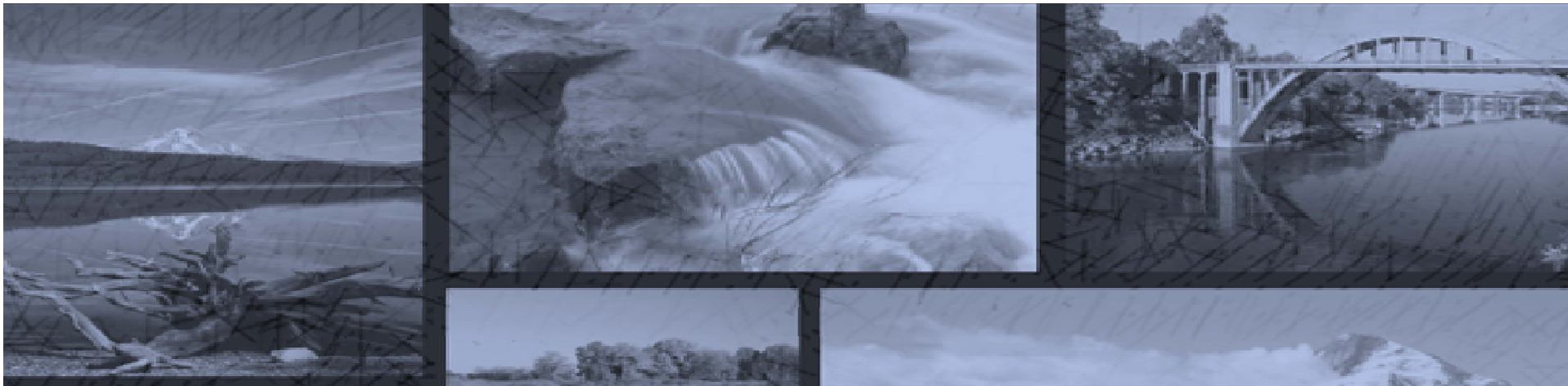


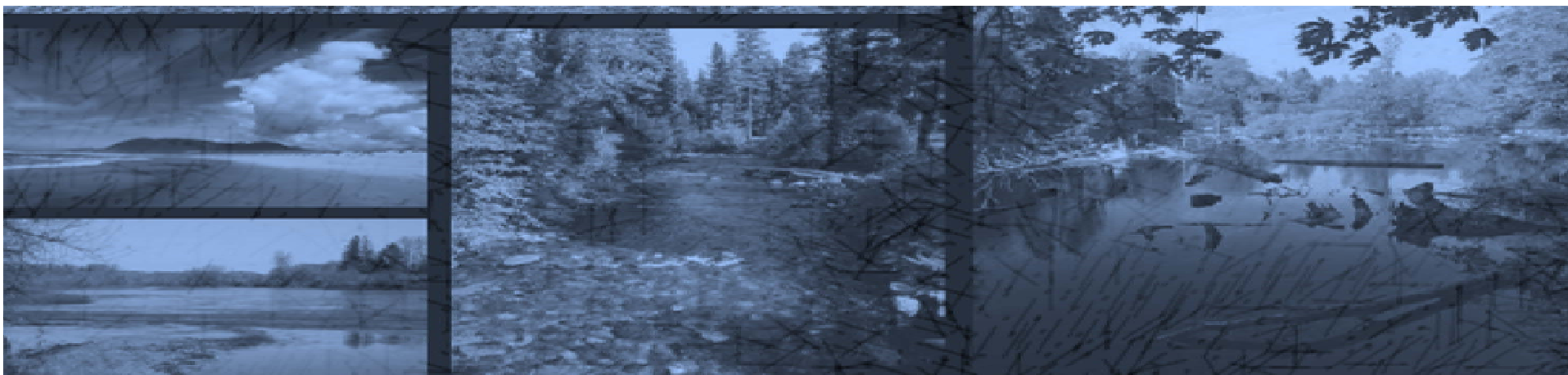


Oregon's Integrated Water Resources Strategy

Developing Guidelines for Place-Based Planning

Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies – May 7, 2014

Oregon Water Resources Department



Charge to Develop the Strategy

Oregon's House Bill 3369 (2009)

- Directs WRD to lead efforts to “understand and meet” Oregon’s water needs”
- Partner with water quality, fish & wildlife, agriculture, other agencies, tribes, stakeholders, & public
- Account for coming pressures

7th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY-2009 Regular Session

Enrolled House Bill 3369

instream and out-of-stream

...quality, quantity & ecosystem needs

...today and in the future

Relating to water supply management; creating new provisions; amending ORS 536.220, 541.700, 541.705, 541.710, 541.730, 541.740, 541.765, 541.770, 541.785, 541.830, 541.845 and 541.850; repealing ORS 541.755; appropriating money; and declaring an emergency.

