

WATER POLICY PRIORITIES

OREGON AGRICULTURE
WATER ALLIANCE



FOOD SUPPLY & SECURITY -

Inflation is affecting everyone and much of it is beyond our control. That doesn't have to be true with our food supply - State water policy should place a premium on food supply and security.

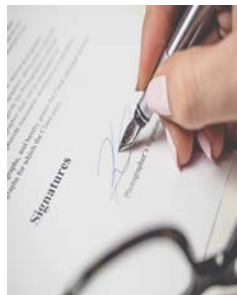


STORAGE - Oregon must look for every opportunity to increase the volume of stored water above and below ground. Dedicated funding for storage and aquifer recharge is critical. We can't afford to miss opportunities to leverage federal funding for infrastructure projects. This benefits urban and rural Oregonians.



MULTI-STATE COORDINATION -

Oregon should begin working with neighboring states to discuss co-investment opportunities that could provide additional water via upstream mitigation or other infrastructure investments.



ACCOUNTABILITY -

The Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) must be accountable for effective and efficient water management, with an overall goal of being outcome-focused partners in water supply development projects. An objective review of the funding allocated to the OWRD, with a lens for improving water supply, should also occur.



PEER REVIEW - OWRD's rule and decision-making processes should be consistent, transparent, and grounded in sound science. This will greatly reduce the amount of costly and unnecessary litigation the department is involved in.



RESILIENCY & CONSERVATION -

Use technology, active management techniques, and agency flexibility to build resiliency to drought. Address illegal uses of water and create flexibility to cut through unnecessary red tape for new projects.



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