

Deschutes Basin Water Collaborative - Charter

April 17, 2020

The Deschutes Basin Water Collaborative is a mechanism for stakeholders to collaborate on critical water allocation and management issues in the Deschutes Basin, and develop strategies to meet stream flow, ecological, agricultural, and community needs for water. The DBWC was built on the momentum of the Upper Deschutes Basin Study Working Group, the Water Summit convened by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and the State of Oregon in the fall of 2018, as well as the legacy of the Deschutes Water Alliance.

The DBWC Planning Team built this Charter based on the following:

- Research conducted by the Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council;
- Consultations with key stakeholders;
- The work of a small core stakeholders' group that met in June and July, 2019;
- Feedback from 70 stakeholders at the September 30, 2019 DBWC kickoff meeting and a February 12, 2020 follow-on meeting

GEOGRAPHY

The ultimate focus and framing of this effort is the entire Deschutes Basin.

However, due in large part to momentum created by the Upper Deschutes Basin Study and Basin Study Working Group efforts, some areas are more ready for coordinated and collaborative implementation in the short term. Therefore, the initial focus will be on implementation activities involving the Upper and Middle Deschutes River main stem. There will be "cross-walks" to the Crooked River, Metolius, and Lower Deschutes Basins to ensure that actions on behalf of the Upper and Middle Deschutes do not have unintended consequences for the remainder of the Basin. Further, this effort will support the development of capacity to undertake similar collaborative engagement in other parts of the Basin, which could include research, outreach, identification of key issues, and action planning. There will be consistent communication across the Basin. We anticipate that an annual Deschutes Basin Summit/Workshop will be an excellent means to bring all parts of the Basin together.

DBWC Mission Statement

DBWC will work together to achieve balance of water use in the Deschutes Basin. DBWC will work cooperatively to:

- *Build clear, consistent communication across the Deschutes Basin among water users, stakeholders, and the public.*
- *Support water projects in the Basin that advance DBWC goals and consensus agreements.*
- *Support policies that advance DBWC goals and consensus agreements, and which balance water needs for the Basin.*
- *Develop a comprehensive Deschutes Basin Water Plan for the Basin aligned with the state of Oregon's Place-Based Integrated Water Resources Planning model.*

I. DBWC GOALS

- **Primary Goals:**
 - Restore stream flows and improve water quality in order to support instream beneficial uses including fish and wildlife and recreation.
 - Secure and maintain a reliable and affordable supply of water to sustain agriculture.
 - Secure and maintain a safe, affordable and high-quality water supply for urban communities.

The DBWC will engage in the following activities to achieve the above primary goals:

- **Information sharing and coordination** – Provide a venue for transparent information sharing and coordination of activities across the Basin.
 - This includes developing shared information and understandings among DBWC participants, with other stakeholders across the Basin and the state, and the public. Shared understanding of the issues will be critical to creating consensus on joint action.
- **Develop a Framework for Action¹ for the Middle and Upper Deschutes River²** to set the stage for joint action. The short-term focus of the DBWC is to accelerate implementation of projects in the Upper and Middle Deschutes to meet instream and out of stream water supply needs. To facilitate this, we will develop a Framework for Action – a set of high-level consensus points and understandings developed in the Upper Deschutes Basin Study and other recent processes – with which to identify implementation actions that the DBWC could support. Development of a

¹ The Framework for Action will help the Working Group assess if individual proposals are consistent with DBWC goals and agreements. However, only proposals that have been explicitly deliberated by the Working Group, and confirmed as per the Working Group decision-making process below, will be considered supported by the DBWC (i.e. a proposal that appears to be consistent with the Framework for Action may not be communicated as being supported by the DBWC without Working Group confirmation).

² For the purposes of the DBWC, the Middle and Upper Deschutes is defined as that part of the Deschutes River upstream of Lake Billy Chinook.

Framework for Action allows some near-term implementation “wins,” sets the stage for the development of a longer-term Plan, allows for joint advocacy, and supports community education and information goals.

The Framework for Action will include:

- The water supply goals for instream and out of stream uses, as identified in the Upper Deschutes Basin Study.
- The water supply options, as identified in the Upper Deschutes Basin Study, including but not limited to the following broad categories of tools:
 - Water conservation
 - Water marketing
 - Storage opportunities
- A series of principles to guide the utilization of different water supply options.

