



**Chewaucan Basin & Lake Abert Meeting #3**  
**June 26, 2023 via Zoom**

Participants present: Jimmy Leal, Theo Dreher, Justin Ferrell, Anton Chiono, Autumn Muir, Barry Shullenberger, Cole Hendrickson, Colleen Withers, Ed Contreras, Johnathan Van Roekel, Patrick Flanagan, Lisa Brown, Marc Hudson, Marty St Clair, Ryan Houston, Sara Slater, Tammy Barnes, Tess Baker, Teresa Wicks, Tory White, Harmony Burright, Jake Johnstone, Alta Harris, Philip Milburn

Oregon State University Team Members present: Henry Pitts, Hannah Steele

Oregon Consensus Facilitation Team present: Jennah Kiefer, Bobby Cochran

Action Item	Who	Date
Submit suggested edits on the Meeting #2 Notes	All	COB, 6/29
Develop a recommended Work Plan for the next 2 years	Planning Team	Starting 7/6
Submit suggested edits, questions, or concerns on the draft Charter	All	COB, 6/29
Review results from the survey and make recommendations on the group name	Planning Team	Post 7/6 Meeting

***Welcome and Introductions***

Facilitator, Bobby Cochran, opened the introductions, and everyone stated their name and affiliation. Participants were encouraged to share an animal they related to in the chat as an icebreaker. New members joined: Jimmy Leal (US Forest Service), Marc Hudson (Oregon Agricultural Trust), Alta Harris (Klamath Tribes).

***What Next?***

HB 2010, the drought package passed both chambers and is waiting for the Governor’s signature. The agency budget bills passed, which also include important investments that will have an impact on this work.

The group was asked if they were in support of the core planning team recommending a work plan for the next two years, which the general consensus of those attending was yes. There was clarification that Harmony had been



participating in Planning Team calls during the legislative process, was not a formal part of the planning team, but her engagement has been really helpful.

### ***Finalize Boundaries for Joint Fact-Finding***

The group reviewed the overarching joint fact finding process and initial deliverables (database and summaries) OSU will launch a subgroup in mid July. If anyone else is interested in joining, reach out to anyone on the OSU team.

Question: If we had to focus the joint fact-finding process on a few questions in the next 6 months, identify which will be most important to address in this collaborative process?

The group had identified [key questions](#) during the June 12-14 meeting. The group identified some additional questions to those including:

“What timing is needed around water flows into Lake Abert?”

“What is the long-term hydrological cycle of the lake over long-periods of time?”

