



# Deschutes Basin

WATER COLLABORATIVE

Water for Rivers, Agriculture and Communities



DESCHUTES RIVER  
CONSERVANCY

COIC





DESCHUTES RIVER  
CONSERVANCY



Mission:  
To Restore Streamflow and Water Quality in  
the Deschutes Basin



## Deschutes River

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98% of flows were diverted for irrigation



## Whychus Creek

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Every 2 out of 3 years, the creek would run dry



## Crooked River

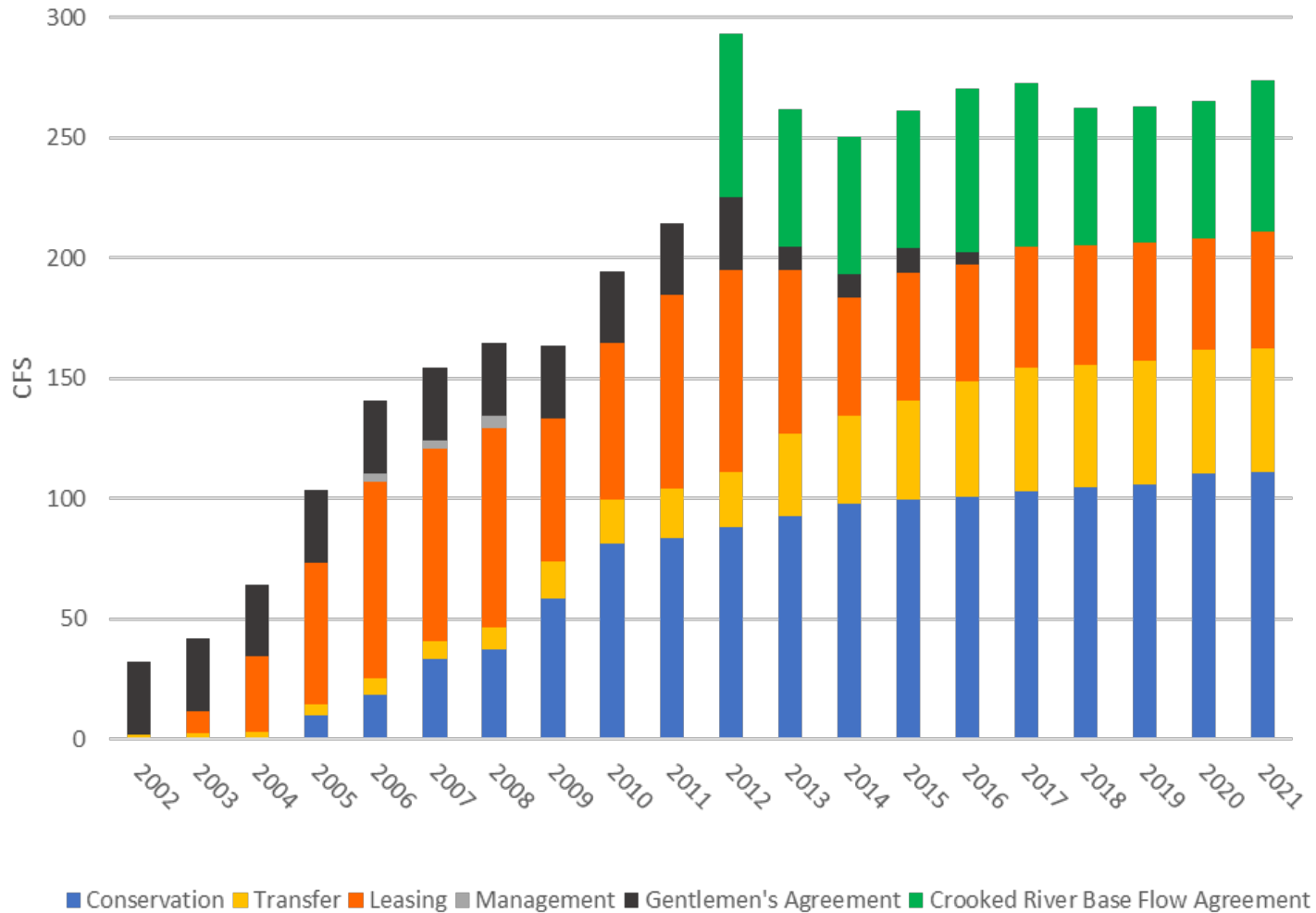
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Extensively diverted flows would leave only a trickle of water at Smith Rock