Whereas the western United States is projected to experience substantial population growth this century, including an additional one million people in Oregon before 2030; and

Whereas climate change is expected to alter the timing and form of precipitation in Oregon; and
Whereas surface water is almost completely allocated across Oregon during summer months, ground water levels have declined precipitously in several areas and the hydrological connection between surface water and ground water levels is significant; and

Whereas Oregon needs to develop an integrated statewide water management plan to address existing and likely future in-stream and out-of-stream demands on Oregon's water supplies; and

Whereas having coordinated plans and programs to address in-stream and out-of-stream water needs will make Oregon a more likely recipient of federal investments and give Oregon stronger standing in interstate water disputes; and

Whereas water is a valuable economic commodity; and

Whereas water development projects can be designed to simultaneously benefit commercial development, the natural environment and the fiscal responsibilities of the state; and

Whereas it is the policy of the Water Resources Department to directly address Oregon's water supply needs and to restore and protect stream flows and watersheds; and

Whereas it is desirable that the Water Resources Department and the Water Resources Commission have greater authority to issue loans and grants to public and private bodies, Indian tribes and others for the purpose of developing projects that will ensure the availability of a sufficient and sustainable water supply to meet Oregon's current and future water needs; and

Whereas loan and grant moneys for developing projects that ensure a sufficient and sustainable water supply must be administered in a prudent and fiscally sound manner and used expeditiously; and

Whereas water development projects that deliver mutual benefits for water users, the environment and the fiscal condition of this state should be funded or financed with public dollars; and

Whereas all water within Oregon belongs to the public pursuant to law; now, therefore,

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

ADDING

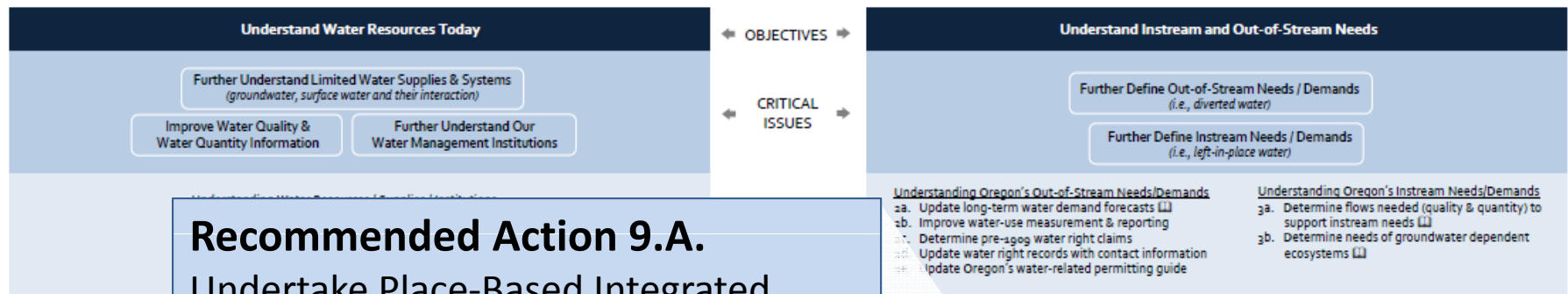
Oregon's Integrated Water Resources Strategy

- **Adopted in August 2012**
- **Serves as Oregon's blueprint for meeting instream and out-of-stream needs**
- **Covers 13 issue areas**
- **Contains more than 40 recommended actions**

