



Development of a Watershed Protection, Monitoring, & Outreach Plan: **An Update** 

May 2, 2024 PNWS-AWWA Conference

## Agenda

- Introduction & Background
- Mission, Vision, & Values
- Watershed Protection
   Monitoring & Outreach Plan
  - Results from Phase 1

- Stakeholder Outreach
- Phase 2 Risk Analysis
- Next Steps
- Audience Q&A







# Cascade Range Mountains Multnomah OREGON Portland Salem Albany Corvallis | Eugene Willamette Intake Facility **Natershed Boundary** Agriculture Willamette River

#### Willamette River Watershed

- The Willamette River is the heart of our area, supplying water to support people, agriculture, industry, native plants, fish, and wildlife habitat
- Willamette River basin consists of 13 tributaries that feed into the main stem of the river



It defines our region and communities we call home and is a natural treasure of Oregon

# Willamette Intake Facilities (WIF) Commission

- Oversee management and operation of the intake facilities (e.g., fish screens, caisson, pump building)
- Strong model for shared ownership for a vital regional drinking water asset
- Work effectively to address a multitude of impacts associated with water rights, watershed protection, stakeholder collaboration, and intake facilities operations



## WIF Commission Structure

- Partnership of the Tualatin Valley Water District and cities of Wilsonville, Sherwood, Hillsboro, Tigard and Beaverton
- Committees required by IGA
- Managing Agency is TVWD
- Watershed Protection, Monitoring, and Outreach Plan Working Group from Operations Committee and Managing Agency





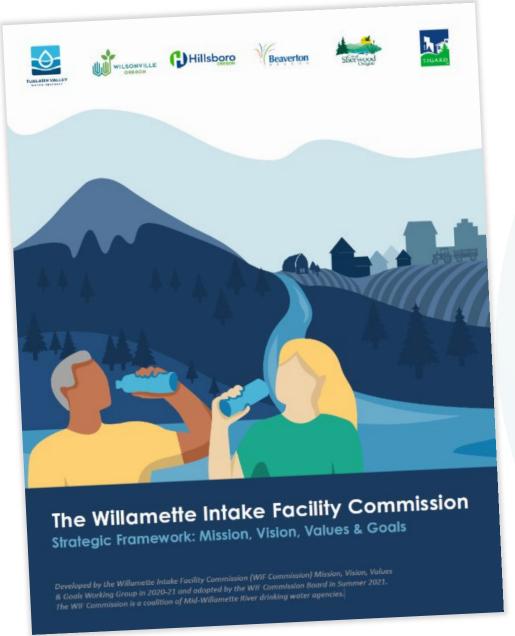












# WIF Commission Strategic Plan

Our Mission: To responsibly secure a safe and reliable Willamette River drinking water supply for our communities.







#### **Desired Outcomes**



Build strong partnerships and collaboration

Strong Partnerships



Leverage influence to protect watershed

Protect Watershed



Adapt to uncertainties in the future

Adapt to Uncertainties



Partner alignment to maximize ROI for protection & risk reduction

Maximize
Watershed ROI





# Development of the WIF Commission's Watershed Protection, Monitoring, & Outreach (Source Water) Plan

#### Plan components:

- Watershed history and characteristics
- Risk analyses (source and treatment)
- Funding opportunities matrix
- Case studies and monitoring technology
- Stakeholder outreach and engagement
- Final plan development (Winter 2023/2024)



# Phase 1 Nov 2021 to June 2022



**Discovery**: Research history of Willamette River Basin, changing conditions and public perceptions



**Identification of Water Quality Risks:** type, source, location and long term anticipated climate changes



Review of water quality data, analysis, and trends of last 20 years



Identification of data gaps



Development of a list of stakeholders (government, private entities, and non-profit) from which to build partnerships



# Phase 2

July 2022 to Present



Initial outreach to local/regional stakeholders



Comprehensive review and assessment of current/pending funding opportunities to support Plan



