

Mid-Coast Partnership Coordinating Committee Meeting

DRAFT Meeting Notes

July 10, 2025 | 9:00 – 10:00 am via MS Teams

Attendees

Adam Denlinger	Seal Rock Water District
Alyssa Mucken	Oregon Water Resources Dept. (facilitating)
Billie Jo Smith	Lincoln County Water Systems Alliance
David Rupp	Oregon State University
Tyler Clouse	Lincoln Soil & Water Conservation District

Unable to Attend

Mike Broili	MidCoast Watersheds Council
Steve Parrett	Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality
Alan Gibson	Gibson Farms

Action Item Summary

- ☐ **Alyssa** – ask if OWRD can cover a portion of light refreshments.
- ☐ **Tyler** – check on whether ODA funds could also be used for lunch or refreshments.
- ☐ **Billie Jo** – will check on use of COCC Newport.
- ☐ **David** – will consider if there is enough content to do a climate change focused presentation.
- ☐ **David** – reach out to NSF and see if there's any work related to our Action Plan (e.g. work on earthquakes, landslides) for a presentation, or possibly co-sponsorship.
- ☐ **Steve** – reach out to Harmony for a Water Caucus perspective on outcomes of session.
- ☐ **Adam** – send drought messaging resources to Tyler.

Agenda & Meeting Notes Review

- Committee reviewed the [6/12/2025 Meeting Notes](#). No changes suggested.

Planning: Full Partnership Meeting & Tour

- Schedule:
 - Include an hour break, for lunch, start up at 1 pm so we don't lose participants.
 - Full-day, partial-day, or two separate events; e.g., a tour and a meeting on different days?
 - Combining a tour with a meeting is an effective way to draw people together.
- Lunch:
 - No funding for lunch; budgets are tight. Maybe split it amongst organizations?
 - **Action item**: Alyssa to check – can OWRD cover a portion of light refreshments?
 - **Action item**: Tyler to check – can ODA funds could also be used for lunch or refreshments.

- Location:
 - Action item: Billie Jo will check on use of COCC Newport. Typically, don't charge a fee. Good parking. Large room.
 - OSU Extension can accommodate 30-40 attendees.
- Potential Topics & Activities:
 - Climate change research & adaptation: effects of climate change on coastal streams, LCSWA is interested in this topic. Any studies or reports? Other than what's been written on the Mid-Coast website, don't have anything prepped beyond that.
 - A study from the UW – are you familiar? Not sure which one. The USFS also put out a good report on climate change impacts to Forest Service land on the coast. People want to know more about climate change. Maybe do a short presentation?
 - Action Item: David will consider if there is enough content to do a climate change focused presentation. Good to have a speaker – Tyler will put out some feelers.
 - Action item: David noted that National Science Foundation (NSF) is working on natural hazards on the coast. Maybe they would be interested in co-sponsoring an event; could help us target a different, broader audience. Earthquakes and landslides – David will do some outreach to NSF and see if there's any work related to our Action Plan, possible presentations, or possibly co-sponsorship.
 - Hands-On Activity: Tyler – web building activities and table groups to learn, who are you? What do you do in the context of drought? What are people actively doing? It's a hands-on way to connect with each other. Did it last year at NRCS annual meeting, and it worked well. It was messy and informal, but they can brainstorm and talk to each other. Depending on the topic, it could feed into the project tracker; trying to update what projects are happening. David thinks it's a great idea.
 - Harder to bring people together – think about activities that provide connecting benefits, instead of speakers coming and focusing primarily on talks.
 - MidCoast Watersheds Council recently made a video about the Alsea. And we're doing a video on the Upper Yaquina – maybe do this one in January?
 - PBP presentation? No. Better use of time would be a webinar for all planning groups.
 - Legislative updates – e.g., well exemption has changed – will affect Lincoln County. Keep it short if we can.
 - Action item: For a legislative update, consider reaching out to Harmony, for the Water Caucus perspective. Alyssa assigned to Steve. :)
 - SDAO and LOC lobbyist produce a Legislative Report at end of session, and it could be circulated for the benefit of the group. So many bills this session; difficult to make decisions. Next session is a short session, so may not see HB 3116 topics re-introduced.
 - Mid Coast Water Consortium – we could share – the overall goal – from a municipal perspective, including how this drought affects instream and out-of-stream uses. Not to use the opportunity as a hammer, but to raise awareness about the value of water. We are seeing such low-flow streamflow conditions on the Oregon Coast, with many systems struggling. I think we'll experience water scarcity at the south end of the county. Commissioner Chuck said it well at the Board of Commissioner's meeting – this is not meant to be alarming, but an opportunity to inform and educate our communities and advance water stewardship for future generations. As many times as we can say that message, it's still not enough. Unique

this year – a drought declaration by the Governor. That’s significant because it’s occurring earlier; a brand-new message we need to be talking about. Getting the word out for SWCD is often done through social media and newsletters – is there something that can be generated?

- **Action Item:** Adam has drought messaging resources available and can share them with Tyler. You can add your logo or share as you want. Idea is to send that message out uniformly; we all produce the same information. Helps to relay the urgency.
- ODFW is concerned about the flow conditions right now – they may help on messaging as well.
- Site Tour:
 - Do we have a schedule yet? Tyler sent out a poll for all of us about availability, looking at September thru Mid-November.
 - Seal Rock Water District has an event during 3rd week of September, hosting OWUC on the Oregon Coast, pulling together a tour, will be busy; might be challenging to do a Mid-Coast tour, too. It’s not too difficult to organize a treatment plant tour. We could have people visit the Beaver Creek intake facility. Do want to do it, but maybe not when OWUC is in town.
 - Decision – do a springtime tour instead with Seal Rock.
 - **Action Item:** Consider planning a Beaver Creek project in the Fall to complement a water intake tour in the Spring. Tyler will talk to Watershed Council about possible projects.
 - In the spring, Seal Rock will be mid-way through its Source Water Protection Plan.
 - Seal Rock did do a tour of the intake before the Beaver creek construction was in place. We include the Brian XXX State Park visit – about the location of the Beaver Creek intake and pump station. Since the development, not sure we’ve had much to visit to that site; great to have mid-coast partners out to visit the site.

Roundtable Updates

- Place-Based Planning Grants and Guidebook (Alyssa) – OWRD plans to release a revised version of the place-based planning guidelines, in the form of a handbook structure, this summer. Current draft schedule proposes a 30-day comment window for the public, and it will be sent along to all four planning groups. Keep an eye out for the handbook. Your insights, review, opinions are greatly appreciated.
- Lincoln County Water Systems Alliance (Billie Jo) – Continue to work closely with the Lincoln county Water Systems Alliance. An agreement with OSU team is being drafted. Want to have a members meeting in August, and work on establishing bylaws and how we function as a group. Currently working with a few of the cities and the Tribe for recommendations on how we function or how to proceed. We’re at the getting organized stage; not moving toward any major actions right now.
- Float Series (Tyler) – not too many people attended the first float. For the Alsea, we have 13 participants signed up. The floats are a blast.
- Lincoln SWCD Board (Tyler) – The District is seeking board members. We will not have a quorum by end of August. We have two positions that can be appointed by the Board; seeking anyone interested in natural resources. Perhaps students still in college, eager to learn. Landowners must own or manage 10 acres of land (part of historic legislation). That law was amended for large counties, but not small ones. However, Lincoln SWCD does have two vacant positions that don’t have that requirement. Appointed by Board now but elected in the next round of elections. Consists of monthly 2-hour meetings and attending some workshops throughout the year.