



Principles of Collaboration - as Applied to the Deschutes Basin Water Collaborative

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COIC is Central Oregon's council of governments... we have carefully nurtured a trusted, neutral facilitator role in our region. COIC has no direct stake in the outcome of any process that we serve.

Scott - 20 Years' experience collaborating in environment/natural resource and other contexts. I work with a team of facilitators and coordinators.



COLLABORATIVE PRINCIPLES

What We've Learned...

- **Complete an assessment** first - ID the major issues, history, opportunities to collaborate, issues that aren't ready for collaboration yet, individuals and organizations to involve.
- Very helpful to have **shared baseline information** – Upper Deschutes Basin Study
- Build on **prior successes and momentum** – Basin Study Working Group, Deschutes Water Alliance



COLLABORATIVE PRINCIPLES

What We've Learned...

- **Strong leadership** to focus the work and keep it moving forward, help reconcile differences, speak on behalf of the effort, ID resources and resolve barriers, etc.
- **Broadest stakeholder engagement possible** – to ensure all information and interests are at the table.
- Complex processes – need some form of **Steering Committee** to help “work up” concepts for full stakeholder engagement.



COLLABORATIVE PRINCIPLES

What We've Learned...

- **Neutral, trusted, experienced facilitator and coordination**
- **Key agency staff** assigned to the effort – e.g. OWRD, BoR, USFS/BLM, DEQ, ODF&W, USF&W, etc.
- Recognize **irreplaceable role and relationship of tribes** – particularly in water (and natural resources generally). We have run everything through them and the NR Director has agreed to be a Co-Chair.



Deschutes Basin Water Collaborative

Development Phase

- Rooted in prior processes such as the Basin Study Working Group Process – broad stakeholder engagement
- COIC stakeholder research in 2018 – shared our findings
- Deschutes Basin Summit 2018 – brought the Basin together.
- COIC/DRC Discussions early 2019
- Built the multi-stakeholder Planning Team in Fall 2019 – just completed the first DBWC Charter.
- First Deschutes Basin Working Group meeting February 2020.



Deschutes Basin Water Collaborative

DBWC Goals

Ultimate Desired Outcomes:

- “Secure and maintain stream flows and water quality in the Deschutes Basin for the benefit of fish, wildlife, and people.
- Secure and maintain a reliable and affordable supply of water to sustain agriculture.
- Secure and maintain a safe, affordable and high-quality water supply for urban communities.”
(draft DBWC Charter)

DBWC Activities to Support Desired Outcomes

- Information Sharing and Coordination
- Develop a Phase 1 Framework Agreement to accelerate implementation
 - Develop and Act on Areas of Consensus
- Longer-term: Create a Comprehensive Deschutes Basin Water Plan to achieve the outcomes

Emphasis: Collaborative Implementation; Locally-based/bottom-up



DBWC VALUES

Action oriented
Clarity of Purpose
Mutual Benefit
Wholistic approach
Early successes
Sustainability
Respect partner time/resources

Steady commitment
Transparency
Honesty
Sufficient capacity
Honoring prior work
Creativity and Flexibility
Science/evidence-based decisions

Related Processes

Collaborative
History (>200 cfs)

Tribal/State
Water Summit

Basin Study
-Tools

HCP
-Foundational
Flows/Timelines

Tools

Large Scale
Conservation
(piping, watershed
plans, PL566 \$)

Water Marketing
(existing & developing
programs)

On-Farm Efficiencies

Other

Deschutes Basin Water
Collaborative

Ph 1: Framework
Implementation Plan-
Upper/Middle Deschutes
River

Legal/Policy
Issues





Thank You

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