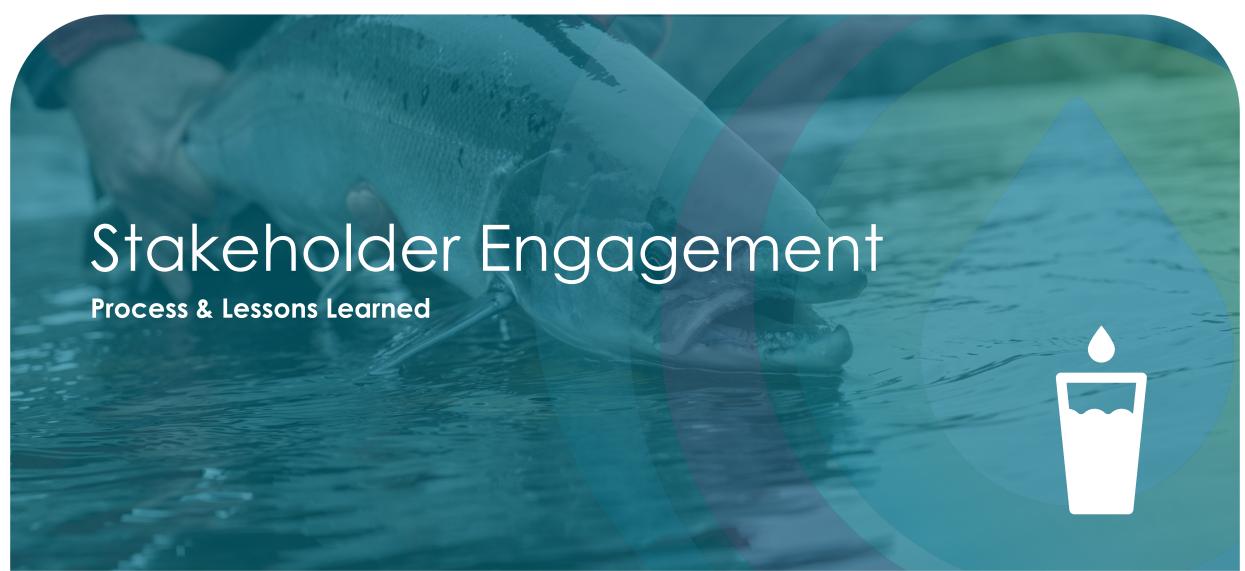
Review and Assessment of Available monitoring technology and watershed protection monitoring software



Further Refinement of risk assessment to better understand greatest potential contamination sources relevant to WIF and treatability







## Achievements in 2023

**FAQ** Lessons Brand Stakeholder learned Focus Groups Identity Outreach Stakeholder plan identification & approved prioritization



## **Graphic Brand**

COLOR



BLACK



REVERSE



WHIIE



PRIMARY

























# A unique brand elevates your story from the rest!

# Why invest in a graphics & brand?

- Consistency
- Raises awareness in the public consciousness
- Awareness → Greater Trust
- Stakeholders are more likely to read and retain information

#### What's included?

 Imagery, color palette, typography, icons, new logo



#### Stakeholder Identification

#### Filter stakeholders with your end goal in mind

- 1. Brainstormed stakeholders in the watershed
- 2. Identified **criteria** to narrow the stakeholders we'd target
- 3. Identified stakeholder interests, challenges, & goals
- 4. Determined outreach type and frequency.

## Stakeholder Map: Who Needs What?





#### Stakeholder Identification



- Resulted in six distinct groups
- Internal partners are always included
  - Board members, partner agencies, operations and management staff
- Equally balanced perspective
- Always keeping the end goal and WIF values in mind.



## 'Master Messaging' Framework

Who funds the project?

public health?

Is the
Willamette safe
as a drinking
water source?

drinking water from the Willamette now?

How will the project benefit

What does source water mean?

Which cities get

# What are the Benefits of 'master messaging'?

- Consistency
- Supports staff in communicating accurately
- Provides a foundation for all education materials (including your website, fliers, etc.).



