



Walla Walla Basin Advisory Committee (WWBAC) Meeting

Wednesday, February 23, 2022

1:00 – 4:00 pm

WWBAC Member Introductions



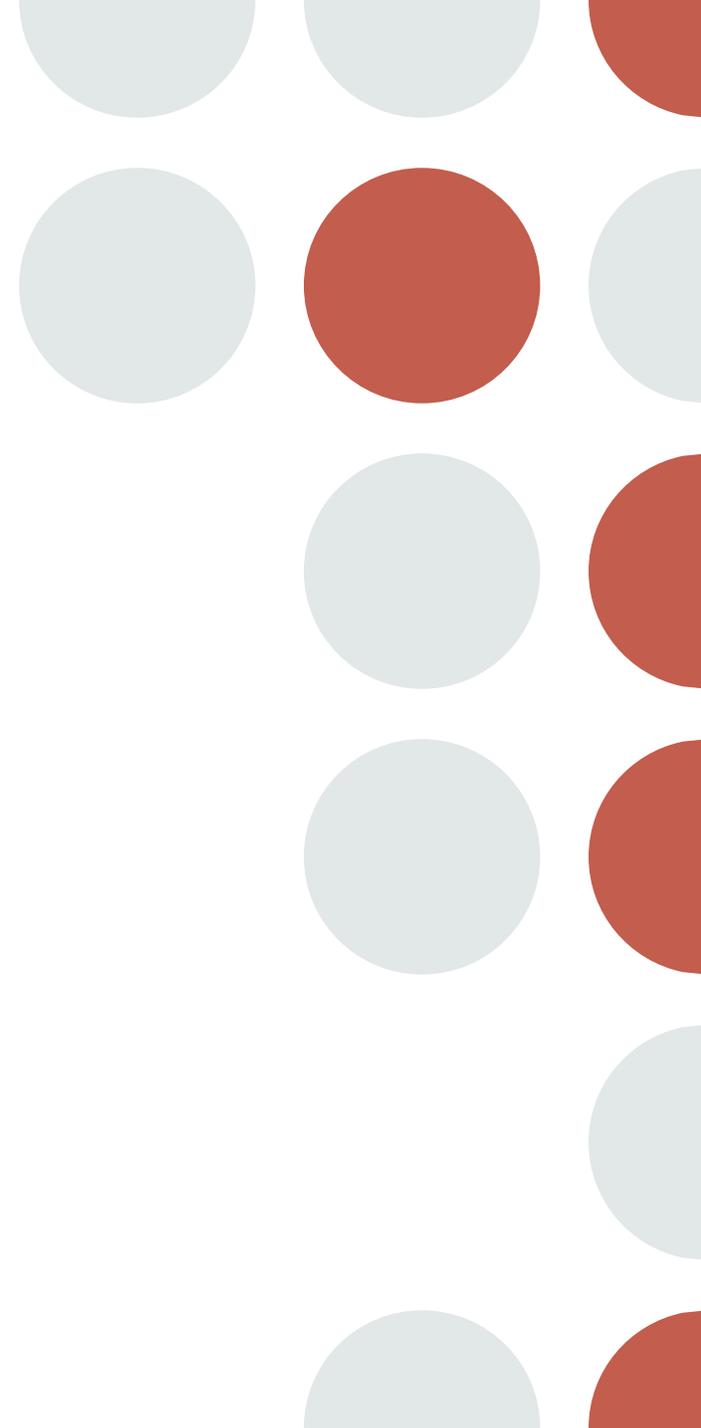
Name, Affiliation, Hopes for this Process



