



## SPRING 2002 UPDATE

### Water Supply Feasibility Study

#### Purpose of the Study

The Tualatin Basin is continuing to grow and the demand for water is expected to double by the year 2050. In addition to needing water for homes, businesses and agriculture, there is a need to restore flows to the Tualatin River to improve water quality and protect steam habitat. An additional 50,000 acre feet of water will be needed by the year 2050 to meet the growing demands. The purpose of the Tualatin Basin Water Supply Feasibility Study (WSFS) is to evaluate reliable, safe and cost-effective water supply options to meet the long term water needs of the Tualatin Basin.

#### First Steps in the Study

The WSFS was started in November 2001 as a collaborative effort led by Clean Water Services, in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and local water resource agencies. The first step in the study was to conduct a Scoping Process, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The Scoping Process occurred from January – April 2002 and focused on public review and comment on the development of evaluation criteria and a range of source options.

During this process, the study partners held five open houses and made presentations to stakeholder groups including the Tualatin River Watershed Council, Clean Water Services Advisory Commission, natural resource agencies and other interested groups.

Public comment about the study was received at public meetings as well as through faxes, e-mails and phone calls. In response to many questions raised about the study, a list of Frequently Asked Questions with responses has been compiled and is available to the public via Clean Water Services web site at [www.cleanwaterservices.org](http://www.cleanwaterservices.org).

#### Screening of Source Options

Study partners reviewed public comments from the Scoping Process and analyzed information on the feasibility, cost and impacts of the potential source options. They then screened the source options based on their ability to meet the criteria. The criteria included the following elements:

- ü Cost and cost allocation
- ü Feasibility (legal, institutional, regulatory, financial)
- ü Reliability (supply and emergency)
- ü Efficiency, timeliness
- ü Water quality, recreation, flood control
- ü Environmental impacts, property rights
- ü Security

#### Project Timeline

The following timeline summarizes the key milestones for the study:



*(continued on back)*

## Source Option Recommendations

The table below summarizes the recommendations of the Water Manager's Group:

| <b>Source options Not Recommended for Further Study</b>   |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Downstream dam site (above Stimson Mill)</li><li>• New in-line tributary storage</li><li>• Off-line tributary storage</li><li>• Expansion of Portland system (Bull Run 3)</li></ul> |
| <b>Source Options that should be Components of all Supply Alternatives</b>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Water conservation</li><li>• Wastewater reuse</li><li>• Aquifer storage and recovery</li><li>• Minor supply improvement for Portland system</li></ul>                               |
| <b>Source options Recommended for Further Study</b>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Scoggins dam raise at 20 feet</li><li>• Scoggins dam raise at 40 feet</li><li>• Willamette River irrigation pipeline</li></ul>  |

## Defining and Assessing Impacts

The next step in the study will be to review the proposed source options with the public and begin to conduct the field studies to determine their impacts and benefits so a preferred option can be selected. These options will be assembled into three (3) alternative packages that will be compared against a "no action" alternative, in conformance with the requirements of an environmental impact statement and planning report (EIS/PR).

During the summer and fall of 2002, field studies will be done in the vicinity of Hagg Lake to identify what impacts and opportunities could occur with the various alternatives. These studies will include impacts to the physical, biological and social/economic environment. Once the data is collected, the alternatives will be compared and reviewed with the public before a preferred alternative is selected.

## How to get more information

Clean Water Services has posted information, including a fact sheet and frequently asked questions about the study, on its web site at [www.cleanwaterservices.org](http://www.cleanwaterservices.org).

During the summer of 2002, staff from the study will provide updates at community meetings and other events. The public can comment about the study or ask questions at any time by calling or sending an email to the following contact people:

- *Tom VanderPlaat*, Clean Water Services Project Manager at (503) 846-8758 or [vanderplaatt@cleanwaterservices.org](mailto:vanderplaatt@cleanwaterservices.org)
- *Dave Nelson*, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation at (503) 872-2795 or [drnelson@pn.usbr.gov](mailto:drnelson@pn.usbr.gov)
- *Jeanna Cernazanu*, Clean Water Services Public Affairs at (503) 846-3619 or [cernazanuj@cleanwaterservices.org](mailto:cernazanuj@cleanwaterservices.org)