## Focus Groups

# Five 90-minute meetings were held virtually in May and June 2023.

Tribal communities were not able to attend due to limited capacity

# We sought to learn and understand

- Introduce the WIF & its mission
- What are their challenges?
- What are their interests?
- What are their capacities?
- How might we collaborate?





#### What We Heard: Feedback Themes







## Lessons Learned

- 1 Internal Alignment
- 2 Design from a Goal
- 3 Build in Sufficient Time
- We're Building Relationships

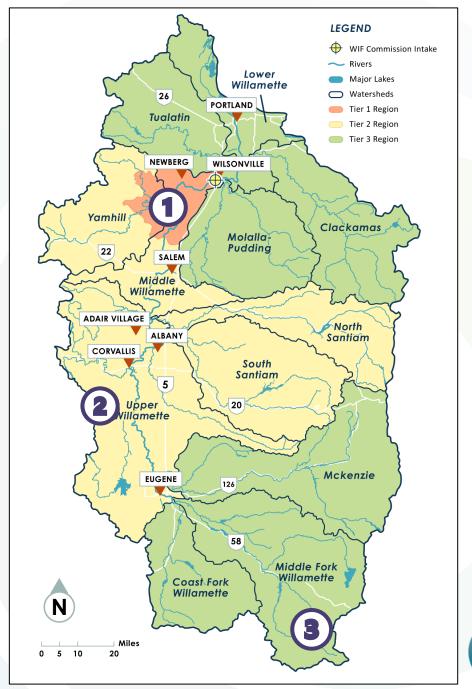






## **Tiered Analysis Areas**

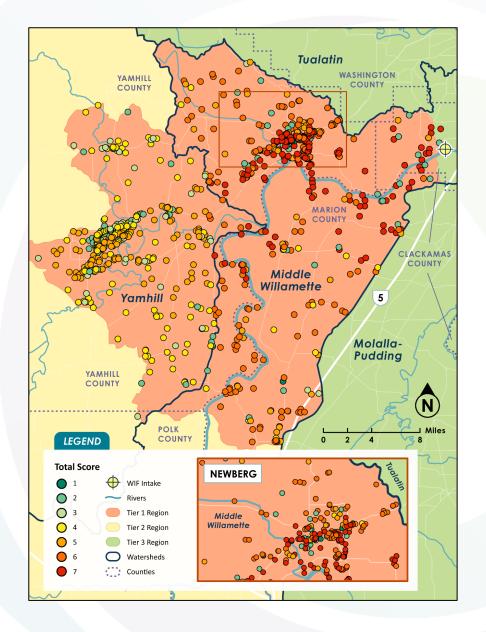
- 1 Tier 1:
  8-hour travel time (emergency response)
- 2 Tier 2:
  Secondary area for management and water temperature analysis
- 3 Tier 3:
  Full Willamette Basin, including headwaters and downstream stakeholders





#### Risk Analysis- Begin by leveraging DEQ Database

		Overall Risk Score					
PCS Feature	Overall RISK Score						
Category Type	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Low		Medium			High	
Other PCSs	0	0	2	4	0	5	4
Dry Cleaners	0	0	3	4	0	5	0
Mining Permits	0	0	4	10	7	19	5
Solid Waste Sites	0	0	0	2	2	5	4
CAFOs	0	0	0	8	10	9	20
Domestic Wastewater Treatment	0	0	0	1	3	0	3
Water Quality Permits	0	1	1	31	33	47	33
Boating Access Sites	0	0	0	0	1	3	3
Route Crossings	0	0	0	20	26	34	18
Effluent Outfalls	0	0	0	4	3	1	6
Environmental Cleanup Sites	0	0	0	5	13	7	7
Hazardous Material Generator	0	0	0	25	33	13	41
Hazardous Substance Information System	0	14	68	68	67	48	22
Aboveground Storage Tanks	1	2	23	21	22	22	10
Leaking Underground Storage Tanks	0	106	1	0	0	0	0
Underground Storage Tanks	27	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	28	123	102	203	220	218	176