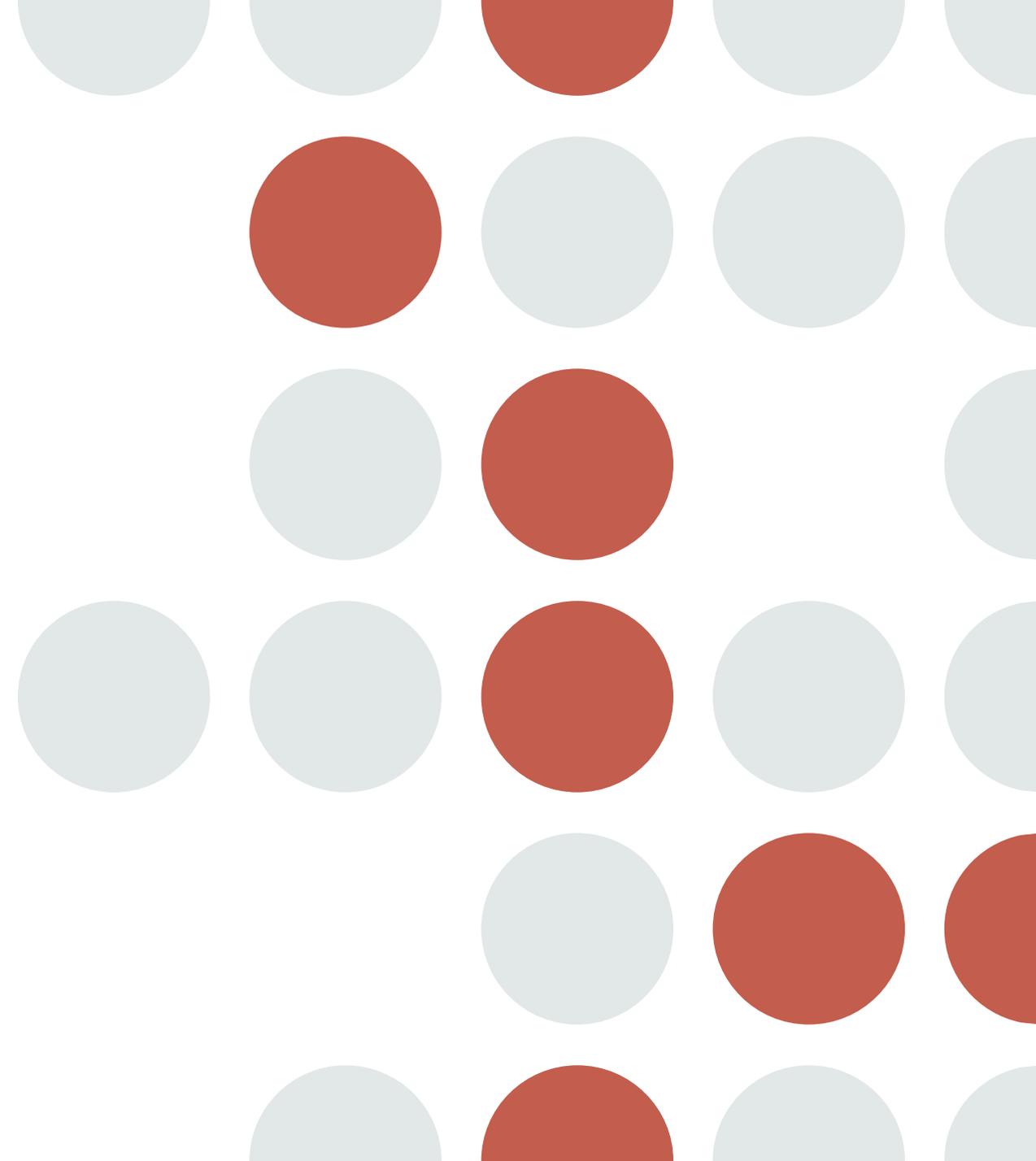
REMINDER: Unmute yourself to speak to the group.