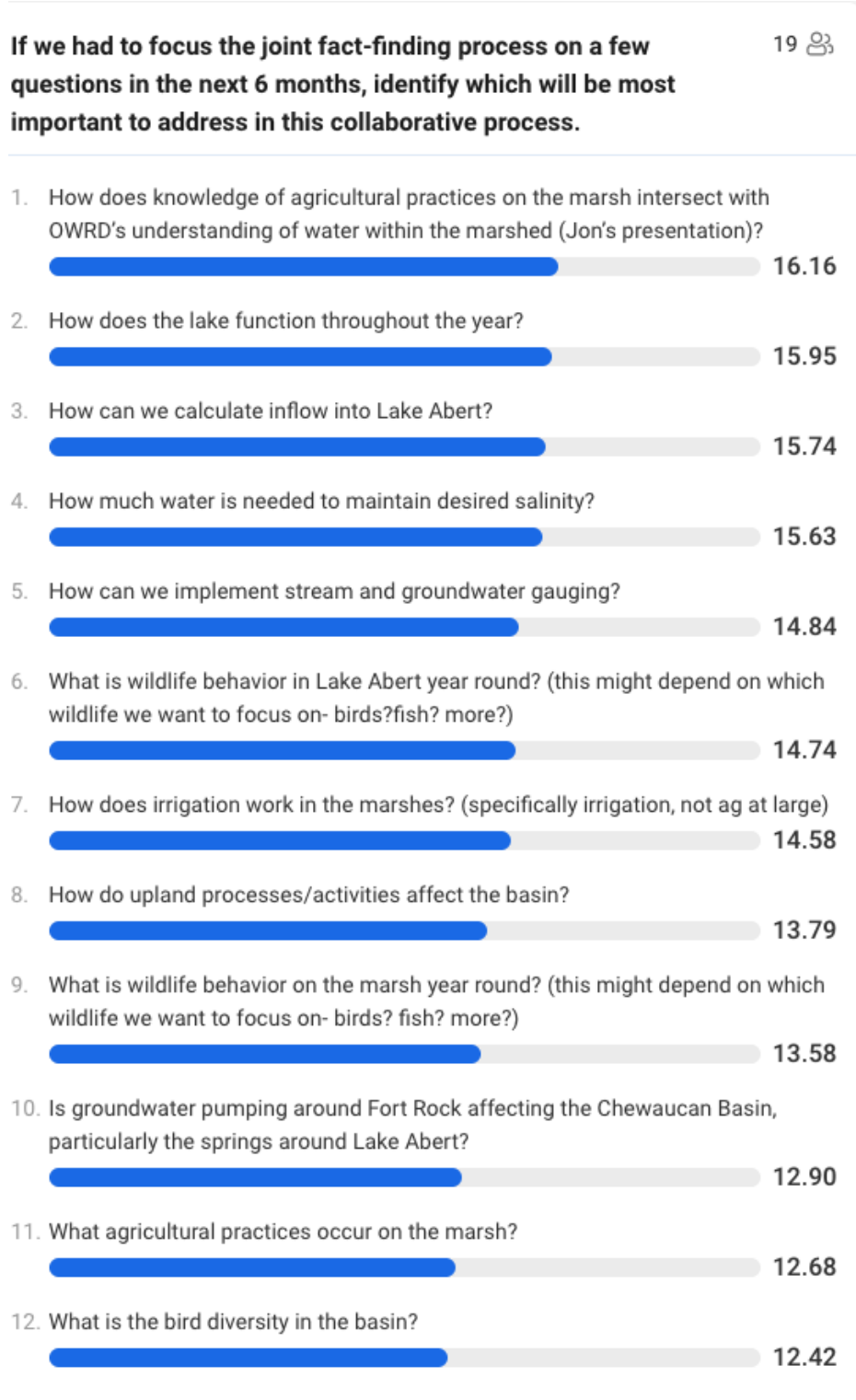
“How migratory species which use the lake interact with other regional water sources during flush/drought cycles in the lake?”

“What is the optimal salinity in Lake Abert for food production - what water level most often accomplishes that stability?”

“What are the economic make/break decision points for producers when making irrigation decisions?”

The group was asked first to rank order the questions from their top to lowest priority. Results of that online ranking from the meeting are in Figure 1 below.

Figure 1. Online ranking results for key questions for joint fact finding





The group then broke into small groups to repeat the exercise in conversation with others, grouping questions into: “high priority/near term”, “medium priority/longer term”, “nice to have”, and “no thanks”. Those results are summarized in ...

The small groups took a little time to report out themes, including:

- Importance of fundamental, foundational data - building a water budget (inputs and outputs, supply and demand quantification). Stream gauging. Better understanding irrigation practices and use.
- Important for the group to have a clear understanding of what is acceptable data, and if there are differences of opinions, how to go about discussing that.
- It's good to know what you need to know - Economic breakpoint decisions for producers. Need to know more about the birds that use the lake and marsh.
- Decision-making and data clarification: is there evidence based science to help resolve differences of opinions.
- Start with the uplands (fire history and forest health).
- OWRD's estimates and ag practices on the ground - identify discrepancies.

### ***Review Current Working Draft of Charter (version 0.9)***

Jannah asked the group to review Version 0.9 of the draft charter, and provide feedback by COB Thursday to have a current working document, but if adjustments are needed, no rush to finish that off.

### ***Next Steps and Adjourn***

Stand by for a scheduling request for future meetings of this group after the Planning Team convenes on July 6. The July 6 Planning Team agenda includes:

- Recommending a process plan and schedule for the next two years;
- Recommending a name for the collaborative effort

Meeting was adjourned.