Develop and Act on Consensus Points – Where it is possible for the group to reach consensus on basin water issues, communicate these to decision-makers and the public. This will allow for streamlined advocacy and the development of a “whole basin” voice for water issues.

- **Longer-Term: Create a Comprehensive Deschutes Basin Water Plan.** The Plan will be designed to achieve the Primary Goals outlined above, and will be consistent with the State of Oregon’s Place-Based Integrated Water Resources Planning model, several steps of which have already been completed in the Upper Deschutes portion of the Basin.

II. RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER RELATED EFFORTS

- Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) – The Deschutes Basin Board of Control and the City of Prineville are developing an HCP with the intent of receiving an Incidental Take Permit from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service to reduce risk related to the Endangered Species Act. The HCP will likely set flow targets and timelines in some key reaches in the Deschutes Basin. These agreements will contribute to and complement implementation and plans that will be developed in the DBWC.
- Watershed Plans – Central Oregon irrigation districts are developing Watershed Plans in partnership with the Natural Resources Conservation Service to access federal funding for canal piping. These Watershed Plans will inform the DBWC by providing details around large-scale piping priorities in each district.
- The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs and the state of Oregon convened a Water Summit in the fall of 2018 that brought partners in the basin together to share and coordinate around basin water management issues. It is anticipated that future (possibly annual) Water Summits will be an ongoing outcome of this effort and an important way for the DBWC to coordinate and communicate across the entire Deschutes Basin.
- Upper Deschutes Habitat Restoration - Basin restoration partners are creating a strategic action plan that will integrate flow and physical habitat restoration actions in the Upper Deschutes

geography. This effort will inform an integrated restoration plan by providing details around the streamflow restoration component of the plan.

- WaterSmart - Central Oregon Irrigation District, DRC and other interested partners will be working on developing water marketing strategies under a Reclamation WaterSmart grant. This work will inform the water marketing component of this effort.
- Place-Based Integrated Water Resources Planning – This new Oregon framework could yield opportunities for DBWC efforts. The Basin Study Working Group process has essentially completed 4 of the 5 steps, and building a Plan will complete it.

III. PROCESS STRUCTURE

The DBWC has a two-tiered structure to guide actions: 1) A Planning Team that will facilitate deliberation on key issues, set agendas, develop proposals, and keep the process moving; and 2) the Deschutes Basin Working Group that will allow for very broad stakeholder engagement in the process and outcomes.

Phase 1 Upper and Middle Deschutes Implementation Planning Team

The Planning Team will deliberate on issues and develop recommendations, help set the agendas for Deschutes Basin Working Group meetings, and steer the effort. The Planning Team will include the following interests, with one seat each unless otherwise noted – every effort has been made to ensure balanced representation of key interests on the Planning Team:

- Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs (two seats)
- Irrigation Districts (three seats – designated by the Deschutes Basin Board of Control)
- Deschutes River Conservancy
- Central Oregon Cities Organization (COCO)
- Counties (three seats, representing Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson counties)
- Environmental organizations with a stake in Deschutes Basin stream flow (three seats)

- Agency Representatives (non-voting). In addition, the DBWC requests the participation of the following agencies, as available and appropriate, to provide important technical, regulatory, and programmatic context: OR Water Resources Department, US Bureau of Reclamation, Oregon Governor’s Office, USF&W, USFS, ODF&W, OR DEQ, NMFS, ODA, NRCS, and BLM.

While the focus of the Phase 1 Planning Team is implementation in the Upper Deschutes, basin-wide and state-wide interests are welcome to participate in Planning Team meetings. Further, the DBWC will actively encourage whole-basin engagement with this effort

Deschutes Basin Working Group

The Working Group includes Planning Team members as well as the rest of the stakeholders that wish to serve and be involved in the process, subject to the membership guidelines stated below. As a starting

point, organizations that were members of the Basin Study Working Group and organizations represented on the Planning Team will automatically be invited to participate on the Working Group. The Working Group will review information and proposals developed by the Planning Team, **and will serve as the ultimate decision-maker for the DBWC.** The Working Group can also propose items for discussion by the Planning Team (i.e. proposals can come from the Working Group or from the Planning Team). Every effort will be made to ensure balanced representation of interests on the Working Group.

Following is a list of organization that are automatically members of the Deschutes Basin Working Group, categorized by their primary interest in water, if they wish to remain involved. The Planning Team will invite these organizations to designate a representative and an alternate to represent it at Working Group meetings. Alternates are expected to have an up-to-date understanding of the work of the Working Group so they can fully participate when called on to do so.