# Streamflow Restoration Results 2002-2021

Primary Reaches: Water Programs and Project Type 2002-2021





# Whychus Creek

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# Crooked River

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## Middle Deschutes River

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# Balanced & Holistic Results

- Flow restoration & water quality benefits
- Partnerships to restore related habitat/natural storage
- Maintained or improved reliability for agriculture
- Generation of groundwater mitigation credits for cities
- Community collaborative capacity





# Key Issues Remain



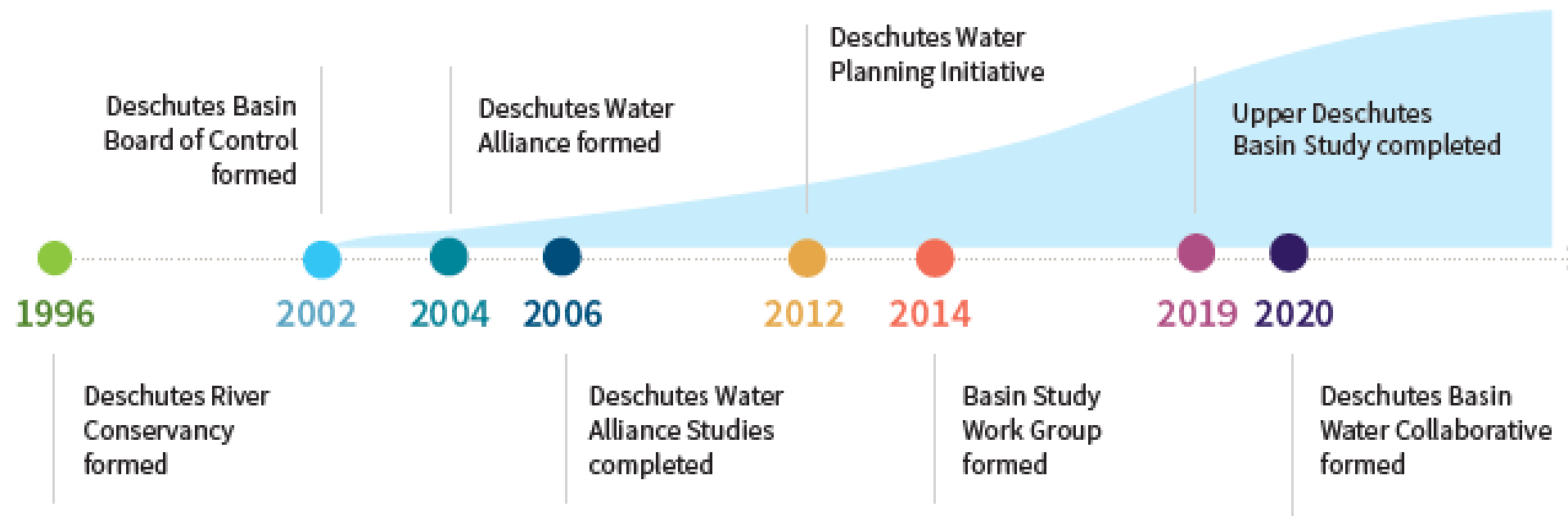
- Upper Deschutes River Flow Restoration
  - Time-critical due to Oregon spotted frog ESA issues and risk to agricultural interests
- Ongoing need for reliable groundwater mitigation for municipal water providers





