondents = 1694
We have educated community members about water use or conservation.	25%
We are conserving water by putting in efficient fixtures in our water or irrigation systems.	23%
We are working with groups to plan and prepare for having enough water if there is an emergency like a drought or a wildfire.	12%
We are doing restoration projects to protect and restore natural areas around water.	33%
We are updating the systems that store and bring us water. This is to make sure it's clean and safe.	22%
We are updating the systems that treat our wastewater, so it does not pollute the environment.	21%
We are taking steps to address stormwater runoff. This means the rain water that runs off roofs and driveways into the street.	22%
We are saving and storing more water during the rainy season in storage tanks or reservoirs.	12%
We have strong rules about building on land that could flood.	12%



Appendix A. Annotated Survey Results

We are protecting our groundwater so it is safe and clean for people to drink from their wells.	14%
Other. Please describe. . .	5%

5. How concerned are you about having enough clean, safe water in your area?

RESPONSE CATEGORY	Respondents to This Question = 1,667
Very concerned	53%
A little concerned	24%
Just a little concerned	14%
Not concerned at all	7%
I'm not sure or I don't know	2%

6. Think about water in your part of Oregon. What are you most concerned about now?

Please select the three things that matter most to you. Please choose only three. Right now, I am most concerned that. . .

RESPONSE CATEGORY	Total Respondents = 1,694
The water where I live is clean and safe enough for people or animals.	63%
We have enough clean water where I live for fish, food and plants to grow.	44%
My family and I can afford our water.	25%
I can interact with clean water for cultural or spiritual reasons.	7%
There is enough water for businesses or jobs where I live.	8%
My neighbors and I have enough clean water in case of an emergency.	23%
My well does not go dry.	13%
The systems like pipes or reservoirs that store and bring us water where I live are working well.	29%
I know what my community is doing to plan for our water needs today and into the future.	24%
I have a voice in decisions being made about our water systems.	20%
I know how I can be part of caring for water where I live.	10%
Other	6%

7. Does your answer to the above change if we ask you to look 50 years into the future?

RESPONSE CATEGORY	Respondents to This Question =1,653
Yes	18%



Appendix A. Annotated Survey Results

No	54%
I'm not sure	28%

If you answered “Yes”, how does it change your answer?

Responses provided to the Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD)

8. Right now, the Strategy plans for extreme events like droughts, floods, and earthquakes. Which of these other extreme events concern you related to water now or in the future? Please mark all that apply.

RESPONSE CATEGORY	Total Respondents = 1,694
Higher level of winter rains	25%
Harmful algae blooms	52%
Wildfires	76%
Heatwaves	60%
Mudslides or rockslides	23%
Winter storms, like snow, ice or extreme cold	27%
Pandemics	23%
Accidents that cause chemical or oil spills like train derailments or tanker truck accidents	57%
Plants or animals like salmon not returning	62%
Other...	7%

9. What are some ideas you have for addressing your water concerns?

Responses provided to the Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD)

10. Below are some of the kinds of actions related to Oregon’s water that people can take. Which ones are you most interested in? Please mark all that apply. Also let us know if you are interested in other actions not on this list.

RESPONSE CATEGORY	Total Respondents = 1,694
Limit use of fertilizer or animal waste runoff on my land or where I work.	36%
Learn how to prepare for and respond to extreme events.	50%
Learn about ways to protect and restore habitat for animals, plants, and the land.	53%
Conserve, store, and reuse water at home or at my place of work.	57%
Help my community better understand the amount and quality of the water where I live.	43%
Volunteer to plant trees or clean up trash in lakes and rivers.	34%
Explore or help develop jobs connected to water for youth.	21%



Appendix A. Annotated Survey Results

Find job opportunities to work in the water sector.	11%
Learn how to get help doing water projects on my property, like reusing water or reducing water runoff	39%
Other...	5%

11. What actions related to our water would you most like to see the state government take?

Responses provided to the Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD)

12. Here are some ways that state agencies are thinking about making it easier for people to understand, use the Strategy, and keep talking about water. Please choose the three that appeal to you the most. Please choose only three.

RESPONSE CATEGORY	Total Respondents =1,694
Offer a website that clearly lays out each part of the Strategy. This includes what has been done or is being done.	47%
Ensure that the Strategy and materials are in plain language and in multiple languages.	34%
Make it clearer what agencies' roles and responsibilities are for our water needs.	40%
Create images and short videos to share what is in the Strategy and what is happening.	30%
Use social media to update people about the Strategy and what is happening.	32%
Offer in-person community meetings and educational events.	28%
Offer online community meetings and educational events.	17%
Offer online surveys so you can share with the state what is most important to you.	21%
Share through local radio.	11%
Other...	4%

13. Is there anything else you want to share about updating the Strategy or about water in Oregon?

Responses provided to the Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD)