Environmental and Instream:

Central Oregon Flyfishers
 Central Oregon LandWatch
 Coalition for the Deschutes
 Deschutes River Conservancy
 Great Old Broads for Wilderness
 Native Reintroduction Network
 Oregon Land & Water Alliance
 Sunriver Anglers
 Trout Unlimited
 Upper Deschutes Watershed
 Council
 WaterWatch of Oregon

Agricultural Interests:

Arnold Irrigation District
 Central Oregon Irrigation
 District
 Lone Pine Irrigation District
 North Unit Irrigation District
 Ochoco Irrigation District
 Swalley Irrigation District
 Three Sisters Irrigation District
 Tumalo Irrigation District
 Water for Life

Community/Drinking Water Interests:

Avion Water Company
 Central Oregon Cities
 Organization
 City of Bend
 City of La Pine
 City of Madras
 City of Prineville
 City of Redmond

Broad/General Interests

Confederated Tribes of Warm
 Springs
 Central Oregon
 Intergovernmental Council
 Crook County
 Deschutes County
 Jefferson County
 Crooked River Watershed
 Council

Agencies/Regulatory

NMFS/NOAA Fisheries
 Natural Resources Conservation
 Service
 Oregon Department of
 Agriculture
 Oregon Dept. of
 Environmental Quality
 Oregon Department of Fish &
 Wildlife
 Oregon Governor’s Office
 Oregon Water Resources
 Department
 U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
 U.S. Bureau of Land
 Management
 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 U.S. Forest Service

Other Interests

Bend Paddle Trail Alliance
 Deschutes Soil and Water
 Conservation District
 Portland General Electric

The Facilitator or support staff will communicate with any member whose representative(s) do not attend a meeting(s). If a member organization does not participate in two consecutive meetings, they may not participate in decision-making again until they have participated in at least two of the prior four meetings. The Facilitator is responsible for keeping track of members, approved representatives, and attendance records.

One representative or alternate from each member organization will sit at the table, participate in the discussion, and participate in decision-making. The representative at the table may call on her or his alternate to speak when that representative is recognized by a Co-Chair or Facilitator.

Requesting to Join the Working Group

Additional organizations may join the Working Group, subject to the following process. Interested organizations should email the Facilitator a request to join the Working Group with the following information:

- The names of a representative and alternate.
- A statement explaining:
 - How the petitioning organization represents an interest that is not represented on the Working Group; OR
 - If the interest is already represented at the table, a statement demonstrating that the Working Group membership is unbalanced and should include more organizations representing the interest of the petitioning organization.

The Working Group will then determine through the decision making process outlined below if the petitioning organization may join. The Planning Team or Working Group may also decide to proactively invite individuals and organizations to join the Working Group or Planning Team.

DBWC Chair

The DBWC will be served by a Chair or Co-Chairs determined by the Working Group.

The Chair role is as follows:

- Convene meetings and invite participants to the DBWC.
- Speak on behalf of the DBWC, as appropriate and only regarding approved decisions
- Help decide on DBWC's internal funding and staffing issues
- Strive to invest in meeting all participants' needs.
- Help resolve conflicts
- Help secure resources and political support for implementation of agreed-upon actions

Subcommittees

The Planning Team or Deschutes Basin Working Group may develop subcommittees as needed – e.g. Communications/Outreach, Policy & Legislative, Groundwater Mitigation Credits, Funding, Water Transactions, etc.

Facilitation, Coordination and Administration, and Technical Information Support

The DBWC is served by three primary types of staff support: 1) an experienced, trusted facilitator, who should not have a personal or organizational stake in the outcomes of the process; 2) coordination and administration services, including correspondence, meeting materials, outreach/press releases, grant administration and reporting, etc; and 3) technical information support to provide data and technical knowledge resources.

Regular Engagement with Senior Government Officials

The DBWC will benefit from regular engagement with senior officials at Oregon Water Resources, the Governor's Office, the Bureau of Reclamation, or other agencies via the Planning Team, the Working Group, as well as in other venues. The Facilitator, Technical Coordinator, Co-Chairs, or others designated by the Planning Team may engage with senior governments, legislators, etc. to represent the interests of the DBWC, but may only speak to DBWC agreements as per the guidelines in Section VIII of this Charter.

