



January 15, 2025

Representative Ken Helm, Co-Chair
Representative Mark Owens, Co-Chair
House Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water Committee
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Representative Helm and Representative Owens,

The Mid-Coast Water Planning Partnership would like to extend our gratitude for your continued commitment and support to elevate the work of the partnership as we move forward into plan implementation and executing projects.

Since the adoption and recognition of the [Mid-Coast Action Plan](#), partners have been actively working on prioritizing actions and developing associated workplans to align and support implementation. The prioritization was completed via a workgroup of partnership members that met monthly over the course of two years. Technical and project support was provided by GSI Water Solutions with continued funding from the Oregon Water Resources Department.

The Partnership appreciates the opportunity to inform development of the 2025 Water Package. At your request, the workgroup has identified projects in each investment area:

Investment Area	Mid-Coast Project	Funding Request 2025 - 2027
1) Capacity	Implementation Coordinator & Partner Capacity	\$294,000
2) Data, Monitoring, or Analysis	Siletz Source Water Monitoring	\$86,000
3) Water Conservation	Targeted Water Conservation Outreach to Businesses and Industries	\$59,000
4) Water Supply	50-Year Water Supply Plan for Lincoln County	\$138,000
5) Resilience	Living with Beaver (and the water benefits they provide) Outreach and Implementation	\$50,000
6) Outreach and Education	Siletz Source Water Conservation Outreach	\$56,000
Total:		\$683,000

Attached you will find a high-level summary of each project, including the expected benefits, project phase, related plans, anticipated costs, lead entities, level of support, and other funds that are available to implement these projects.

Again, we would like to thank you for your continued support and interest in our collaborative place-based planning process and implementation efforts. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at adenlinger@srwd.org or 541-563-3529.

Kind regards,



Adam Denlinger, General Manager
Seal Rock Water District
Mid-Coast Water Planning Partnership Convener

cc:

Mid-Coast Implementation Workgroup
Mid-Coast Water Planning Partnership
Rep. David Gomberg, District 10
Sen. Dick Anderson, District 5
Harmony Burright, Chief of Staff, Joint Water Caucus
Lili Prah, OWRD Planning Coordinator

Attachment
Mid-Coast Proposed Projects

1. Investment Area: Capacity

Project: Implementation Coordinator and Partner Capacity	
Summary & Expected Benefits	A dedicated coordinator would perform critical duties that sustain and strengthen the Partnership, including maintaining collaboration among partners through facilitating meetings and information sharing, supporting efforts to implement high priority actions in the Mid-Coast Water Action Plan (utilizing the 2024 Early Implementation Workplan), monitoring and recording implementation progress using the Partnership’s Smartsheet tool, seeking funding sources and supporting the work of the committees/bundle work groups and partners, partner onboarding, and maintaining the website in ways that promote regional coordination and education on water issues. Funding would provide capacity for partner organizations to participate and engage in the Partnership on a regular basis, thereby advancing efforts to implement actions identified in the Water Action Plan. Benefits of continued capacity support means implementation of projects will be accelerated, participation in the Partnership will be sustained to a greater degree, and coordination among diverse interests will be enhanced across the region.
Phase	Ongoing
Plans	Mid-Coast Water Action Plan
Anticipated Costs	\$294,000
Lead Entities	Mid-Coast Water Planning Partnership
Supporting Entities	The Mid-Coast Water Action Plan identifies continued funding for a dedicated Partnership coordinator position as the highest priority for implementation (see Action Plan, Pg. 10 PDF).
Other Funds	Plan to seek funding from OWRD’s Place-Based Planning Fund, OWEB’s Partnership Technical Assistance Grants and BOR’s WaterSMART Program, when available.

2. Investment Area: Data, Monitoring, & Analysis

Project: Siletz Source Water Monitoring	
Summary & Expected Benefits	This project will implement Oregon DEQ's Volunteer Monitoring Project at 5 locations in the Siletz Drinking Water Source Area along the mainstem and select major tributaries over a 2-year period. The Siletz Drinking Water Source Area provides drinking water to the Cities of Siletz, Newport, and Toledo. Water quality parameters for collection include Total Nitrogen, Total Phosphorus, <i>E. coli</i>, temperature, and dissolved oxygen. Data collected through this project will inform the anticipated ODA Siletz Strategic Implementation Area, DEQ's TMDL, and conservation implementation strategies.
Phase	1 of 4
Plans	• Mid-Coast Water Action Plan, Actions 17, 19 • Siletz National Water Quality Initiative Source Water Assessment • Mid-Coast Ag Water Quality Management Area Plan • DEQ Sampling & Analysis Plan Siletz Focus Area Monitoring (DEQ24-VOL-0020-SAP) • City of Toledo Drinking Water Protection Plan • Oregon DEQ Siletz River Turbidity TMDL
Anticipated Costs	\$86,000
Lead Entities	Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality Oregon Dept. of Agriculture
Supporting Entities	Supported by the Mid-Coast Implementation Workgroup, City of Toledo, City of Newport, Seal Rock Water District, Oregon Dept. of Agriculture, and Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality.
Other Funds	ODA Lincoln SWCD Focus Area (Secured) ODA Ag Water Quality Support Grant (Pending Application 2025)

