



DISCUSSION GROUPS CHARGE

Harney Groundwater RAC

(last updated 8/9/2024)

What are the discussion groups?

The discussion groups are an informal opportunity, open to all Rules Advisory Committee (RAC) members and the public, to discuss options and considerations for topics tied to crafting the Harney Groundwater rules.

The goal of the discussion groups is to better access and incorporate the collective wisdom of the RAC and public in terms of crafting an approach to groundwater management in the Harney Basin.

The groups do not make decisions, they just discuss options and considerations. Each “discussion” the group hosts is guided by the list of topics being worked on by the RAC. For any topic, the RAC may ask a discussion group to:

- Discuss particular questions posed by the RAC and/or OWRD;
- Offer additional options and considerations for a particular topic; and
- Keep a record of the discussion to help inform RAC feedback to OWRD.

How are the discussion groups noticed, facilitated, and notes kept?

The discussion groups will be facilitated by Oregon Consensus, and who will be responsible for an inclusive discussion and one that is consistent with Oregon Consensus’ standards of practice for third party mediation.

The discussion groups will have staff support from High Desert Partnership to assist with organizing discussion group logistics; and bringing information into the discussion on the options and considerations offered by the discussion groups, RAC, and/or OWRD.

All discussion group meetings will:

- Be noticed in advance via email to RAC members and posted to the OWRD RAC website;
- Include agendas on the types of discussion to be held;
- Be hosted in a hybrid form to allow for both in-person and online participation; and
- Be recorded with notes taken so that the discussions are transparent and information is available to inform RAC feedback to OWRD.
- Anyone can participate, not just RAC members.
- Will include OWRD staff as participants



When do the discussion groups meet?

The timing and format of the discussion groups will be determined in consultation with the RAC. Generally, discussion groups will meet:

- In person at the Harney County Community Center (484 N Broadway Ave, Burns, OR 97720); and
- On Zoom at <https://pdx.zoom.us/j/87264429397>

There may be an opportunity/need for some longer discussion group sessions (e.g., a half day), so there is opportunity for addressing more topics and/or working through more complex issues.

DRAFT discussion group operating principles

Operating principles can help a group guide its conversations. The discussion group will develop its own operating principles, but here are some ones to start with:

- Start with the RAC feedback that has already been provided as the beginning point for the discussion groups.
- Be clear about the status of a discussion on a particular topic before moving on to discuss a new topic.



Discussion Group Meeting

Monday, July 22 from 10 AM - 11:30 AM
Harney County Community Center
484 N Broadway Ave, Burns, OR 97720

**THE JULY 22 MEETING WAS CANCELED OUT OF RESPECT FOR
THOSE RESPONDING TO WILDFIRES**

Discussion Group Meeting

Monday, July 29 from 10 AM - 11:30 AM
Harney County Community Center
484 N Broadway Ave, Burns, OR 97720

**THE JULY 29 MEETING WAS CANCELED OUT OF RESPECT FOR
THOSE RESPONDING TO WILDFIRES**

Discussion Group August Meetings

THE DISCUSSION GROUPS WILL COVENE IN SEPTEMBER



Discussion Group Meeting

Monday, September 9 from 10 AM - 11:30 AM

Harney County Community Center

484 N Broadway Ave, Burns, OR 97720

ZOOM: <https://pdx.zoom.us/j/87264429397>

- 10:00 - 10:15 a.m. Welcome & Confirming What to Discuss
- Introductions
 - Agenda overview
- 10:15 - 10:45 a.m. Discussion 1: Discussion Group Charge
- Review of discussion group charge
 - Clarification of discussion group charge
- 10:45 - 11:05 a.m. Discussion 2: Model Scenario Development
- Review and clarify the proposed process for developing model scenarios
 - Review existing information generated in past RAC meetings that might aid in scenario development
 - Discuss additional inputs necessary to develop scenarios
 - What can participants do to prepare for the upcoming workshop on September 16?
- 11:05 - 11:25 a.m. Discussion 3: Assessing Fiscal Impacts
- Review and clarify the proposed process for assessing fiscal impacts
 - Review existing information generated in past RAC meetings that might aid in assessing fiscal impacts
 - Discuss additional inputs necessary to assess fiscal impacts
 - What can participants do to prepare for the upcoming workshop on September 17?
- 11:25 - 11:30 a.m. Recap and Preparation
- Recap discussion
 - Recap ways participants can prepare for the upcoming workshops