14. Which county in Oregon do you live in?

RESPONSE CATEGORY	Respondents to This Question = 1,611
Baker County	1%
Benton County	2%



Appendix A. Annotated Survey Results

Clackamas County	6%
Clatsop County	3%
Columbia County	<1%
Coos County	<1%
Crook County	1%
Curry County	<1%
Deschutes County	16%
Douglas County	1%
Gilliam County	<1%
Grant County	<1%
Harney County	<1%
Hood River County	1%
Jackson County	4%
Jefferson County	2%
Josephine County	1%
Klamath County	1%
Lake County	<1%
Lane County	6%
Lincoln County	2%
Linn County	1%
Malheur County	2%
Marion County	2%
Morrow County	*0%
Multnomah County	29%
Polk County	1%
Sherman County	<1%
Tillamook County	1%
Umatilla County	1%
Union County	<1%
Wallowa County	1%
Wasco County	1%
Washington County	12%
Wheeler County	<1%
Yamhill County	1%

*No residents of Morrow County participated in the online survey but Morrow County residents participated in the Regional Community Conversation held in Hermiston.



Appendix A. Annotated Survey Results

15. What is your age?

RESPONSE CATEGORY	Respondents to This Question = 1,604
17 years old and younger	1%
18 to 29 years old	6%
30 to 39 years old	14%
40 to 49 years old	18%
50 to 59 years old	18%
60 to 69 years old	20%
70 or older	21%
I prefer not to answer	2%

16. Which of the following describes your racial or ethnic identity? Please mark all that apply.

RESPONSE CATEGORY	Respondents to This Question = 1694
American Indian, Alaska Native	4%
Canadian (Inuit, Métis and First Nation)	<1%
Indigenous Mexican, Central American	3%
Indigenous South American	<1%
Asian Indian	<1%
Chinese	7%
Filipino	<1%
Hmong	<1%
Japanese	<1%
Korean	<1%
Laotian	<1%
Vietnamese	<1%
South Asian	<1%
Other Asian	<1%
African (Black)	<1%
Black, African American	<1%

Appendix A. Annotated Survey Results

Caribbean (Black)	<1%
Other Black	<1%
Mexican	10%
Central American	1%
South American	1%
Other Hispanic or Latinx	1%
Middle Eastern	<1%
North African	<1%
Native Hawaiian	<1%
Guamanian or Chamorro	<1%
Marshallese, Micronesian, Palauan	1%
Samoan	<1%
Tongan	<1%
Other Pacific Islander	1%
Slavic	5%
Eastern European	7%
Western European	37%
Other White	24%

If you would like to share in your own words how you describe your race, origin, ethnicity, ancestry or Tribal affiliations, please use this space:

Responses provided to the Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD)

17. What language do you prefer to receive information in?

RESPONSE CATEGORY	Respondents to This Question = 1,616
English	83%
Chuukese	2%
Mandarin	3%
Russian	3%
Spanish	9%
Ukrainian	<1%
Vietnamese	<1%
Another language not listed here (please write the language):	<1%

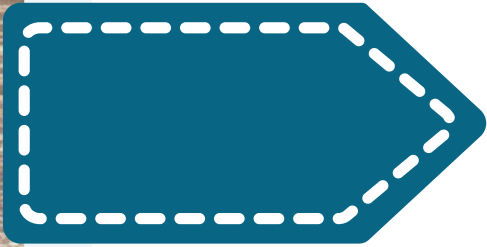


Appendix B. Regional Community Conversation Slides



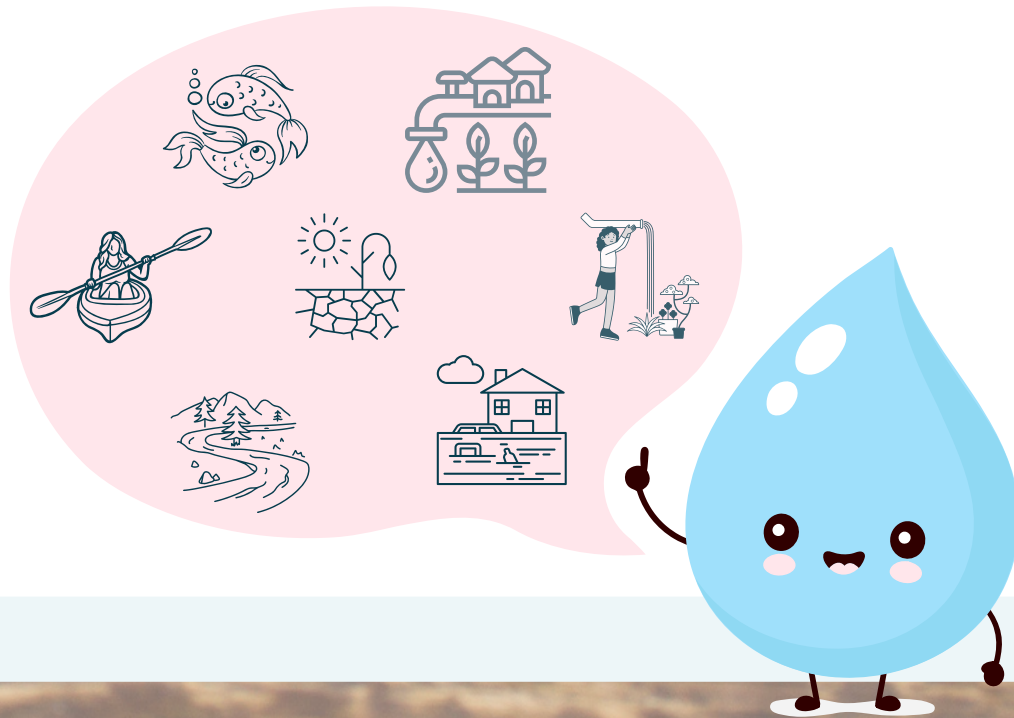
Welcome!