IV. STAFFING ROLES

COIC will provide facilitation, process, and coordination support. DRC will provide technical information support and project development/solutions. DBWC will employ contractors for additional technical support, as needed, and advocacy/lobbying efforts.

V. BUDGET

Following is a first-year budget for 2020. It does not include costs to staff subcommittees, develop a Comprehensive Upper Deschutes Basin Water Plan, nor lobbying/advocacy services, if needed.

Facilitation and Coordination (COIC) = \$30,000/year

Technical Support/Project Development concepts (DRC) = \$55,000/year

Outreach = \$15,000/year

Potential Revenue Sources:

- Local contributions
- OWEB, OCF, BOR etc. grants

VI. DECISION-MAKING

Goal of Decision-Making Process

The goal of the DBWC decision-making process is to promote completion of the DBWC Goals as described above, to be open and inclusive, to encourage diverse viewpoints, and to strive for full consensus without demanding it in order to move forward.

DBWC Planning Team:

- a) The DBWC Planning Team operates by full consensus. No member has the authority to make decisions for the full Planning Team. In the spirit of collaboration, members agree to do their best to meet the interests of all members.
- b) No formal votes will be taken. Each member organization receives one set of red, yellow, and green cards at each meeting. When asked by the Facilitator to indicate their level of agreement for a proposal, members will hold up one card. The green card indicates the member fully supports the proposal, the yellow card indicates that the member can accept the proposal, and the red card indicates that the proposal is not acceptable because the member has serious reservations.
- c) If a red or yellow card is presented, the Planning Team will make time to hear the concerns of the individual(s), discuss, and then engage in decision-making again by holding up cards.
- d) Consensus on the Planning Team means that no one member holds up a red card, after every attempt has been made to address the concerns of all members.
- e) Only consensus agreements will move forward under the DBWC Planning Team.
- f) Planning Team members will make meaningful efforts to engage others with other organizations that share similar interests in order to improve the chance that Planning Team recommendations will be broadly supported by the Working Group.
- g) Planning Team agendas and materials, including any requests for support or other proposals, will be delivered to members at least one week in advance of all meetings.

DBWC Working Group:

- a) The DBWC Working Group seeks to make full consensus decisions. No member has the authority to make decisions for the full DBWC. In the spirit of collaboration, members agree to do their best to meet the interests of all members.
- b) When first considering a decision, no formal votes will be taken. Each member organization receives one set of red, yellow, and green cards at each meeting. When asked by the Facilitator to indicate their level of agreement for a proposal, members will hold up one card. The green card indicates the member fully supports the proposal, the yellow card indicates that the member can accept the proposal, and the red card indicates that the proposal is not acceptable because the member has serious reservations.
- c) Full consensus means that no member holds up or sends in a red card, after every attempt has been made to address the concerns of all members.
- d) If a red or yellow card is presented, the Working Group will make time to hear the concerns of the individual(s), discuss, and then engage in decision-making again by holding up cards.
- e) If the Working Group is unable to achieve full consensus, as defined in c) immediately above:
 - i. The proposal or issue will be sent to the Planning Team for consideration and discussion at their next meeting, and individuals involved in the issue at hand may be invited to participate in the Planning Team meeting, or to meet and deliberate on their own. The Planning Team will then decide to either modify the proposal under consideration or leave it unchanged and send it back to the Working Group.
 - ii. At the next Working Group meeting, the item under consideration will again be presented for decision-making via a show of cards.
 - a. The Co-Chair or Facilitator will again ask for a showing of cards. If 90% or more of the voting members present show a green or yellow card, the decision will be affirmed as a super-majority decision of the DBWC.
 - b. The record of decision will include notation that it was not made by full consensus, but rather by the percentage of vote (90% or more).
 - c. Any persons that showed red cards will have the opportunity to provide a

written explanation of their disagreement on the decision, which will be included in the record.

- a) Working Group agendas and materials, including any requests for support or other proposals, will be delivered to members at least one week in advance of all meetings.

Absences

- a) If a member in good standing of either the Planning Team or Working Group is unable to attend a meeting in person, they may send their alternate, who may participate in decision-making. If neither the member nor the alternate may participate in person, they may participate via the web (audio/video/materials) meeting link. Participants that need assistance will be trained in how to participate in DBWC meetings via the web. Members that do not participate in person or via web link may not participate in decision-making.