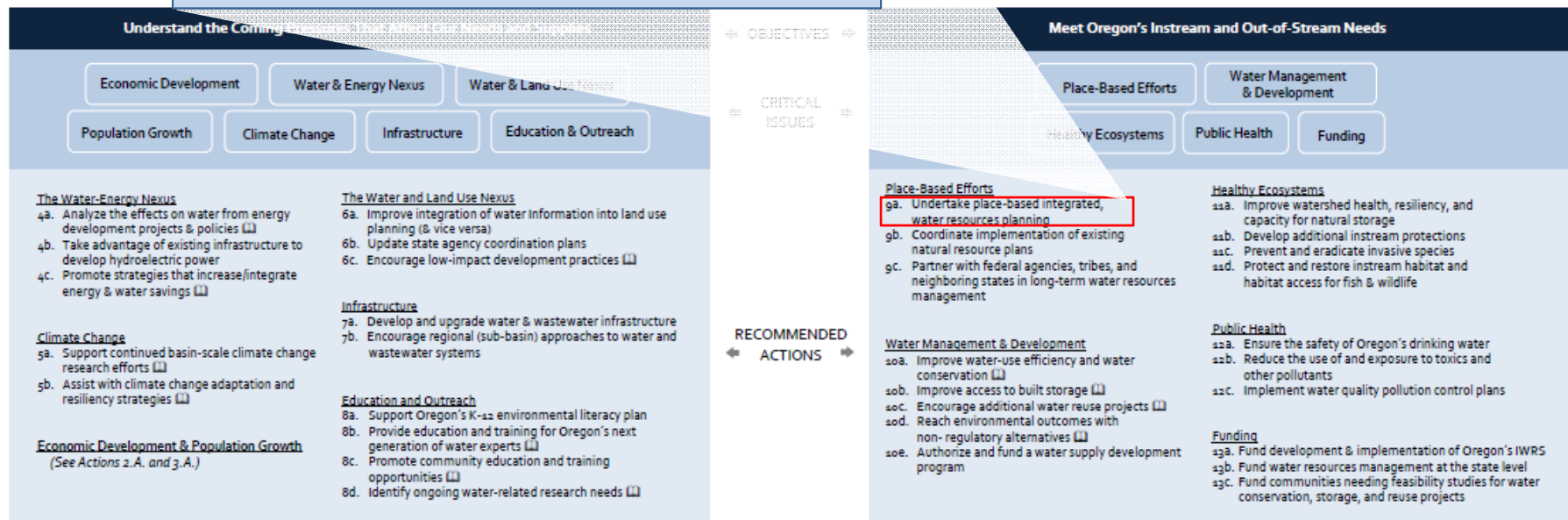
IWRS Framework

Goal 1: Improve Our Understanding of Oregon's Water Resources

Goal 1 (continued)



Goal 2: Meet Oregon's Water Resource Needs



A Working Definition

Place-Based Integrated Water Resources Planning

A collaborative process that **brings together various sectors and community interests** to work toward the common purpose of maintaining healthy water resources to meet the needs of Oregonians and the environment.

The plan itself should serve as **a blueprint for meeting both instream and out-of-stream needs**, taking into account water quantity, water quality, and ecosystem needs.

Meeting water needs should be considered **within the context of specific watersheds**, accounting for the hydrological, geological, biological, climatic, socio-economic, cultural, legal, and political conditions of a community.

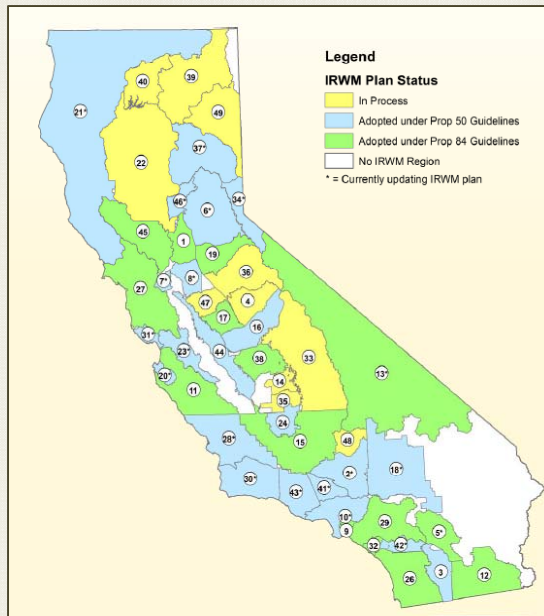
Our Foundation – What We Know Already

Oregon's Place-Based IWRM Plans should:

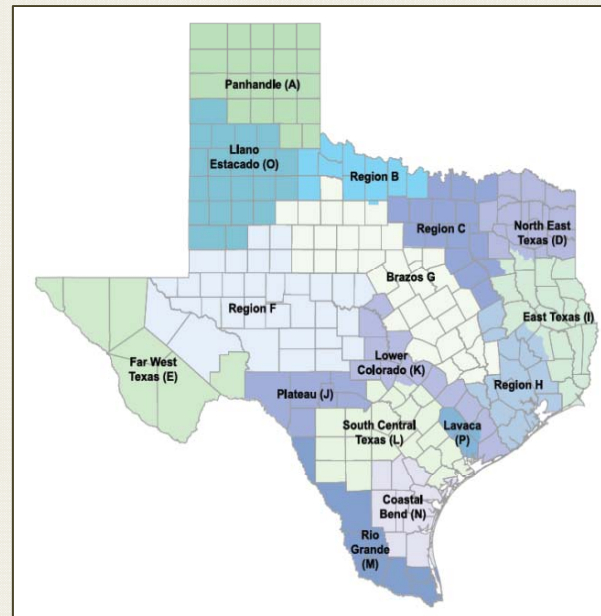
- Recognize the public interest in water
- Maintain state authorities and responsibilities for management of water resources; plans must comply with existing state laws and requirements
- Include a meaningful process for public involvement, with public meetings
- Include balanced representation of all interests
- Be integrated, addressing instream and out-of-stream needs, including water quantity, water quality, and ecosystem needs
- Account for groundwater and surface water (e.g., interaction)
- Delineate and describe local population centers, key industries, and listed fish species, among many other factors that influence the use and management of water

Examining Regional or Local Planning Approaches

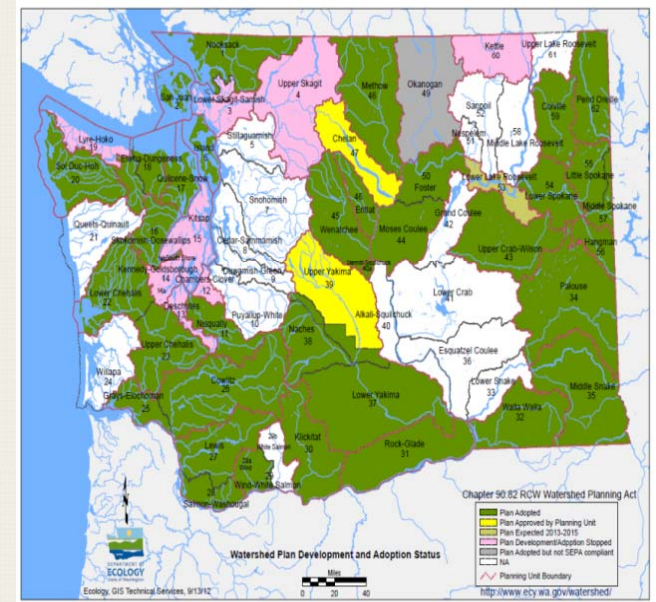
Developed a Discussion Paper & Draft Guidelines



California IRWM



Texas Regional Planning

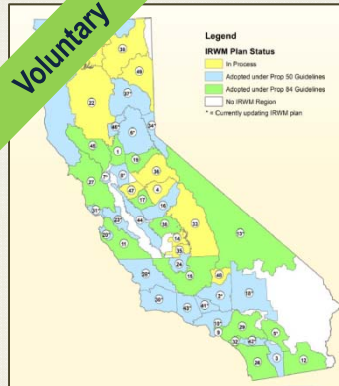


Washington Watershed Planning

Examining Regional or Local Planning Approaches

- **Many differences and similarities, of course**
- **Focus of Discussion Paper & Questions**
 1. Establishing Planning Boundaries
 2. Governance Agreements & Structure
 3. Stakeholder & Public Involvement
 4. Planning Content Requirements
 5. Instream Needs
 6. Water Quality Needs
 7. Integration of Other Planning Efforts
 8. Adoption of Plans
 9. State Level Review Process
 10. State Agency Roles
 11. Funding for Planning & Projects

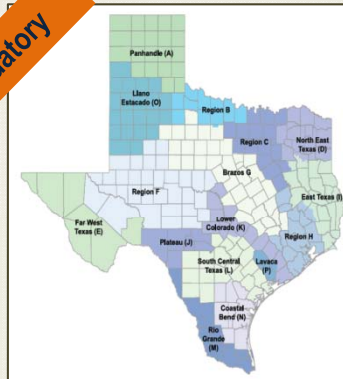
1. Setting Planning Boundaries



California – 48 groups

- Local groups self-select
- Delineate own boundaries
- No size criteria
- Region/group formation must be “accepted” by state to be eligible for grant funding.
- Some state requirements: must be contiguous & local agency involvement
- 48 groups w/ 37 adopted plans

Mandatory



Texas -16 regions

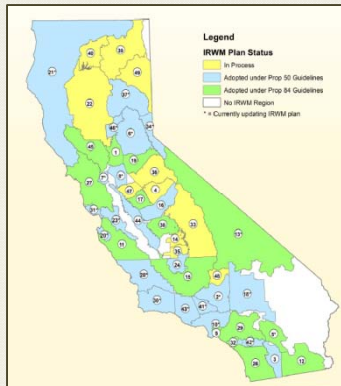
- 16 regions delineated by the Texas Water Development Board, considering:
 - River basin, aquifer boundaries
 - Development patterns
 - Existing planning areas
 - Political sub-divisions
- Boundaries can be reviewed/updated every 5 years