Please share one word
that comes to mind when
you think of water.



Our Conversation

Our goal is to hear and learn from each other what matters to you about your water and Oregon's water.






Community Agreements

- Bring your full attention.
- Listen with curiosity.
- Be mindful of your impact (not just your intent).
- Be respectful of your neighbors.
- Respect that everyone brings different ideas and experiences to this conversation.






What are your major water issues/concerns?

- What are the main water challenges you or your community are facing right now?
- What do you worry most about water 10-20 years from now?






What are some ideas for solving these issues/concerns?

- -What have you noticed that your community is doing well that is helping address water concerns?
- What are other ideas you have for addressing water issues?





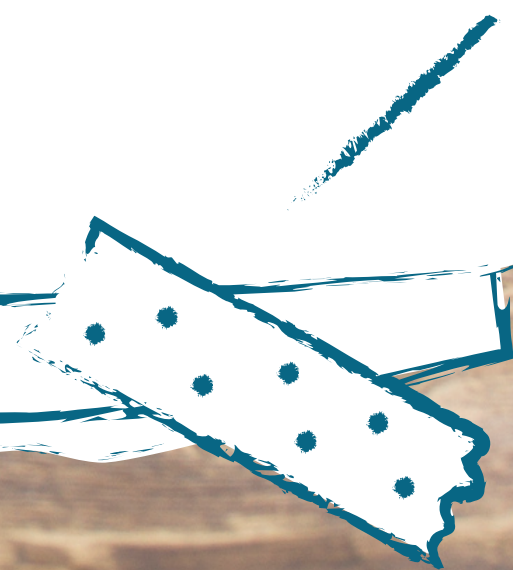
How do you think decision makers in Oregon can better work with your community on water issues going forward?

- Oregon's water strategy involves many complex water issues. How might state agencies partner with local community members on these and other interconnected issues?





*What is one thing you want people
from other parts of the state to know
or understand about your
community?*



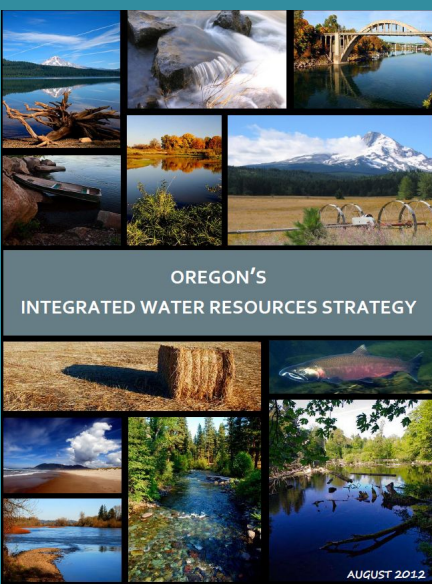
What is the IWRS?

Oregon's Integrated Water Resources Strategy

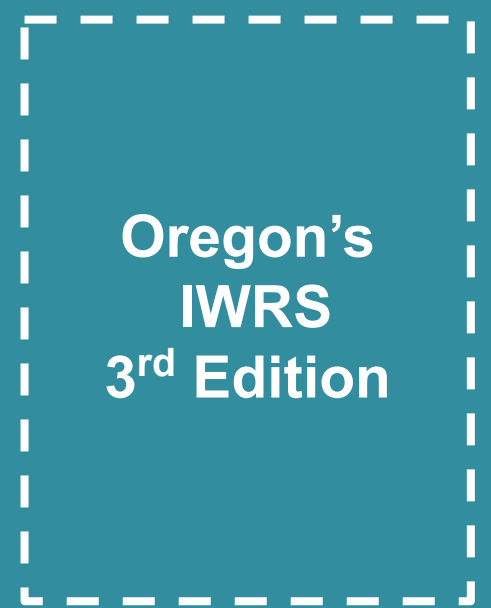
Crystal Grinnell, IWRS Specialist
Oregon Water Resources Department

A statewide strategy to understand and meet Oregon's water needs





2012



2023

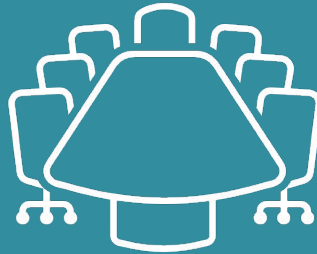
2017



Who is it for?



