

Water Resources Department

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Resolution of the Oregon Water Resources Commission Recognizing a Place-Based Integrated Water Resources Plan

Whereas the Oregon Water Resources Commission adopted Oregon's first Integrated Water Resources Strategy (IWRS) in 2012, and an updated version in 2017, carrying out its vision of bringing various water sectors and interests together to work toward the common purpose of maintaining healthy water resources to meet the needs of Oregonians and the environment for generations to come;

Whereas, an important recommended action of the IWRS was to create and test a framework for developing place-based integrated water resources plans, which resulted in development and publication of a draft set of Planning Guidelines in 2015;

Whereas, the Legislature in 2015 invested in the pilot phase of place-based water planning and granted authority through Senate Bill 266, which resulted in financial and technical support for four communities to begin planning in accordance with the Guidelines;

Whereas, the **Upper Grande Ronde River Watershed Partnership**, in partnership with the state and in consultation with the Oregon Water Resources Department, worked diligently to develop a Place-Based Integrated Water Resources Plan (Plan);

Whereas, the Commission recognizes the immense value and expresses gratitude for all those who contributed to the Plan;

Whereas, the Plan was developed in collaboration with a balanced representation of diverse water interests, representing both instream and out-of-stream values;

Whereas, the actions in the Plan are consistent with existing state laws concerning the water resources of this state and state water resources policy;

Whereas, the Plan contains the vision of the Partnership, improves our understanding of water conditions and needs, both instream and out-of-stream, identifies critical water issues to be addressed, and recommends sound strategies for addressing the issues, implementation of the Plan will have significant value to the Partnership, the broader local community, and the people of Oregon;

Whereas, the Plan will facilitate implementation of local solutions that will balance instream and out-of-stream water needs now and in the future;

Whereas, the **Upper Grande Ronde River Watershed Partnership** has been and remains committed to utilizing an open and transparent process that fosters public participation;

Whereas, the Plan has been locally adopted by the Partnership and the state's inter-agency Plan Review Team has determined that the plan follows the Guidelines and is consistent with principles of the IWRS;

Whereas, information contained in the Plan will inform future updates to the IWRS;

Whereas, implementation of the Plan will help meet the state's instream and out-of-stream water needs and support Oregon's economy, its renowned wildlife and nature, bountiful agricultural products, and healthy and livable communities as described in the IWRS; Now, therefore,

Be It Resolved, we the undersigned members of the Oregon Water Resources Commission do hereby recognize the importance of the Partnership's Plan on this 17th Day of March, 2022.

Meg Reeves, Chair Westside at Large

Vothy Viboro

Kathy Kihara East Side at Large

Julie Smitherman Southwest Region

Woody Wolfe Eastern Region Eric Quaempts, Vice Chair North Central Region

Joe Moll

West Central Region

Jan Lee

Northwest Region