3. Investment Area: Water Conservation

Project: Targeted Water Conservation Outreach to Businesses and Industries	
Summary & Expected Benefits	<u>Task 1:</u> Outreach to vacation lodging businesses about integrating water conservation practices into business operations and integrating outreach materials by targeting visitors, including outreach materials development. <u>Task 2:</u> Outreach to businesses that are large water users (e.g., food/beverage and fish processing businesses) about integrating water conservation practices into business operations and opportunities for improving water conservation in business operations. For both tasks, outreach would include emails, phone calls, virtual meetings, and in-person meetings. Bulk purchase of water conservation items (e.g., water efficient faucet aerators, showerheads, kitchen spray nozzles) needed by lodging or other businesses as budget allows to support water conservation efforts. Assess water conservation measures that may be appropriate and then develop a workplan template for assisting interested lodging businesses or large water users, which could include some business-specific tasks or tools to customize the workplan further. Expected benefits include reduced water use from water fixture upgrades; expansion of water conservation practices by lodging businesses, visitors and other industries; and businesses are better positioned to pursue water conservation efforts.
Phase	Phase 2 (number of phases to be determined). Phase 1 is underway and involves initial outreach to vacation rental businesses only to discuss potential water conservation opportunities and outreach materials.
Plans	• Mid-Coast Water Action Plan, Actions 1a, 1g, 4, 24 • City of Lincoln City Drinking Water Protection Plan • City of Toledo Drinking Water Protection Plan • City of Newport Draft Drinking Water Protection Plan
Anticipated Costs	\$59,000
Lead Entities	Mid-Coast Water Conservation Consortium, which includes Seal Rock Water District, and the Cities of Lincoln City, Newport, Waldport, Toledo, and Yachats.
Supporting Entities	Supported by the Mid-Coast Implementation Workgroup
Other Funds	Additional Mid-Coast Water Conservation Consortium activities are financially supported by Seal Rock Water District, and the Cities of Lincoln City, Newport, Waldport, Toledo, and Yachats. Additional activities include outreach to water customers (through outreach materials in various media and outreach events), student education, and outreach to other water providers. These activities are complementary and supportive of this project.

4. Investment Area: Water Supply

Project: 50-Year Water Supply Plan for Lincoln County	
Summary & Expected Benefits	Project Mission: Develop and implement a 50-year county-wide water supply and distribution system plan that incorporates local and regional plans, provides long-term water security, and achieves significant protections for rivers, streams, and watersheds. This funding will provide coordination among local water providers and the OSU Team during the Phase I collection of community information, the identification of potential future water sources, and the development of a digital decision support system which rates the feasibility and impacts of possible solutions to the long-term water supply needs of the county.
Phase	1 of 4
Plans	• Mid-Coast Water Action Plan, Actions 2,3,4,42, & 43 • OSU Water Management Economic Assessment Model
Anticipated Costs	\$138,000
Lead Entities	Lincoln County Water Systems Alliance (LCWSA) OSU "One Water" Interdisciplinary Team
Supporting Entities	Mid-Coast Implementation Workgroup Lincoln County The cities of Siletz, Toledo, Lincoln City, Newport, Waldport and Yachats Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
Other Funds	\$28,000 OSU Interdisciplinary Grant for initiation of "One Water" project has been funded. The OSU Team will be seeking approximately \$2 million over 2 years from other sources to fund their development of Phases I and II of the project.

5. Investment Area: Resilience

Project: Living with Beaver (and the water benefits they provide) Outreach and Implementation	
Summary & Expected Benefits	Outreach and education to landowners to solve beaver issues in priority source water areas, leading to on the ground actions to improve beaver habitat and increase natural water storage. Beaver dams provide a number of benefits, including improved water quality, pollution reduction, sediment reduction through deposition, elevating local water tables, and increasing low summer flows. This project would increase capacity to leverage additional state and federal funds to implement beaver habitat projects with direct benefit to water providers downstream.
Phase	2 of 3
Plans	• Mid-Coast Water Action Plan, Actions 5, 46, & 49 • 2017 IWRS – Action 11.A (Improve watershed health, resiliency, and capacity for natural storage). • Oregon Conservation Strategy • ODFW Action Plan for Beaver-Modified Landscapes (2022-2025) • City of Lincoln City Drinking Water Protection Plan • City of Toledo Drinking Water Protection Plan • City of Newport Drinking Water Protection Plan
Anticipated Costs	\$50,000
Lead Entities	MidCoast Watersheds Council Lincoln Soil & Water Conservation District Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians
Supporting Entities	Supported by the Mid-Coast Implementation Workgroup
Other Funds	With the previous phase of funding (USFS Stewardship, OWEB), and other modeling work (ODFW, etc.) MCWC has identified priority areas for outreach and where on the ground projects would have the most potential impact. This project would leverage more funding for on the ground actions to increase beaver habitat function and natural water storage on the landscape.

6. Investment Area: Education and Outreach

Project: Siletz Source Water Conservation Outreach	
Summary & Expected Benefits	Outreach and education to landowners in the Siletz River Drinking Water Source area on water quality and water quantity conservation implementation opportunities. Increase capacity to implement the Natural Resources Conservation Services' Environmental Quality Incentives Program and Oregon Dept. of Agriculture's Siletz Strategic Implementation Area programs in the area. Provide technical assistance through 6 workshops over 2 years including agricultural water quantity conservation.
Phase	1 of 2 (2-year project)
Plans	• Mid-Coast Water Action Plan, Actions 1j, 1k, 36, 38, 39 • Siletz National Water Quality Initiative Source Water Assessment • Mid-Coast Ag Water Quality Management Area Plan • City of Toledo Drinking Water Protection Plan • City of Newport Draft Drinking Water Protection Plan
Anticipated Costs	\$56,000
Lead Entities	Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District Natural Resources Conservation Service MidCoast Watersheds Council
Supporting Entities	Supported by the Mid-Coast Implementation Workgroup
Other Funds	Oregon Department of Agriculture SWCD Capacity Grant (Secured), Oregon Department of Agriculture Siletz Strategic Implementation Area (Pending)