Special Circumstance

- a) Subcommittees
 - i. Subcommittees operate by consensus, with the same definition of consensus as described for the Planning Team above.
 - ii. No member has the authority to make unilateral decisions for the Subcommittee.
 - iii. No Subcommittee has the authority to make decisions for the Planning Team or Working Group.
 - iv. If a Subcommittee is unable to agree on a proposal, it can send alternatives to the Planning Team or Working Group for a decision.

VII. COMMITMENTS AND GROUND RULES

Meeting Participation and Management

- a) Planning Team, Working Group, and Subcommittee members agree to:
 - i. Attend meetings, or arrange for another representative of the organization to attend, as much as possible.
 - ii. Fully participate in meetings and articulate the views of their organization and constituents. (Constituents are stakeholders, members, or board members of an organization; or colleagues, subordinates, and superiors at an agency.)
 - iii. Keep their constituents fully informed about the deliberations and actively seek their input, so they can understand and support the decisions made by the group.
 - iv. Strive to bridge gaps in understanding, seek creative resolution of differences, and commit to the goal of achieving consensus.
 - v. Be willing to engage in respectful, constructive dialogue with other members.
 - vi. Recognize that open discussion is vital to a collaborative process, and commit to expressing their views and concerns in advance of a decision being made.
 - vii. Arrive at the meetings fully prepared to discuss items on the agenda. Preparation includes reviewing meeting notes and other materials sent in advance.
 - viii. Support any consensus decisions made, and refrain from negative comments about items that were agreed to by consensus.
 - ix. Bring copies of their meeting agenda and materials to the meetings to save on copying expenses.
 - x. Comply with the provisions of this Charter, and help remind others of its provisions to encourage compliance by everyone.

- b) Members of the public
 - i. Planning Team and Working Group meetings are open to the public. Anyone is welcome to attend and observe the meetings.
 - ii. Seating away from the table will be provided for members of the public.
 - iii. At designated times during Working Group meetings, members of the public may be invited to address the Working Group. The Working Group may also elect to solicit written comments from the public.
- c) Facilitator (as appointed by the Planning Team)
 - i. Facilitates both the Planning Team and the Working Group.
 - ii. Assists in addressing conflict among the Planning Team and the Working Group members, during and between meetings.
 - iii. While facilitating meetings, may ask questions and follow up.
 - iv. Keeps notes on flipchart paper or on screen to ensure that decisions being made are clear to everyone.
 - v. Generates draft meeting notes for review by the Planning Team or Working Group, ensuring they include key points of discussion as well as items of agreement and disagreement.
 - vi. Keeps a “parking lot” for issues that are not addressed in a meeting.
 - vii. Assists in building consensus among members.
 - viii. Reminds members of the provisions of this Charter to encourage compliance.
 - ix. Serves as a confidential channel of communication for members and observers who wish to express views and do not wish to address the full group.
 - x. Advocates for a fair, effective, and credible process, while remaining completely neutral as to the outcome of the deliberations.
- d) Technical Coordinator (as appointed by the Planning Team)
 - i. Provide technical information and support to the Planning Team, Working Group, and subcommittees. This may include:
 - a. Packaging existing information from the Basin Study and other previous planning studies
 - b. Serving as liaison between related implementation efforts, such as the WaterSmart water marketing grant, on-farm program development efforts, temporary groundwater mitigation banking etc.
 - c. Compiling technical information into draft plans/programs
 - d. Supporting DBWC with project/program development related to implementation
 - i. Facilitate the “warehousing” and dissemination of technical information
 - ii. Generate additional technical information as requested and/or enlist the support of partner agencies or consultants to do so as necessary.
 - iii. Communicate technical information to external partners, decision-makers or the public as requested.
 - iv. Work closely with the facilitator to ensure technical components reflect an inclusive and consensus-based approach.