**All
Oregonians**



**State
Agencies**



**State
Legislature**

What is in it?

Water &
Wastewater
Infrastructure



Your Water
Needs!

Place-Based
Solutions



Protect &
Improve Wildlife
Habitat



Plan for Climate
Change

Policy



What is in it?

51 Recommended Actions

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
 1A Conduct additional groundwater investigations
 1B Improve water resource data collection & monitoring
 1C 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
 2A Regularly update long-term water demand forecasts
 2B Improve water-use measurement & reporting
 2C Determine adjudicated water right claims
 2D Authorize the update of water right records with contact information
 2E Regularly update Oregon's water-related permitting guide

Understanding Oregon's Instream Needs/Demands
 3A Determine flows needed (quality & quantity) to support instream needs
 3B Determine needs of groundwater dependent ecosystems

(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

Climate Change
 5.A Support continued basin-scale climate change research efforts
 5.B Assist with climate change adaptation & resiliency strategies

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

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
 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)

OBJECTIVES

CRITICAL ISSUES

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

(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

What has been done since 2017?

Some Examples:

Groundwater &
Surface Water
Data Collection

Drought
Planning &
Support

Pesticide
Stewardship
Partnership

Place Based
Planning

Oregon Water
Data Portal

Ecological
Restoration

See posters for more info!

How will my input be used?

Oregon's IWRs,
3rd Edition



7 Regional
Community
Conversations

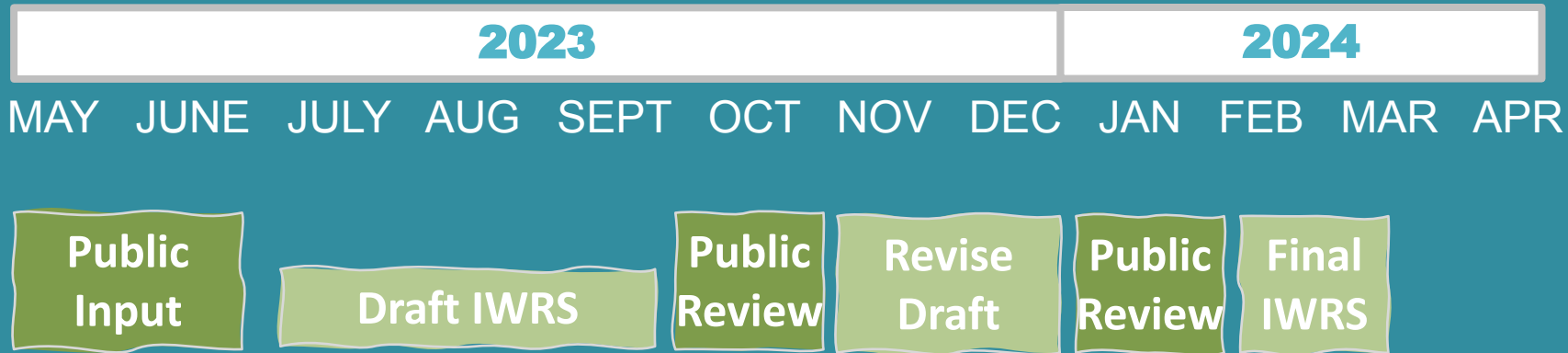
Public Survey

Culturally
Specific
Listening
Sessions



- Identify water issues
- Identify solutions
- Modify Recommended Actions
- Create New Recommended Actions

What's next?



Provide OWRD with your email if you would like to receive the draft IWRS in October!

Thank you!

