

Okanogan CD Drought Preparedness Plan – August Planning Meeting

October 13th, 2025 | 1:00pm – 3:00 pm

SUMMARY NOTES

Meeting started at 1:00 pm

Meeting is being recorded and will be available to view

Introductions: Attendees introduce themselves & Affiliation: This meeting is being recorded for partners who could not attend today. Meeting recording is available on the Google Drive.

Attendees:

Jordana Ellis (Okanogan CD)

Jack Owen (Okanogan CD)

Rosalie Powell (Okanogan CD)

Emmy Engle (Okanogan CD)

Sandra Streiby (Methow Watershed Council)

Mike Bastian (MWC)

Karin Bumbaco (UW/WA State Climate Office)

Cindy Fabbri (WSU-WRC)

Rita Stewart (Methow Watershed Council)

Michelle Martin (Okanogan Land Trust)

Elianna Rosenthal (WDFW)

Jon Yoder (WSU-WRC)

Stuart Crane (YN)

Community Profiles:

- Last meeting we discussed what else should be included to inform the risk assessment besides the minimum that is required in the grant agreement.
 - Grant states in scope of work for Task 2: Develop Introduction, Planning & Community Profile: Section 3. Community Profile: Must include:
 - a) Describe your geographic jurisdiction, including the types of water users and uses.
 - b) Include a key demographic table, at minimum to include population, number of households, race, income, gender, age, and employment.
 - c) Describe the data used to identify the overburdened communities highly impacted by drought within your planning area. Explain your

approach for prioritizing your overburdened communities highly impacted by drought in your planning process.

d) If you coordinated with any other entities, describe the partnership structure and decision-making process between all entities.

- OCD staff created a folder in Google drive to organize and list sources for this information. For consistency please use the listed sources. If you would like to use a source that is not listed, please note that in the tracking sheet along with the hyperlink to the information.

The due date for this deliverable and all others is the end of the grant, we hope to get a draft together sometime this quarter.

Okanogan CD will have a conversation with the MWC to hash out details of workload, if we will split it up the same as the literature review.

Project terminology:

- WSU has created a list of definitions of the commonly used terms for clarity and consistency. The list will be presented and going forward terms will be used in a way consistent with the presented definitions.

There is a working draft glossary, a list of possible definitions gathered from different sources, some are jargon heavy. These may be used as a starting point to create our final glossary.

Cindy created a visual representation of risk, and the terms that make up risk. Hazard, Exposure, Sensitivity, Adaptive Capacity, Vulnerability, Risk. Definitions are subject to change – not finalized. (Found in “risk assessment table of contents working draft” in risk assessment folder.)

Where should “impacts” go in this infographic? Jon suggests “impacts” as going below risk.

This infographic may be in the finished plan, but it will currently be used as an internal document and help us communicate with each other.

Risk Assessment:

- WSU has revised the draft outline and will present this structure to the group. This outline will be used to re-structure the literature review template.

Cindy walked the group through the draft table of contents. It was written to track directly with the risk assessment framework. Project ID was added to keep in mind the purpose of the risk assessment.

The group had a conversation of if the Community profiles will be in this section of the risk assessment or in the introduction. As a grant deliverable it is listed in the introduction section and can be referenced in the risk assessment.

User groups will be identified in the community profiles and will be referenced in the risk assessment.

Action item for the work group to review the table of contents and make comments as necessary. Do not modify the original document only make comments/notes, and email Cindy when comments are added. Due by end of 10/24/2025.

The question was asked "Where will 'historic impacts' be included?" That information will be in the Climate and Hazard sections.

There are a lot of people not here whose expertise will be needed. Jordana and Cindy will be reaching out individually to assign tasks/ask for assistance.

Literature Reviews:

- What defines literature? Mike B (MWC): Interviews - what category do they go in and how they will be included in information that informs the plan.

Do interviews, or conversations from meetings count as literature?

Mike – in February, MWF received a grant from department of commerce, and hired a subcontractor to interview individuals from different user groups in the Methow Valley. They were asked: is there a current impact on the resources of the work or family (Rate 1-10)? Do you see impacts of drought on the larger community (Rate 1-10)? What actions can be taken to mitigate drought? Is the community motivated to mitigate drought? If there are continuing or worsening impacts in the future, will the community become more motivated? Categorizations are agricultural, municipal and environmental.

One flaw in process. Grant was received in March and closed out in June. MWC did not ask the interviewees if we could release the information. These interviews tell us what "the road will look like". One comment, if you were going to do this, it would be smart to get the leaders of major users to champion drought mitigation, there was a lot of support for small scale storage (BDAs). Don't challenge lifestyles. There are people who have lived here since the era of homesteading, and there are people who have moved

here recently, that we need to consider. These interviews give good context on how to proceed. Sandra uploaded a document with results and methods. She will let us know where it is saved in the google drive.

If interviews with individuals will be included in the risk assessment, they would be categorized as personal communications, they can be cited and referenced as such. There is a citation style that applies to personal communications.

Can this information be used as “anonymous”? Jon recommends limiting our use of anonymous sources. Mike mentioned that their answers would give away their identity.

Jon recommends writing a summary of conversations and interviews for reference.

Mike has a written report of summarized interviews that we can use once we have permission.

- Revised template to use Risk Assessment outline and terminology.

Cindy revised the template for literature review to mirror the risk assessment table of contents.

- Community meetings report

Okanogan CD created summary notes from each meeting, how should we go about extracting info from these notes. We should complete literature review templates for all meetings (Okanogan CD).

Planning meeting structure:

- Proposal to make meetings more of a “work group” session. Hear thoughts from the group and define structure and task assignments.

Meetings can be used more efficiently if they were a work group style. For giving and receiving feedback for reporting on or assigning tasks. It could be more useful for following up on action items. MWC has lots of funding for outreach and less for risk assessment, but they are open to this idea.

Karin Bumbaco (UW/WA State Climate Office) water year impacts survey is live. Geared towards agencies and natural resource managers. Karin will email the survey to work group. Assessment will be published in the spring.

Rita is communicating with Okanogan CD outreach team for survey dissemination. There will be an iPad at the Winthrop library for the survey. Rita is requesting a full-size flyer for bulletin boards.

Will there be a homepage with all 3 surveys that can be accessed at the end of the survey?
There is an option for the survey to be repeated upon completion. It could be linked back to Okanogan CD drought webpage, which has those 3 surveys. Emmy will send Cindy the link for that page.

There have been some people taking the survey, Cindy will have an update at the next meeting.

Next steps:

- **Review Risk assessment Outline/lit review template and offer feedback by 10/24**
- **Rosalie will upload meeting recording to the Google Drive in the [October planning meeting folder](#).**
- **Okanogan CD will create reports for each of the [community meetings](#).**
- **Okanogan CD will work With MWC to assign workload of community profile**
- **Sandra will share results from MWC interviews**

Meeting Adjourned at 2:20pm