Agenda

- Welcome and Opening Comments
 - WWBAC Member Introductions
 - Overview of WWBAC
 - Overview of Phase 2
 - Legislative Funding Requests
 - Updates
 - Public Comment
 - Closing
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Overview of WWBAC



Overview of WWBAC: Membership

Interest Group	Primary	Alternate
Agriculture	Mark Wagoner Gardena Farms Irrigation District	TBD
	Renee Hadley Walla Walla Conservation District	Annie Byerley WA Irrigation at Large
	Allie Newhouse Little River Group	TBD
	Travis Trumbull Walla Walla River Irrigation District	TBD
Environment	Ralph Perkins Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council	Arnold Coe Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council
	Judith Johnson Kooskooskie Commons	Sarah Dymecki Washington Water Trust
	John Foltz Snake River Salmon Recovery Board	TBD
Recreation/Quality of Life	TBD	Jerry Norquist Community Member
Economic Development	Nicholas Velluzzi Walla Walla Community College	TBD
Local Government	Steven Patten City of Milton Freewater	TBD
	Frank Nicholson City of Walla Walla	TBD
	Dan Dorrان Umatilla County	TBD
	Todd Kimball Walla Walla County	Marty Hall Columbia County
Tribal Government	Gary James CTUIR	David Haire CTUIR
	Chris Marks CTUIR	
Federal Government	Justin Yeager NOAA NMFS	Colleen Fagan NMFS
	Cindy Boen US Army Corps of Engineers	Bret Walters US Army Corps of Engineers
State Government	Brook Beeler WA Department of Ecology	TBD
	Mark Wachtel WA Department of Fish and Wildlife	TBD
	Chris Kowitz OR Water Resources Department	TBD
	Randy Jones OR Department of Environmental Quality	Taylor McCroskey OR Department of Environmental Quality

Overview of WWBAC: Expectations

- Actively **participate** in all WWBAC meetings and contribute to discussions. Consistency in attendance is important. Remote participation will be allowed.
 - Respect and **consider diverse perspectives** and work to find common ground.
 - Work between meetings to **become educated** on the issues. Members accept the responsibility to come to meetings prepared for the discussion.
 - Actively participate in at least one **Working Group**.
 - Work cooperatively with each other, the facilitator, and staff to **accomplish the purpose** of the WWBAC (see section I.)
 - Keep other members of your **interest group informed** of AC efforts, solicit input on issues discussed, and share this input with the WWBAC as a whole. This is a key responsibility of members; it is important that members represent the broad perspectives of their interest group.
 - Work to **build partnerships, connections, and enthusiasm** for long-term commitment to watershed health and recovery.
 - Follow the discussion Ground Rules included in Appendix A.
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Overview of WWBAC: DRAFT Operating Procedures

- See *'DRAFT WWBAC Operating Procedures.'*
 - Includes the following elements:
 - Purpose
 - Membership
 - Roles and Responsibilities
 - Decision Making
 - Tri-Sovereign Governments
 - Working Groups
 - Public Participation
 - Role of Facilitators
 - Ground Rules for Discussion
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Phase 2: Work Plan

Task #	Task Name	Deliverables
1	Project Management	Quarterly invoices and progress reports to ECY
2	Entrance Conference	Finalized workplan
3	Facilitate Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 15 AC meetings• 12 Implementation WG meetings• 8 Funding, Policy, and Outreach WG meetings• 5 Bi-State Flow Study meetings• 1 Public Workshops
4	Phase 2 Elements and Flow Study Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strategy Scoping Memos• Implementation Workplan and Funding Strategy• Draft and Final Strategic Plan Elements• Draft and Final Flow Study Update Report
5	Exit Conference	

Phase 2 Work Plan

Phase 2 is focused on strategy development and implementation by matching up projects with funding opportunities and polishing strategies for legislative asks.