Crystal.A.Grinnell@water.Oregon.gov

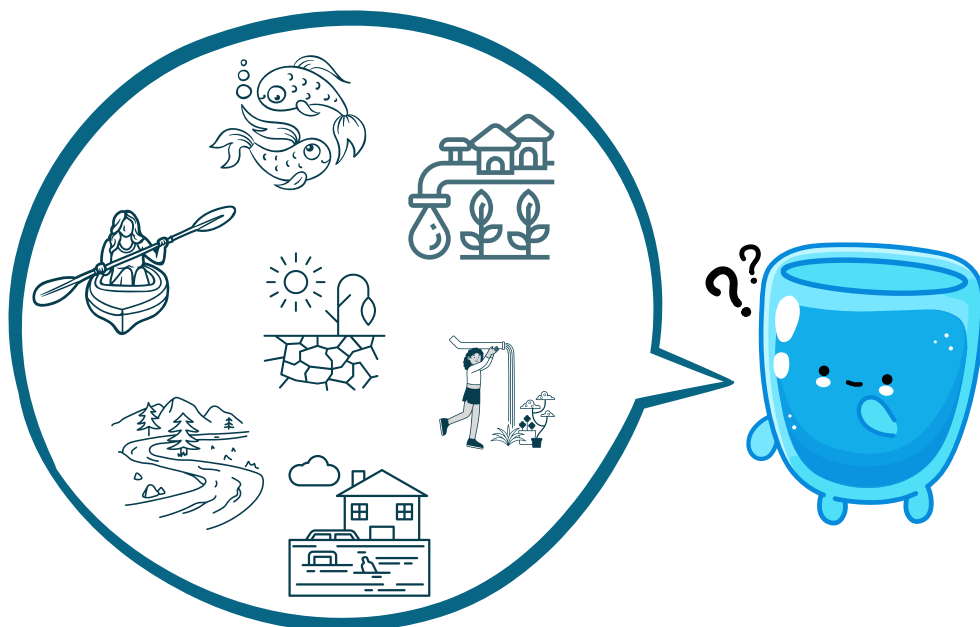


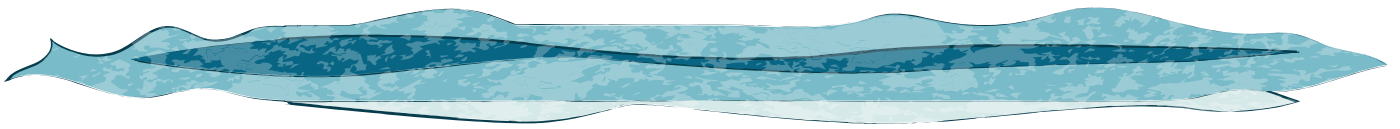
Appendix C. Kitchen Table Community Conversation Guide



CONVERSATION GUIDE

OREGON'S WATER STRATEGY





This Guide is for anyone in Oregon who wants to organize and host a Kitchen Table Conversation with their family, friends, or neighbors about water in Oregon. You might be a:

- community leader bringing people in your network together to talk
- young person organizing a conversation with your peers, classmates, or teammates
- teacher holding a classroom conversation to demonstrate civics, public decision-making, or policy lessons in action
- A community-based organization who wants to make sure the voices of the people you serve are heard

We hope this Guide provides helpful ideas for organizing a community conversation, a structure for what to talk about during the conversation, and a clear way to summarize what people shared and get it to OKT.

CONTENTS

Our Approach

Gathering People

Purpose / Background

Guiding the conversation

Gathering input

Tips and templates



OUR APPROACH

Oregon's Kitchen Table strives to include all Oregonians in the decisions that affect their lives, with a particular focus on reaching, engaging, and hearing from Oregonians who have been left out of traditional public processes.

We work with organizers, translators, and interpreters so materials and online and in-person consultations are available for Oregonians who speak a wide variety of languages and learn in a variety of ways.

We recognize that people bring all different levels of knowledge and familiarity regarding issues / policies. We use approaches to ensure those who may not have as in-depth knowledge can still respond and share what they believe and have experienced. People participate in many different ways: through online and paper surveys, individual or small group interviews, culturally specific and community events festivals, listening sessions, or public meetings open to anyone.

One of the approaches we use is what we call a Kitchen Table Conversation: a group of people gathering together to learn from each other and share what they think in the language, setting, and format that is most comfortable for them.

GATHERING PEOPLE TO TALK

INVITATION

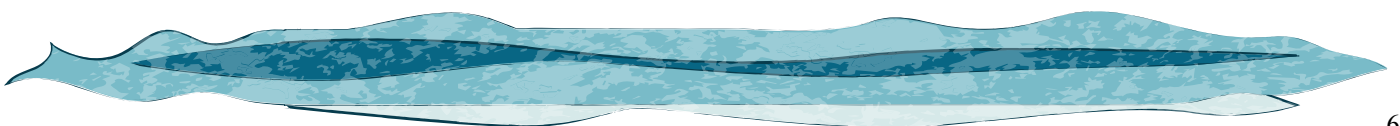
Use whatever method people will pay attention to, but make sure it feels warm, welcoming, and inviting. It might be a text, a phone call, What'sApp, a social media post, or an email. Some people set up e-invites. Make clear the time, place, purpose, what to expect (food or participant incentive), and if they need to RSVP.

GROUP SIZE

10-12 people is ideal. But larger groups can be broken up into smaller groups. And you can still have a good conversation with 2-3 people.

FORMAT

You can meet in person, over Zoom, or group chat (people have used WhatsApp before, for example). You can talk while planting trees or clearing out invasive species. You can have the conversation on a bus during a field trip. Hold the conversation in a space that is easy and comfortable for people in your community.



