

Attachment 1 Mid-Coast Draft Plan Strengths Identified by Plan Review Team

In its review, the Plan Review Team identified many strengths of the Mid-Coast Partnership’s DRAFT place-based integrated water resources plan. They are documented below and organized by the major sections of plan review criteria: Plan Development, Plan Content, and Plan Adoption and Implementation Strategy.

Plan Development

Plan Review Team (PRT) Comments on Plan Development Strengths
<p>The PRT appreciates the effort that went into this process. It can be daunting to be the first group to participate in a new program, and the Partnership is certainly to be commended for a commitment to exploring collaborative approaches. A great deal was accomplished given the limited time and resources, and the PRT acknowledges that much of the information needed for the assessment was not readily available when needed.</p> <p>The Mid-Coast partnership made a great effort at outreach during the planning including the two surveys by Oregon Kitchen Table and special attention to reaching non-English speakers and Tribal members. Appendix C of the Draft Plan shows who participated during the planning steps by sector. The Appendix E crosswalk with other regional initiatives is a strength.</p> <p>Attendance was great at the meetings (20-70 people). There appears to be great involvement and representation.</p>

Plan Content

Plan Review Team Comments on Plan Content Strengths
<p>Imperative 3 appears to be geared toward filling data gaps identified during the planning process. The Oregon Explorer tool hyperlinked in Appendix D is a great accomplishment and should prove useful for the future. The Oregon Explorer tool also helped identify spatial data gaps. There is a nice section on climate vulnerability.</p> <p>The strategies and related restoration actions they have outlined will improve agricultural management practices which will improve agricultural water quality. In addition, the Draft Plan has prioritized areas for restoration which could be an opportunity to overlap an ODA Strategic Implementation Area.</p> <p>The PRT appreciated the overview map of the basin to set the stage. The Plan includes user-friendly figures and tools (Oregon Explorer and Story Map). The definitions in Appendix A are a great tool for those unfamiliar with water management.</p> <p>The PRT appreciates the recognition that instream water rights inadequately capture the full range of flows needed to protect current instream ecosystems, stating “current instream water rights neither fully represent nor protect ecological values or other instream values, and there is a need to develop a more comprehensive understanding and approach to protecting and restoring these values, especially in light of climate change impacts.” The Partnership actively incorporated previous ODFW edits and comments and included ODFW’s letter as an appendix.</p>

Plan Adoption and Implementation Strategy

Plan Review Team Comments on Plan Adoption and Implementation Strengths

Figure 11 and the explanation of how the work will be organized between the Partnership and the Water Action Teams is helpful. The Anatomy of the Implementation Table is a great idea to help the reader see how to use it. It is nice to see the estimated cost information for each proposed action.

The PRT is pleased to see that the Partnership recognizes the value of instream flows and is committed to acquiring information to fill data gaps during implementation- including an updated assessment basin-wide and a full suite of instream needs in high priority locations - and using that information to plan, implement, and monitor pilot projects in high-priority areas (p. 33).