- **Task 3: Facilitation of Advisory Committee and Work Group Meetings**
 - The Implementation WG will focus on refining technical details. *Stay tuned for a March meeting!*
 - The Funding, Policy, and Outreach (FPO) WG will focus on the non-technical aspects. *Stay tuned for an April meeting!*
 - Bi-State Flow Study WG will continue to move the infrastructure solutions forward *Stay tuned for a May/June meeting!*
 - **Task 4:** Further refinement of strategies; strategy scoping memos by category; development of an implementation workplan and funding strategy; Bi-State Flow study coordination
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Short-term Priority: Legislative Funding Requests



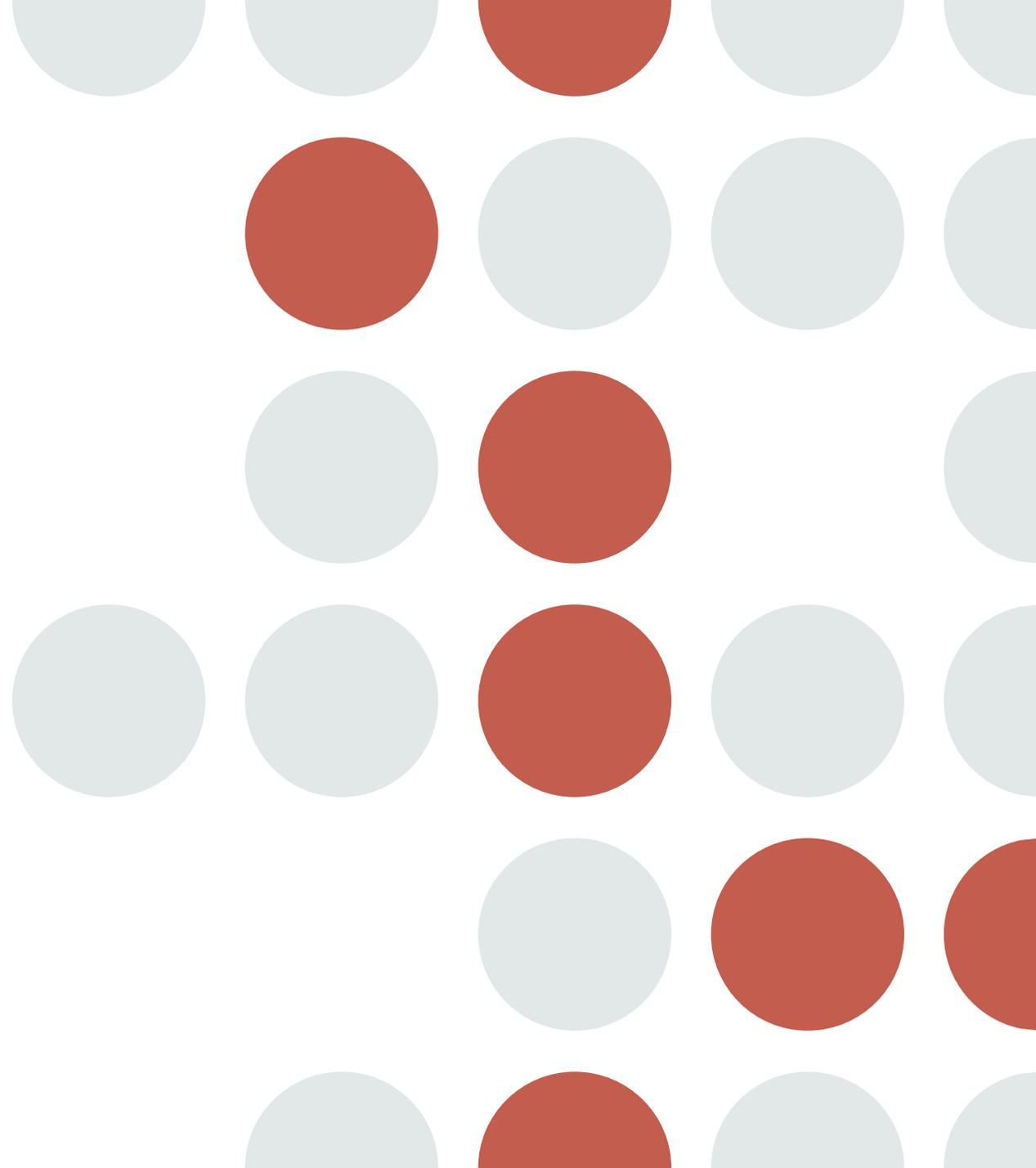
Funding Request: Upcoming Legislative Requests