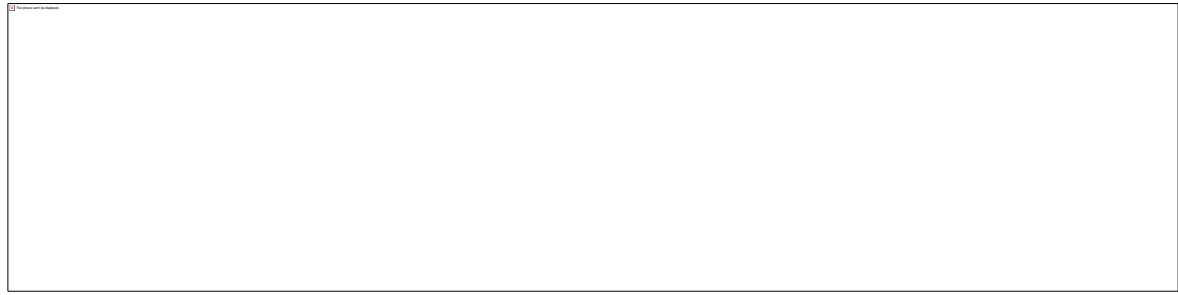


## A HISTORY OF *Working Together*





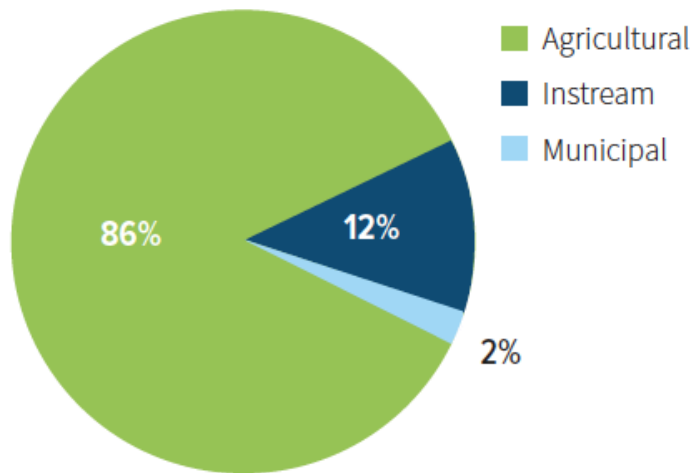
# Lessons Learned



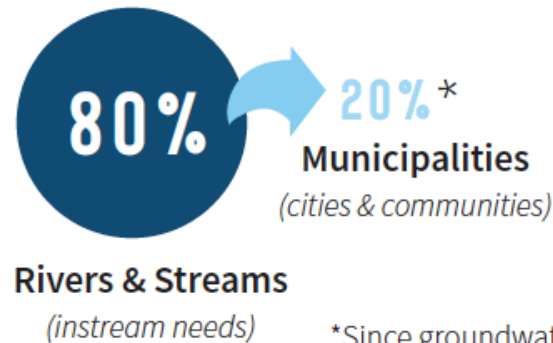
- Investment in common information invaluable
- We have the tools to solve the problems
- Collaboration can create real results
- Collaboration needs to be supported for the long term



# Where water *currently goes* and where there are *unmet needs*



## Over the next 50 years, projected unmet needs:



\*Since groundwater and surface water are interconnected, **municipal needs** are incorporated into unmet instream needs because water must be dedicated instream to mitigate for groundwater pumping.



# The Path Forward



- Continue & accelerate implementation
- Increase funding
- Address policy constraints

**Deschutes Basin Water Collaborative**





# Deschutes Basin

## WATER COLLABORATIVE

Water for Rivers, Agriculture and Communities

More than 40 member organizations

### Deschutes Basin Water Collaborative Members

Oregon Governor's Office  
Oregon Dept. of Agriculture  
Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality  
Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife  
Oregon Water Resources Dept.  
US Fish & Wildlife Service  
US Forest Service  
Oregon Environmental Council  
Arnold Irrigation District  
Central Oregon Irrigation District  
Lone Pine Irrigation District

North Unit Irrigation District  
Deschutes Soil & Water Conservation District  
Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council  
Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs  
League of Women Voters – Deschutes County  
Central Oregon Cities Organization  
Avion Water Company  
Ochoco Irrigation District  
Water for Life  
City of Bend  
City of La Pine  
City of Prineville  
City of Redmond  
Crook County  
Jefferson County  
Central Oregon LandWatch  
Central Oregon Informed Angler

Crooked River Watershed Council  
Deschutes River Conservancy  
Great Old Broads for Wilderness  
Oregon Natural Desert Association; Sunriver Anglers  
Trout Unlimited – Deschutes Redband Chapter  
Trout Unlimited (State Office)  
Upper Deschutes Watershed Council  
WaterWatch of Oregon  
Portland General Electric  
Coalition for the Deschutes