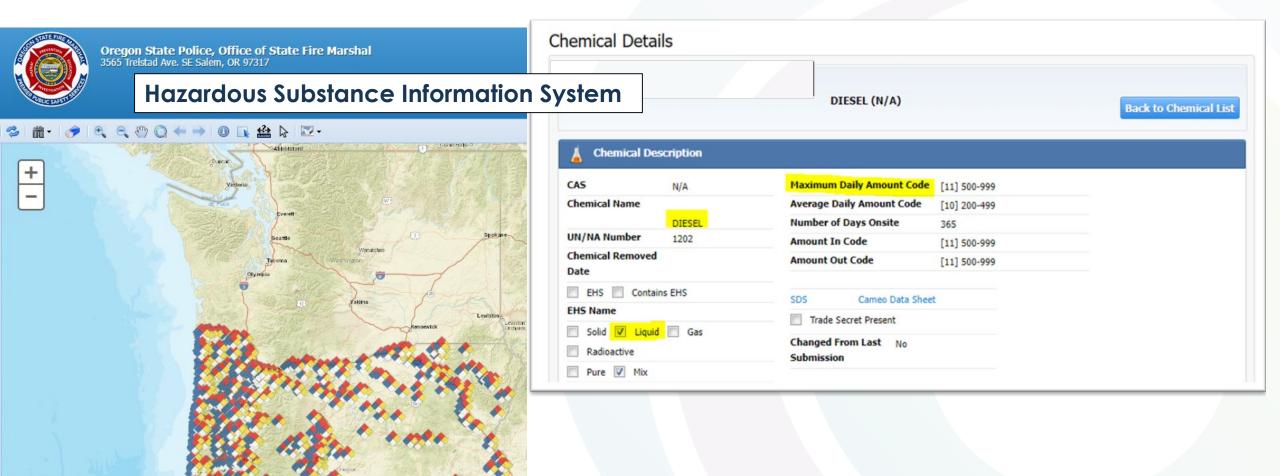
## Risk Assessment- Framework and Data Gaps

#### **Risk Assessment Framework**

			LEGEND	
Activity	Inputs	Outputs	Components completed in Phase 1	
Compile PCS	PCS Databases and	Complete PCS Inventory	Components	
Inventory	Local Outreach	PCS Location Map	components completed in Phase 2	
	GIS Analysis	Travel Time Assessment	Components	
Characterize PCS Movement	Fill Quantity Data Gaps	Plume Duration	removed from framework	
	Dye Tracer Studies and Hydraulic Models  Peak Concentration at Intake		considering system redundancies and intended use of	
Characterize PCS Toxicity	State and National Toxicity Data	Compare Peak Concentration to	risk analysis	
	Fill Chemical Type Data Gaps	Toxicity Thresholds		
Evaluate PCS Risk	Travel Time Assessment	Travel Time Sub-score		
	Plume Duration	Plume Duration Sub-score		
	Peak Concentration	Feature Potency Sub-score*	* Where data gaps exist, ODEQ Qualitative	
	Operational Considerations	reactive rotelley sub-score	Risk Categories were substituted	



# Risk Assessment- Evaluate Potential Release Quantity and COCs





# Risk Assessment- Evaluate Potential Release Quantity and COCs

**ASSUMPTIONS** 



Major Route Stream Crossings and Bridges

Some Locations in DEQ Database do not appear to be a meaningful concern. Reevaluated each location

#### **Potential Release Quantity**

• 11,600 gallons, typical of large tanker truck

#### **Likely Contaminant of Concern**

Petroleum / Gasoline



# Risk Assessment- Evaluate Determination of Toxicity

**Example: Gasoline Tank** 



COC: Gasoline, 1000 gallons

Density: 2.83 lb/gal

Surrogate Chemical for Toxicity: Benzene

# Database in development to characterize toxicity of COCs

- EPA Cancer/Noncancer Risk Screening Levels
- Oregon Maximum Contaminant Levels
- Drinking Water Standards
- Other Limits