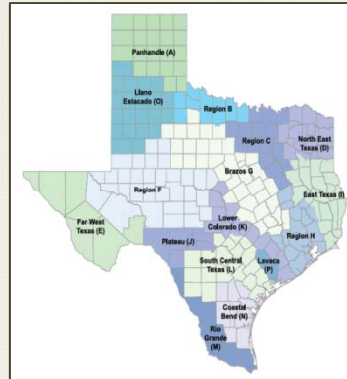
Washington – 36 units

- 62 WRIA's formalized in 1971, watershed based
- Developed jointly by natural resource state agencies
- Updated in 1998 & 2000
- Planning units may constitute 1 or more WRIA's
- 36 planning units today

2. Role of Planning Partners



California



Texas



Washington

- Must include 3 or more local agencies, 2 must have statutory authority over water supply or mgt.
- Local governing bodies must sign a written agreement

STATE ROLE:

- State agencies offer technical assistance, not members of planning groups; hands-off
- Beginning “plan review process”

- 12 interest groups must be represented, specified in Texas Administrative Code
- Must delegate a political sub-division to administer planning process

STATE ROLE:

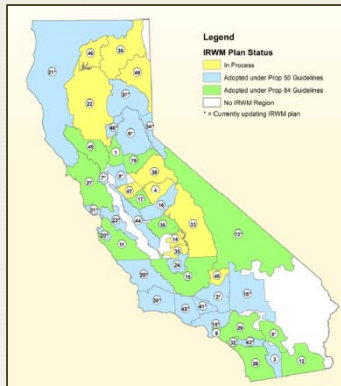
- 3 state agencies act as ex-officio members
- Plans reviewed/adopted by Texas Water Development Board

- First move made by “Initiating Governments,” defined as:
 - All counties
 - Largest city or town
 - Largest water supplier
 - Tribes must be invited

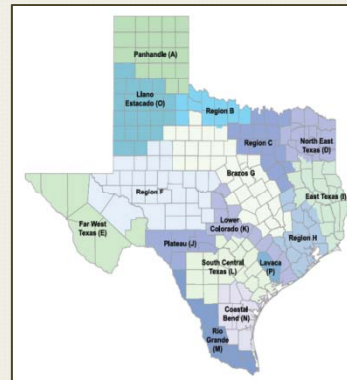
STATE ROLE:

- Dept. of Ecology sits at the table, no veto power
- Review plans, send approval letters

3. Funding Plans & Projects



California



Texas



Washington

Big Grant Incentives!

- \$500 million (Prop 50, 2002)
- \$1 billion (Prop. 84, 2006)
- \$300 million (Prop 1E, 2006)
- Used for planning or implementation
- Competitive funding
- Projects must be consistent with an adopted IRWM Plan

Divided & Primarily Loans

- Planning funds divided among regions, based on relative share of water users and providers. (\$13-15M total, per planning cycle)
- Regional plans identify projects; state then evaluates projects for inclusion in State Water Plan
- Project funding primarily through loans

Phased Approach

1. Organizing (\$50K)
 2. Assessing (\$200K)
 3. Planning (\$250K)
 4. Implementation (\$400K over 5 years)
- Competitive funding

Sample Workshop Discussion Questions

#1: The Value of Place-Based Planning

- What can place-based planning accomplish in Oregon that cannot already be accomplished today?

#2: Setting Boundaries

- How prescriptive should the state of Oregon be in organizing the borders and composition of groups?
- Should the entire state be partitioned into state-defined regions, or should Oregon allow self-selection, similar to California?

#3 and #11: Role of Local Partners & State Agencies

- Who should act as the convenor?
- What role should state agencies play?

#12: Funding of Projects

- What type of funding would be needed?
- Should a properly formed planning unit and plan be a pre-requisite for state funding of water resources projects?

Comment Opportunities

- **Hosting 20-25 workshops**
- **Taking public comment through June 30**
- **Water Resources Commission on May 29**

Opportunities to Share Your Thoughts

We want your help in shaping Oregon's approach to place-based planning. Any comments, suggestions, or input we receive from you are important to this process. If your organization is interested in hosting a workshop discussion, please contact us. Public comments can also be sent directly to waterstrategy@wrd.state.or.us or to the address listed below. Comments will be accepted through **Monday, June 30, 2014**.