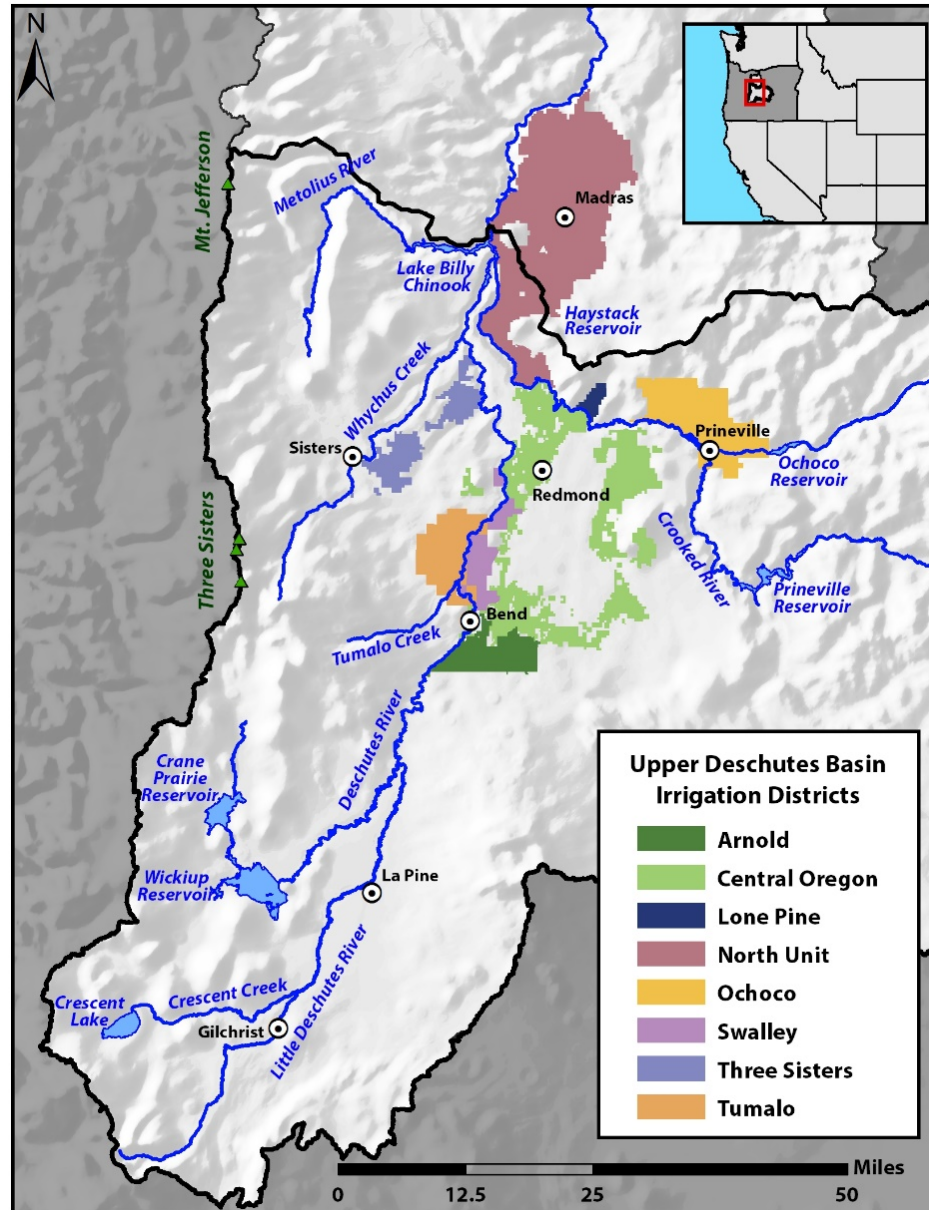
### Deschutes Basin

#### WATER COLLABORATIVE

Water for Rivers, Agriculture and Communities



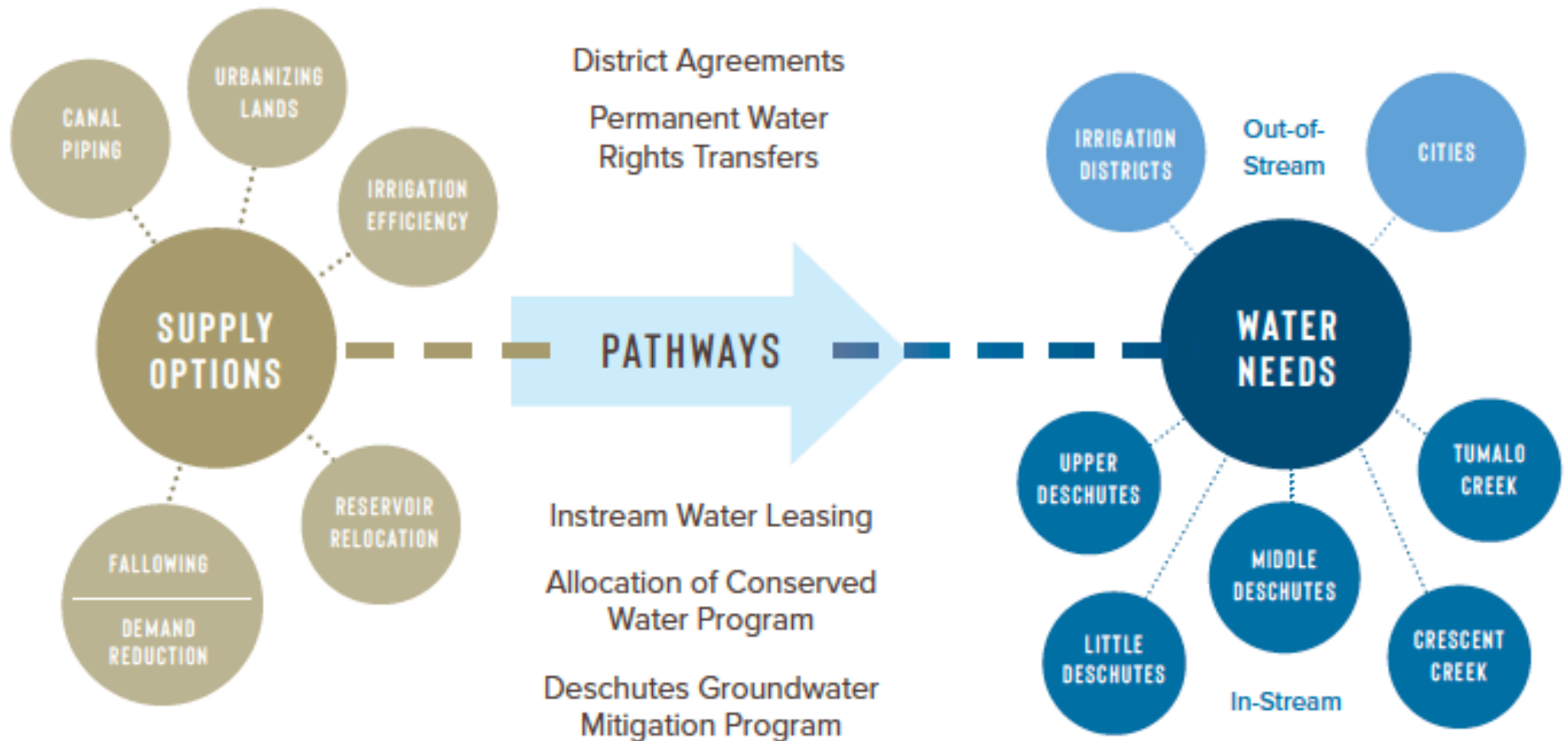
# Upper Deschutes Basin





# SOLUTIONS

## Tools to *get water where it's needed*





# DWBC Priority Actions



**Accelerate  
Implementation**



**Develop a  
Comprehensive  
Water Management Plan**



**Leverage  
Funding**



**Support Policies that  
Advance DWBC Goals and  
Consensus Agreements**



***Moving Forward:***

*Expand forum to address  
issues in other river  
reaches and tributaries*



## What's needed?

- 1 Funding
- 2 Increased stakeholder consensus
- 3 To move water to meet unmet needs



# How Deschutes County can be involved



- Continued participation in and support of DBWC
- Community support partner opportunity
- ARPA investment in helping farmers increase efficiencies—Thanks for helping jump start this program!