

# Material Source Program Purpose Statement

**Purpose Statement: To proactively manage all earthen materials needed for and/or generated by ODOT construction and maintenance activities, while looking within and beyond specific project and Region boundaries. The objective of this program is to identify and meet ODOT's material source and disposal needs through site identification, planning and protection and through salvage and utilization of excess or waste materials from one project to another.**

The program focuses on coordination with Region project development, construction, maintenance, hazardous materials and geology staff as well as similar personnel in adjacent Regions to identify and meet current and anticipated future material source and disposal site needs. Program implementation further requires coordination and communication with other agencies such as the Oregon Department of Forestry, Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, city and county governments and other state agencies as well as private land owners to identify additional sources of materials, alternative uses for excess material, disposal sites and areas to temporarily stockpile materials for future use.

In addition to managing ODOT owned and controlled material sources, the material source program requires management of alternative potential sources of material and material management. The alternatives include but are not limited to ditch cleanings, slide and rockfall debris and construction-generated excess material such as pavement grindings, recycled concrete, and clean soil and rock. Even the use or reuse of contaminated material may have value in certain situations. Excess or waste material from one project can be usable and beneficial on another project if managed properly, thus generating a cost savings for the Region and ODOT. Material management may include discussion related to project let dates, project schedules, combining projects and staged construction to allow for better utilization of available material and material sources.

It is the purpose of the Statewide and Region Material Source Programs to manage and maintain the availability of all earthen materials that are potentially useable for construction and maintenance purposes in a manner that reduces the overall cost of doing business. This requires working with all of the various disciplines within ODOT to identify, clear, develop, and permit and protect material sources and disposal sites in the ODOT network of strategic sources. Further, proactive participation as a cooperator in land use planning efforts led by other government agencies is essential to create an awareness of the importance of existing and potential material sources to these decision makers.

This Material Source program needs to be managed with some care and sensitivity. Material sources, disposal and stockpile areas are often unwelcome neighbors. Over the years, many Oregonians have vocalized their "Not In My Backyard" viewpoint with or without having any substantive concerns. In addition, there are many concerns related to source use from other agencies, associations and environmental groups, stemming from potential noise, dust, visual impact, effect on wildlife or vegetation, impacts to surface and subsurface waters, and from private aggregate operators related to perceived infringement on the aggregate market. All of these concerns need to be tactfully managed and dealt with, not necessarily mitigated, to have a successful program.

Initial opening of new or renewed development of existing sites can be an expensive and time consuming process. Cost for surveys, environmental clearances and permitting of sites can dissuade ODOT decision makers from supporting the acquisition and / or development of sites. Those decision makers may need to be reminded that although the short term cost and time investments may seem high, the benefits will far outweigh the initial cost over the life of the site. The costs to ODOT may exceed the benefits on the initial operation, but over the course of several operations, the initial cost will be returned in savings.