- The purpose of today's discussion is to introduce how to package the strategies for the legislative requests. To simplify these requests to the WA State legislature, the strategies will be grouped into categories. OR request will be more targeted and project specific.
 - **Discussion Questions:**
 - Do you support the proposed categorizations of strategies? Do you have any suggested refinements to strategy categories?
 - Do you have initial thoughts on highest priorities for legislative funding in the near-term?
 - Which actions needed in the near term to support long-term priorities?
 - **Next Steps:** Will dive more into the details in the Implementation WG (March 2022).
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WA Legislative Request: Strategy Categorization

Strategy Number	Strategy Name	Strategy Category
1.01	Reconnect floodplain and restore channel complexity Basin wide to reduce flood risk and improve habitat	Floodplains, Habitat & Fish Passage
1.06	Improve fish passage and habitat conditions in weired and concrete channel sections of flood control project in Mill Creek	
1.07	Restore and protect riparian habitat along tributaries, small streams, and the Walla Walla River Basin wide	
1.09	Protect and improve fish passage at Nursery Bridge and implement levee setback projects upstream and downstream of Milton Freewater	
1.12	Improve flow and timing of fish passage through the Hofer Dam fishway	
1.19	Improve fish passage at Gose Street long term	
1.23	Improve fish passage at Bennington Diversion Dam	
1.1	Develop an overarching monitoring strategy and adaptive management plan for fish, habitat, and water to inform actions and evaluate effectiveness	Monitoring and Metering
1.15	Expand and fund streamflow gages throughout the Basin	
1.2	Improve agricultural irrigation water use metering and reporting programs in WA and OR by installing telemetry and improving data use by agencies and water users	Water Policy and Management
1.11	Address legal implications of Bi-State surface water management and protection of instream flow across the state border and protection of instream flow within States	
1.14	Improve coordination and response to drought management Basin-wide	
1.16	Increase coordination and enforcement of floodplain and riparian regulations and management between Counties and State water management entities	
1.21	Additional Bi-State coordination on groundwater regulation	
1.02	Support the ongoing analyses of the Bi-State Flow Study and work toward a recommendation on implementation of the preferred alternative	Streamflows, Groundwater and Water Supply
1.03	Direct additional winter flow down the Little Walla Walla River to support alluvial aquifer recharge and stream function	
1.08	Decrease surface water diversions or substitute for basalt wells during low flow periods	
1.04	Water rights acquisitions (short-term, long-term, and split season) to restore streamflows	
1.05	Improve and expand managed aquifer recharge (MAR)	
1.13	Expand and support Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) to maintain groundwater quality and capacity	
1.17	Increase infiltration of stormwater rather than discharge to surface water bodies and improve coordination and management	Water Quality
1.18	Upgrade Dayton wastewater treatment plant to meet Ecology requirements and watershed community environmental goals	
1.22	Implement conservation tillage and soil erosion BMPs to decrease nonpoint source pollution	