Discussion Group Meeting

Monday, September 16 from 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Harney County Community Center

484 N Broadway Ave, Burns, OR 97720

ZOOM: <https://pdx.zoom.us/j/87264429397>

- 10:00 - 10:15 a.m. Welcome & Confirming What to Discuss
- Introductions
 - Agenda overview
- 10:15 - 10:30 a.m. Discussion 1: Process for Developing Model Scenarios
- Review the process for developing model scenarios
 - Review necessary inputs for model scenarios
- 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Discussion 2: Model Scenarios - Delineating Sub-Areas
- Discuss criteria for delineating sub-areas
 - Develop options for the delineation of sub-areas
- 11:30 - 12:00 p.m. Lunch/Break
- 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Discussion 3: Model Scenarios - Problem Definition
- Develop a shared understanding of the existing problems in each sub-area as well as the future problems we are trying to avoid
- 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Discussion 4: Model Scenarios - Defining Success
- Discuss what success looks like for each sub-area, including the time frame for achieving success and how it would be monitored
- 2:00 - 2:30 p.m. Break
- 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. Discussion 5: Model Scenarios - Management Scenarios
- Discuss location, amount, and timing of potential reductions to achieve success along with how reductions would be allocated amongst users
- 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Discussion 6: Model Scenarios - Beginning to Put it All Together
- Begin to identify and assemble different elements of potential scenarios that could be modeled



4:30pm - 5:00pm

Recap and Next Steps

- Review workshop discussion
- Identify next steps and needed information
- Prepare for the next RAC meeting



Discussion Group Meeting

Monday, September 17 from 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Harney County Community Center

484 N Broadway Ave, Burns, OR 97720

ZOOM: <https://pdx.zoom.us/j/87264429397>

- 8:30 - 8:45 a.m. Welcome & Confirming What to Discuss
- Introductions
 - Agenda overview
- 8:45 - 9:00 a.m. Level-Setting Presentation: What is a Fiscal Impact Statement?
- Review of statutory and rule language and agency approaches to developing fiscal impact statements
 - Review of the Department's expectations for a fiscal impact statement
- 9:00 - 9:15 a.m. Discussion 1: Expectations for the Fiscal Impact Statement
- Round robin discussion of expectations for assessing fiscal impacts
 - Facilitators note where expectations may or may not be aligned and whether further discussion is needed to align expectations
- 9:15 - 9:45 a.m. Discussion 2: Management Scenarios and Categories of Impact
- Review management scenarios discussed during September 16 workshop
 - Discuss potential economic impacts of potential management actions
 - What are the different categories of impact presented by all potential scenarios or specific scenarios?
- 9:45 - 10:00 a.m. . Break
- 10:00 - 10:45 a.m. Discussion 3: Assembling Experts, Sources of Information, and Tools
- What local and state experts could help advise on the fiscal impact statement?
 - What tools and sources of information can be used to help inform the assessment of fiscal impacts?
- 10:45 - 11:15 a.m. Discussion 4: Options for Assessing Fiscal Impacts
- Identify potential options for assessing fiscal impacts



11:15 - 11:30 a.m.

Recap and Next Steps

- Review workshop discussion
- Identify next steps and needed information
- Prepare for the next RAC meeting



Discussion Group Meeting

Monday, September 23 from 10 AM - 11:30 AM

Harney County Community Center

484 N Broadway Ave, Burns, OR 97720

ZOOM: <https://pdx.zoom.us/j/87264429397>

- 10:00 - 10:15 a.m. Welcome & Confirming what to discuss
- Introductions
 - Agenda overview
- 10:15 - 10:45 a.m. Discussion 1: Recap Model Scenario Workshop
- Recap information generated from model scenario workshop on September 16
 - Invite additional input and feedback on model scenario development
 - How will this information be used in the RAC process? How can participants prepare for the upcoming RAC meeting?
- 10:45 - 11:15 a.m. Discussion 2: Recap Fiscal Impact Workshop
- Recap information generated from fiscal impact workshop on September 17
 - Invite additional input and feedback on assessing fiscal impacts
 - How will this information be used in the RAC process? How can participants prepare for the upcoming RAC meeting?
- 11:15 - 11:30 a.m. Action Items and Reflections
- Review action items
 - Invite reflections from participants