WELCOMING

HOST

Think of yourself as the host, welcoming people at your table,

FOOD

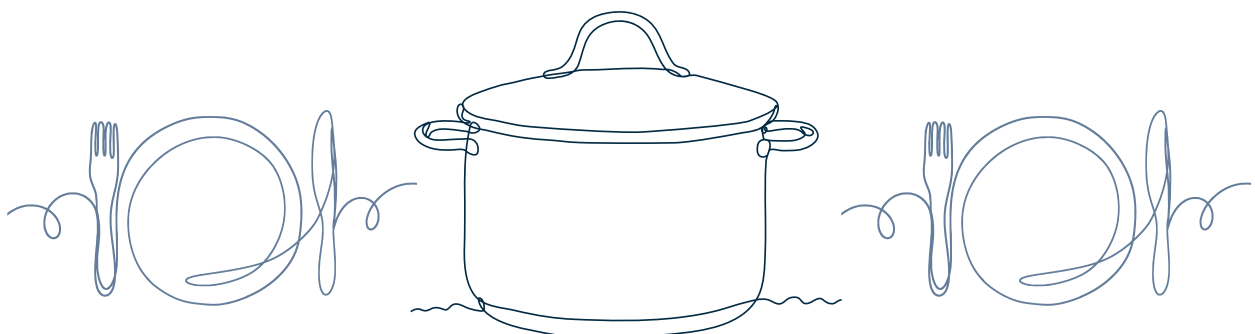
If you are in person, have food! Even a simple snack (popcorn, cookies, water, fruit) will help people feel welcome.

FUN

If you're in-person or virtual, have some element of fun and joy that makes sense for your community: music, a short game, decorations.

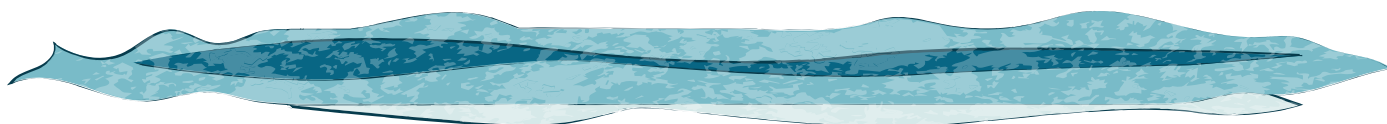
ACTIVITY

Have an opening activity that allows for all to say something at the beginning so that they can get comfortable. For example, you could invite everyone to say one word that comes to mind when they think of water in Oregon.



ROLES FOR CO-HOSTS

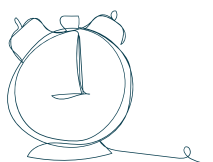
If you are working with a partner or a team to co-host a conversation, decide who will take which role. Here are some common roles. You could also invite participants to join you and take on one of these roles.



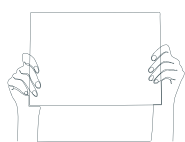
Facilitator: Guides conversation, asks questions, and helps capture themes, commonalities, or differences.



Notetaker: Captures what people say. Bullet points are fine! If the notetaker can get any good quotes, that's great but not required.



Timekeeper: Use a clock (phone works!) to help make sure that there's enough time for each part of the conversation. Give facilitator / group time warnings.



Reporter: If there are small group discussions, shares a summary of what the group discussed for the whole group.



Observer: Helps the Facilitator make sure everyone gets a chance to talk or that no one person takes up too much time.

PURPOSE FOR GATHERING

Explain why you've inviting people in your community to gather together to talk about water in Oregon. Below is a description of what the decision is and why it matters. You can read this or summarize in your own words.

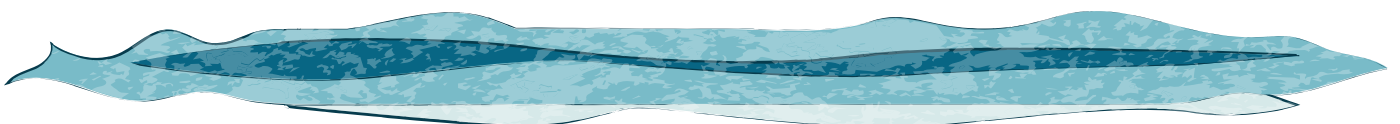


In Oregon we have a plan for our water. It's called the Integrated Water Resources Strategy. This Strategy helps us understand what water we have available in Oregon and what we need for people, plants, animals, and the land.

Now it's time to update that plan. The Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) and 13 other state agencies are working with Oregon's Kitchen Table (OKT). OKT is a program of Portland State University that creates ways for Oregonians to share what you think about the decisions that affect your lives. We want to hear about what you want to see in Oregon's water Strategy.

Your input will help the state make decisions about our water. Some of these decisions the state will make include:

- To decide about how we plan for extreme weather like droughts.
- To decide how to make our water healthier and safer.
- To decide what kinds of systems we build to get water where we need it.