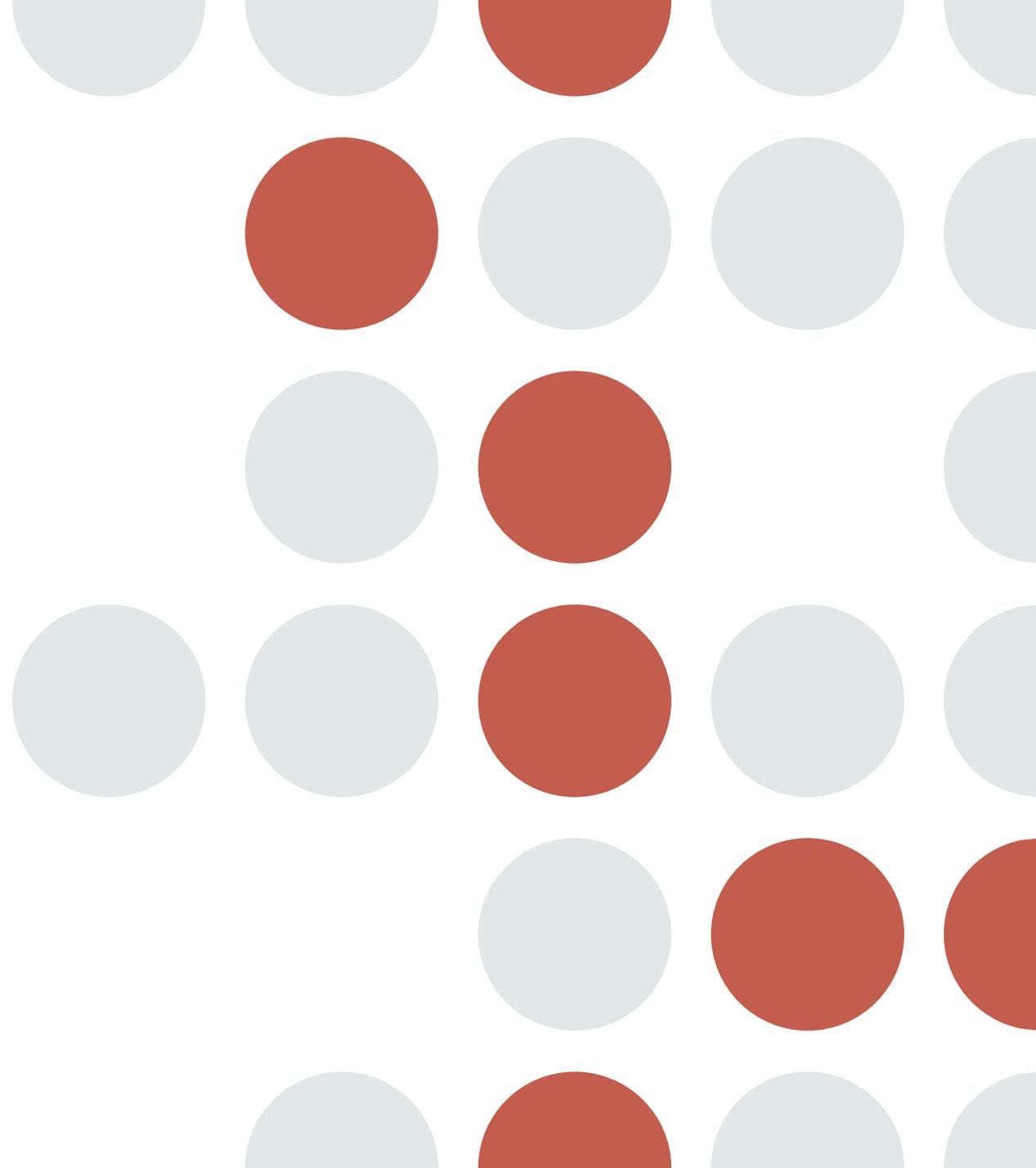
Updates



Updates

- US Bureau of Reclamation: WaterSmart Basin Study application
 - USGS Groundwater Surface Water Study
 - Bi-State Flow Study
 - Tri-Sovereign MOU
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Public Comment



Closing

- **Action Items**

- Complete Doodle Poll to schedule future meetings:

https://doodle.com/poll/yuw6zeyarimdhvh?utm_source=poll&utm_medium=link

- Stay tuned for more info on the first Implementation WG! Email Caroline Burney at caroline@cascadiaconsulting.com to be added to the calendar invitation!
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