Communication

- a) Planning Team and Working Group members agree to:

- i. Recognize that all members bring with them their own legitimate purposes and goals from their perspective or on behalf of their organizations.
 - ii. Recognize the legitimacy of the goals of others, and assume that their goals will also be respected.
 - iii. Get curious, instead of irritated, when someone says something they disagree with.
 - iv. Listen carefully; ask questions to understand and to get others' perspectives.
 - v. Make statements to explain or educate, and help others understand their perspective, assumptions, reasoning, and intent.
 - vi. Share all relevant information.
 - vii. Use specific examples and make sure everyone agrees on the meaning of important words.
 - viii. Request a break if needed. Stakeholder groups can request a break in order to caucus among themselves.
 - ix. Avoid engaging in side conversations and working on email or texting during meetings.
 - x. Bring it up at a meeting, or talk privately with the Chair or Facilitator, if they are having difficulty with another member or with the process.
- b) Other communication
- i. Planning Team and Working Group meetings are open to the public and are noticed to Planning Team members, Working Group members, and others who indicate an interest.
 - ii. Planning Team and Working Group final meeting notes will be sent to all members and other interested parties.
 - iii. Draft Planning Team and Working Group meeting notes, including a list of those who attended, will be sent to all members after each meeting. Approval of the notes will occur at the following meeting, with changes made by consensus of the Planning Team or Working Group.

News Media

- a) All meetings are open to the news media.
- b) Outside of meetings, members are free to make statements to the media regarding their own opinions and consensus decisions by the Planning Team or Working Group; however, they agree not to attribute statements to others involved in the process or represent others' interests.
- c) If members of the media interview Planning Team or Working Group members, those members are encouraged to alert the Planning Team or Working Group through the Facilitator. They are also encouraged to recommend that the reporter talk to the Working Group Chair or Co-Chairs, if any, and notify the Chair.
- d) If an article or report appears that misquotes or inaccurately represents a member, that individual should inform the group of that occurrence as soon as possible.

Failure to Abide by the Commitments and Ground Rules

Members of the Working Group or Planning Team may be removed from the DBWC if they are found to have violated the above Commitments and Ground Rules, subject to the following process:

- a) A member of the Working Group, Planning Team, or DBWC staff informs the Facilitator or Co-Chairs, of the alleged violation.

- b) The Co-Chair or facilitator will then set up a meeting with the member to discuss the concern, and the member is placed on probation and precluded from any DBWC decision-making until the situation is resolved.
- c) The Working Group may then determine, using their decision-making protocol above, to:
 - i. remove the person from probation, or
 - ii. to terminate their membership in the DBWC.

The Working Group shall have full discretion in these matters, including the period of time that a member remains on probation, any additional steps in the process (e.g. fact-finding, meetings to resolve the issue, etc.) or immediate termination of the member if the conduct is considered serious enough to warrant such.

VIII. CHANGES TO THE CHARTER

This Charter can be amended at any time by consensus decision of the Working Group.

DBWC Values Statements – January 2020

The Deschutes Basin Water Collaborative values:

- Action – We are working together to implement solutions.
- Diverse and fair representation – We are committed to ensuring that all voices and perspectives have a seat at the table, and that, at the DBWC table, no interests are in a position of power relative to others.
- Clarity of purpose – We will keep a clear focus on the goals of this effort, and will not duplicate or cloud other efforts and processes.
- Mutual benefit – We are working on actions that will serve the needs and interests of all stakeholders, as defined in the Goals. We therefore also commit to collaborate in good faith, together.
- Honest communication regarding outcomes – We ensure that all perspectives are accurately reflected in any communication regarding DBWC outcomes, outreach, advocacy, etc.
- An wholistic view – We approach implementation in a wholistic manner and do not “cherry pick” actions to pursue in a vacuum.
- Early successes – We commit to achieving tangible wins early in the process.
- Sustainability – We will balance ecological goals with economic and community/social realities for each participating organization and the Basin as a whole.
- Valuing the time and resources of our partners – We are focused on productive and engaged meetings that steadily move us towards implementation.
- Steady commitment – We commit to staying engaged with this process, even during the tough times.
- Transparency and information sharing – We provide accessible, credible, and timely information to each other, other stakeholders, and the public. This includes engagement and information sharing across the entire Basin, with stakeholders in other Basins, and with decision makers and stakeholders in Salem, Portland, etc.
- Honesty – We commit to telling our truth and being open about our issues and concerns as well as hopes and goals.
- Sustainable capacity – We will work together to make sure that this process has the resources needed to achieve our goals.
- Honoring prior work and momentum – We build on previous information, outcomes, and processes and aim to keep that momentum (e.g. BSWG). We will revisit/revise prior work only when there is new information or new issues to address.
- Creativity and flexibility – We are open to trying new solutions to getting our needs met and our interests served.
- Science/evidence-based decision making – We commit to using scientifically valid and evidentiary information to help make decisions.