

## Ground Water Management Tools

Management Tool	What It Does	Strengths and Limitations	Applied Where?
<b>Withdrawal of Unappropriated waters</b> ORS 536.410 OAR 690, Div 80	By order of the WRC, unappropriated waters are withdrawn from further development. Uses subject to withdrawal may include exempt uses.	Prevents future development of the resource. Does not affect existing rights. Prevents a problem from getting worse but does not correct a problem.	Pomona and Priest Rapids aquifers in the Mosier area of Hood River County  Columbia River Basalt aquifer in the Victor Point area, Marion County
<b>Classification of Water</b> ORS 536.340 OAR 690, Div 500-520	Through rulemaking, designates the purposes for which unallocated water may be developed in a basin. May be used to restrict exempt uses, though requires extraordinary review measures.	Can be used to stabilize demand, but does not affect existing rights at the time of adoption.	Ground Water Limited areas in Willamette Valley.  Fort Rock, Lake County.  Ella Butte, Morrow and Gilliam counties
<b>Serious Water Management Problem Areas</b> ORS 540.435 OAR 690, Div 85	The Commission can require, by rule, the installation of measuring devices and submittal of annual reports.	Does not resolve water supply problems, but can provide technical data needed to support subsequent management actions.	Not used to date. Proposed once for the Umatilla basin; affected water users in the basin developed their own acceptable water management plan.
<b>Regulation for Substantial Interference</b> OAR 537.775, 537.777, 537.780 OAR 690, Div 08, Div 09	The Commission may order the discontinuance of the use of a well or impose conditions upon the use, as necessary to remedy the defect or order permanent abandonment of the well.	Useful for addressing specific instances of substantial interference, both well-to-well or well to surface water interference; less effective when addressing larger-scale issues.	Regulation of junior rights to the benefit a senior right has been done numerous times across the state.
<b>Critical Ground Water Area Designation</b> ORS 537.730 to 537.742	A two-step process of rulemaking followed by contested case hearings that designates a boundary and specifies how much water may be appropriated within the area.	Because it applies to existing users it serves as a corrective tool. It can redistribute and reduce ground water use. Disruptive to local and individual economies. Very process intensive.	Six existing CGWAs: four in Umatilla and Morrow counties, one in Hood River County and one in Washington County.