For Mixtures, Most Toxic Chemical Present in Mixture Used as Surrogate for Risk Analysis



#### Risk Assessment- Evaluate Dispersion Evaluation

#### Determine potential concentration at the intake. Depends on:

- Dispersion characteristics (obtained from USGS study)
- Potential Mass of COC released

$$C_p = 12100 * T_{intake}^{-0.79} * M/Q$$

 $C_p$ : Peak concentration at WIF of COC released from upstream PCS site M: Mass of COC released (Ib) Q: River discharge at PCS site  $T_{intake}$ : Travel time from PCS site to WIF

- Travel time
- River flow (evaluated range of flow conditions)

$$|C_{up}| = a * T_T^b$$

$C_{up}$ :	Unit peak concentration of dye in $[(\frac{\mu g}{L})/lb]*(ft^3/s)$		
$T_T$ :	Time elapsed after dye injections in (hr)		
a:	Unit-peak concentration at 1-hour elapsed time, in $[(\mu g/L)/lb](ft3/s$		
b:	Slope of the unit-peak concentration curve		



# Risk Assessment- Evaluate Updating Ranking of Risks

#### For COCs With Toxicity and Quantity Data

- Compute peak concentration at intake
- Compare this concentration to most strict standard of consumption (toxicity threshold)

Feature Potency Ratio (FPR) = 
$$\frac{\text{Peak Concentration at Intake } \left(\frac{\mu g}{L}\right)}{\text{Toxicity Threshold } \left(\frac{\mu g}{L}\right)}$$

#### **EXAMPLE: GASOLINE TANK**

- Peak Concentration at Intake =  $188 \frac{\mu g}{L}$
- Toxicity Threshold , Benzene =  $33 \frac{\mu g}{L}$  (EPA Noncancer Risk Screening Level)