GUIDING THE CONVERSATION

1. BACKGROUND

People have different experiences and knowledge about the topic. We honor all of those experiences and knowledge. Share the basic background provided in the "Purpose for Gathering" section.

2. QUESTIONS FOR CONVERSATION

OKT has developed a few questions with the decision maker. We usually have a few main questions to pose along with follow up in case people need some direction in responding or in case there's extra time.

3. HOW TO SPEND YOUR TIME TOGETHER

It's ok if people want to spend time on just one or two - we want to know where their interests and energies are, so that's fine!



4. CONFIDENTIALITY

Let people know that their names or anything that identifies them won't be shared. You'll give OKT a summary of what you all talked about. OKT will combine all the input from different conversations, surveys, and other ways people share what they think.

CONVERSATION QUESTIONS

What are your major water issues/concerns?

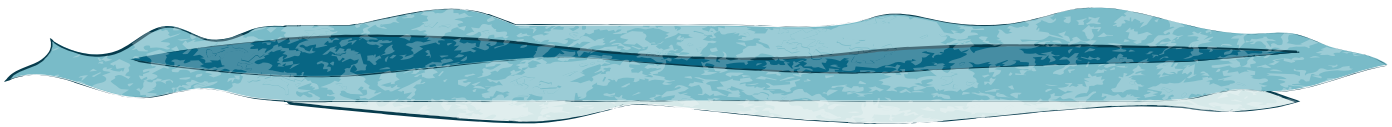
- What are the main water challenges you or your community are facing right now?
- What do you worry most about water 10-20 years from now?

What are some ideas for solving these issues / concerns?

- What have you noticed that your community is doing well that is helping address water concerns?
- What are other ideas you have for addressing water issues?

How do you think decision makers in Oregon can better work with your community on water issues?





CONNECTING BACK

Let people know where their input will go and how it will be used. You can use the timeline on the next page. Also let them know that you will connect with Oregon's Kitchen Table with whatever questions came up and circle back to people with any answers.

INVITING MORE VOICES

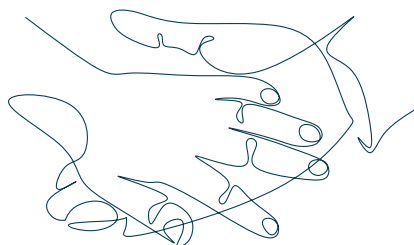
Share information about ways that participants can invite other people they know to share what they think. Use the postcards with the link and QR code included after the templates.

APPRECIATIONS

Let people know how important their input is and we appreciate hearing their ideas, thoughts, experiences and time on this important issue. You can invite everyone to share their appreciations for each other.

ACTIVITY

If there's time, you can invite people to share aloud. If there's not time, have post-it notes or cards for people to write or draw their response to a closing question: "What is one thing you want people from other parts of the state to know or understand about your community?"



CLOSING

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

1. INVITE YOUR NEIGHBORS TO PARTICIPATE

Engagement will happen May 11 - June 15. Invite other people you know to share what they think! Invite people to join you in helping shape Oregon's water strategy.

VISIT [HTTPS://BIT.LY/OREGONSWATER](https://bit.ly/oregonswater)
OR
SCAN HERE WITH YOUR PHONE:



2. OKT REPORT ON WHAT WE HEARD

OKT will provide a report of what we heard to OWRD. We will post the report and a summary of that report in 9 languages on the OKT website. We will also share it with anyone who gave us their contact information.



3. HOW STATE AGENCIES WILL USE THE INPUT

State agencies will use this input as they draft the update. They will share a draft with the public in the fall. You can give feedback on that through OWRD's public comment period.

4. DECISIONS ON THE WATER STRATEGY

The Oregon Water Commission will then vote on the updates in early 2024. That will then become the updated Oregon's Integrated Water Strategy.

5. HOW STATE AGENCIES WILL USE THE STRATEGY

It is up to different state agencies to use the Strategy to make decisions on how they will prioritize different activities and water projects that are in the 2024 update.

KEEP IN MIND AS YOU GUIDE THE CONVERSATION

Check with yourself: What is the main goal for this conversation? Can I state it clearly?

People will come with different levels of understanding, interest, and motivation. We're glad everyone is here to share and has something to learn from everyone.

Watch body language: people will let you know when they are feeling confused, unclear, or they have something to say.

Some people really, really want to talk. Let them know their participation is important while inviting others in ("I'm hearing lots of ideas for us to consider. Who else has an idea they haven't shared?")

Try different ways of bringing in people who may not be comfortable speaking up. ("Let's talk in pairs for a couple minutes then come back to the whole group.")

Keep in mind you can be flexible: if something is not working, look for ways to adjust or try other methods.

It is okay to not have all the answers! Save questions people have. If you say you will bring it back for follow up, make sure to find out who can answer and how we could follow up with the person asking the question.

