

## Engagement Plan for HB3293 for Best Practices Document:

Outreach and engagement were accomplished with all six agencies working together through an interagency workgroup and involved the creation of Best Practices for community engagement.

This plan aimed to facilitate meaningful engagement among agencies, disproportionately impacted communities, local organizations, governments, tribes, as well as interested members of the wider public. To ensure diverse perspectives, the agencies actively created spaces for extensive feedback from numerous voices.

The agencies co-leading this process collaborated with partners to refine Best Practices for water projects and co-created materials to help guide the use of Best Practices. While the agencies set forth an ambitious timeline for completing engagement, the agencies remained committed to working at a pace that aligned with partners comfort levels in sharing ideas.

Agencies offered multiple avenues for engagement. Below is a brief overview of the four approaches used for engagement and outreach around HB3293 Best Practices Document.

### **A. Government and Council Presentations and Discussions**

Government-to-government consultation and coordination is an important step to implementing HB3293. Co-leading agencies also engaged directly with Federally recognized Oregon Tribal Governments through sending letters and invitations to collaborate through roundtables and one-on-one meetings. Below is a short list of presentations and engagement opportunities.

- [Water CORE Team Presentation \(February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024\)](#)
- [Natural Resources Work Group Presentation \(February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024\)](#)
- [Environmental Justice Council Presentation \(June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024\)](#)

### **B. Virtual Open House**

An Open House or Community Information Session is an engagement tool for information sharing to a larger group of communities and members of the public. This format allows for two-way information sharing, but through an organized format which includes presentations and targeted questions/answers.

***Participant List:*** General Press Release Outlets and grant specific program recipient email lists.  
***(109 people attended the open house)***

- ***Date:*** March 14<sup>th</sup> 1-3pm  
***Recording:*** [Best Practices in Community Engagement Around Water Projects – A virtual open house learning session \(youtube.com\)](#)

### **C. Community Roundtable (virtual)**

A community roundtable is a highly interactive engagement tool that gathers small groups of community members to facilitate the open and transparent sharing of information. By keeping the

number of people within a roundtable to about 15 persons, it helps to ensure time and space for everyone's voices to be heard. Roundtable discussions were designed to encourage knowledge sharing and peer exchange between community members and can be accomplished in virtual meetings. Each of the identified groups/organizations were asked to select one person to attend the roundtable. Agencies also attended the roundtables.

***Participant List:***

- Association of Oregon Counties
  - League of Oregon Cities
  - Oregon Association of Water Utilities
  - Oregon Water Resources Congress – Irrigation Districts
  - Coalition of Communities of Color - Oregon Water Futures
  - Verde - Oregon Water Futures
  - Unite Oregon - Oregon Water Futures
  - Special Districts Association of Oregon (SDAO)
  - Soil and Water Conservation Districts
  - Watershed Councils
  - Sustainable Northwest - Oregon Water Partnership
  - Wild Salmon Center - Oregon Water Partnership
  - Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC)
  - Willamette Partnership
  - Water Watch
  - Trout Unlimited
- ***Dates: April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 1-3pm and May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 1-3pm***

***D. Written Public Comment Period***

As one of the final steps to engagement, the 10 Best Practices Guidance Document was posted for a 30-day written public comment period. Public comments were compiled and reviewed by all agencies in a collaborative process to improve the overall document. Agencies received 64 distinct comments from 12 community members.

- ***Dates: June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024 through August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024***