"Feature Potency Ratio"=5.7



Normalized Score: FPR

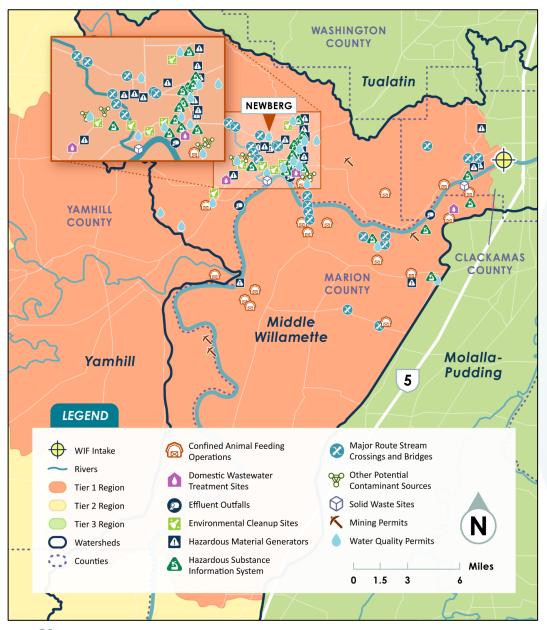
**High Risk (4):** ≥100

**Medium Risk (3):** 10<FPR<100

**Low Risk (2):** 1<FPR≤10

Minimal Risk (1): ≤1





# Risk Assessment- Evaluate Updating Ranking of Risks

Initial screening- 1,072 database entries

#### **Following Risk Assessment**

At low flow, 144 sites in highest risk category

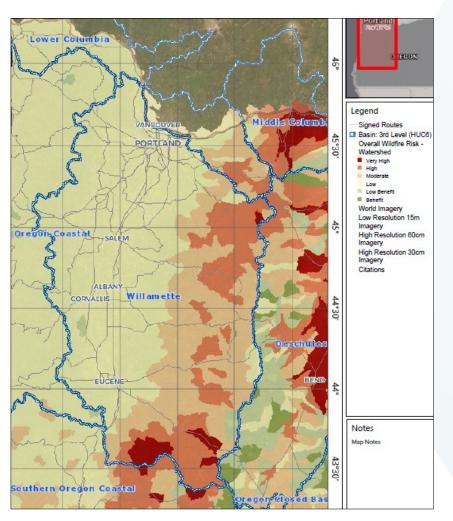
#### **Main PCS Site Categories**

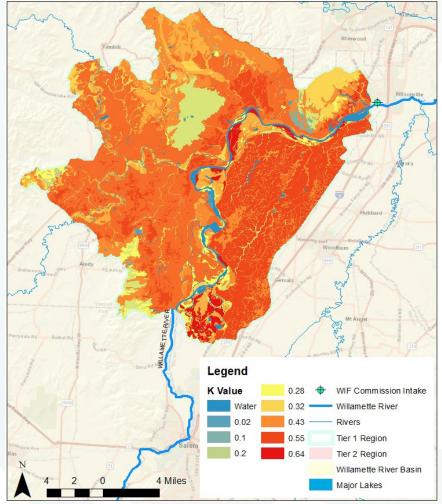
- Hazardous Substance Information System
- Major Route Crossings and Bridges
- CAFOs
- Water Quality Permits



#### Risk Assessment- Additional Considerations

#### Landslides and Erosion, Wildfire and Extreme Weather, Climate Change

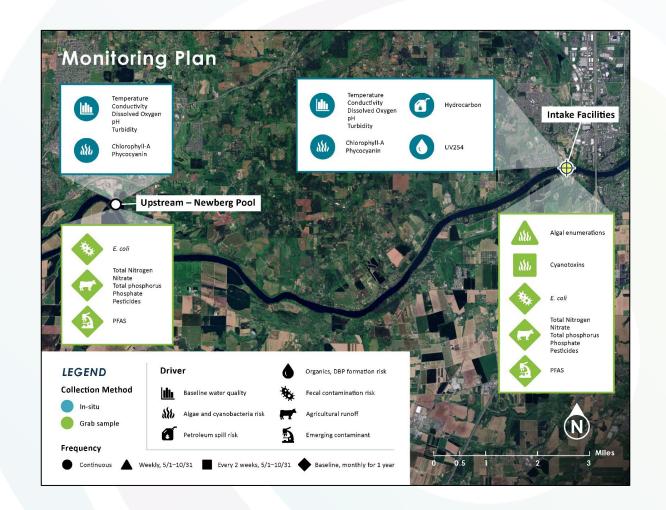






#### **Monitoring Priorities**

Parameter	Location	Frequency		
Temperature	Intake, upstream			
Conductivity	Intake, upstream			
DO	Intake, upstream			
рН	Intake, upstream	Continuous, 15 minute intervals		
Turbidity	Intake, upstream			
Chlorophyll-a	Intake, upstream	Triin oro ii norvais		
Phycocyanin	Intake, upstream			
Hydrocarbon	Intake			
UV254	Intake			
Algal enumerations	Intake	Weekly from May to October 31		
Cyanotoxins	Intake	Every two weeks from May to October 31		
PFAS	Intake, upstream			
Pesticides	Intake, upstream	Baseline sampling, monthly for one		
E. coli	Intake, upstream			
Total nitrogen	Intake, upstream	year and		
Nitrate	Intake, upstream	following storm		
Total phosphorus	Intake, upstream	events		
Phosphate	Intake, upstream			









# **Next Steps**

- Watershed Protection, Monitoring, and Outreach Plan for the Willamette River Watershed was finalized March 2024
- WIF Commission Adoption was April 22, 2024

# **Near-term Actions**

- Monitoring at intake facility
- Exploration of monitoring location in Willamette River upstream of intake in partnership with USGS
- Outreach focusing on highest priority water quality risks identified in Plan
- Follow up stakeholder meetings



## **Lessons Learned**

2

Engage your elected officials at each stage

3

Recognize partners' goals, respect differences, and collaborate 4

Develop a multifaceted approach on a large-scale project

5

Consider the sustainability of the Plan over decades



Build project

timeline up front

with several

engagement

opportunities















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