TIPS FOR NOTETAKING

- Focus on making sure the points of view are recorded accurately.
- While taking notes, stay in the moment as much as possible.
- Wait to organize / review for spelling and edit when you prepare the final report.
- Try to capture what was actually said as accurately as possible, using people's language and ways of explaining.
- You don't need to capture word-for-word, though getting a couple good direct quotes is always great!
- Don't try to reword or add to what people are saying.
- Comments you heard from people even before or after the meeting or at breaks can be helpful, too.
- Review your notes as soon as possible so that you are remembering accurately for writing your summary.
- If you handwrite your notes, make sure to take a picture of the paper so you can refer to it later when writing your summary.

TIPS FOR SUMMARY

- ~ Bullet points are fine! This is a summary not a formal report.
- ~ Let us know any areas where there is agreement or disagreement in people's perspectives.
- ~ Let us know if there are any unique perspectives (an idea / experience / belief one person shared even if others didn't have it).
- ~ Add your observations/reflections: Feelings, sense of issues, concerns, positive experiences.
- ~ Let us know if there's anyone we ought to follow up with on any ideas they shared.
- ~ Share any questions about the project that you couldn't answer and who to follow up with.
- ~ Include any pictures from the conversation. Make sure to ask permission first!

SUMMARY TEMPLATE

Date / Place:

of people:

General description of the group (age ranges, languages spoken, any ways the group might identify themselves):

Opening activity (what you did, anything anyone shared):

SUMMARY TEMPLATE

Major water issues/concerns

Ideas for solving these issues / concerns

SUMMARY TEMPLATE

How decision makers in Oregon can better work with
your community on water issues

Closing activity (what you did, anything anyone shared):

SUMMARY TEMPLATE

Areas of agreement among the group

Areas of disagreement among the group

SUMMARY TEMPLATE

Unique perspectives

Areas where someone was persuaded by someone's
else's point of view

SUMMARY TEMPLATE

Direct quotes

Any observations you had

**SEND YOUR SUMMARY BY JUNE 15TH TO
SAGILES@PDX.EDU**

[HTTPS://BIT.LY/OREGONSWATER](https://bit.ly/oregonswater)

Share what you think! Your input will help Oregon decide how to meet our water needs.



MAY 11 - JUNE 15
SCAN HERE WITH YOUR
PHONE:



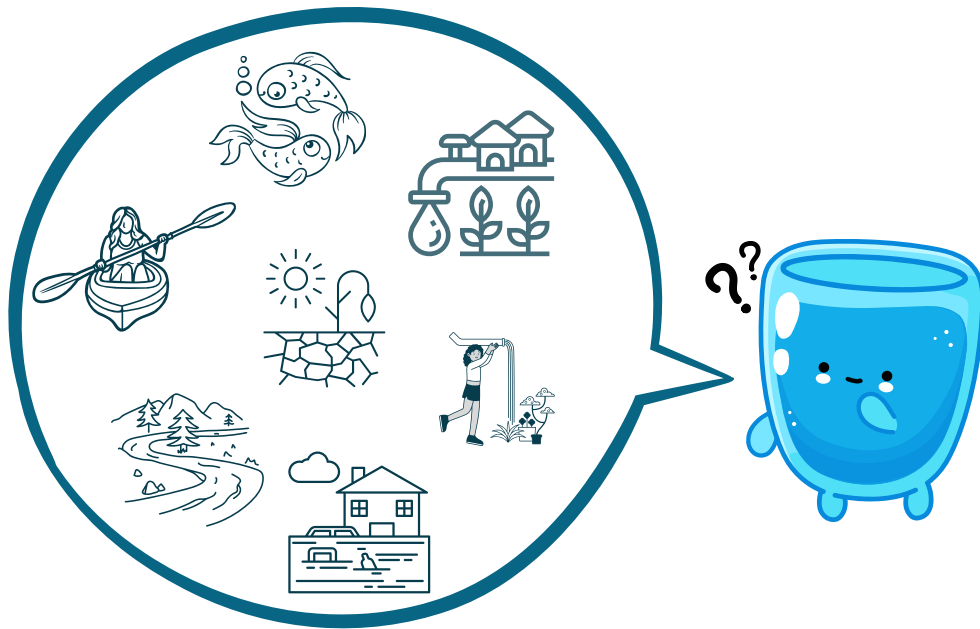
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/OREGONSWATER](https://bit.ly/oregonswater)

Share what you think! Your input will help Oregon decide how to meet our water needs.



MAY 11 - JUNE 15
SCAN HERE WITH YOUR
PHONE:





QUESTIONS?
IDEAS?
NEED SUPPORT?
CONTACT US!

 503-725-5248

 INFO@OREGONSKITCHENTABLE.ORG

 WWW.OREGONSKITCHENTABLE.ORG

