

## Preclearance activity keeps steady pace in 2008

Truckers traveling in Oregon saved an estimated 123,400 hours of travel time and \$14.5 million in fuel, wear and tear, and other operating costs as they got the go ahead to bypass weigh stations 1,481,278 times in 2008. Preclearance activity was up in the 2nd and 3rd quarters, but down slightly in the 1st and 4th quarters when winter weather impeded freight movement. A total of 21 Green Light systems were operational throughout 2008.

Green Light uses weigh-in-motion scales and transponder readers to screen trucks as they approach a weigh station. It increases a station's capacity without physically expanding the facility, providing efficiencies for state regulators. But the trucking industry enjoys real benefits because operating a heavy truck is estimated to cost \$1.96 per minute and stopping at a weigh station can take five minutes. On that basis, truckers saved 885,000 hours of travel time and \$104 million in operating costs in the past ten years as they cleared Oregon weigh stations over 10.6 million times.

Besides those savings, emission testing by Oregon DEQ confirms that trucks are far less polluting and far more fuel efficient when they use Green Light to avoid stopping at weigh stations. Tests found a 36% to 67% reduction in pollutants – particulate matter, carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, and hydrocarbons – when trucks stayed at highway speed past a weigh station. Trucks that avoided decelerating to enter a station and then accelerating to exit also experienced a 57% improvement in fuel economy.

Oregon started keeping track of green lights in January 1999 when it had four weigh stations preclearing an average of 51 trucks a day. In 2008, the 21 stations with Green Light precleared an average of 4,050 trucks a day. The program precleared its 10-millionth truck in July 2008.

Green Light uses the same technology used in weigh station preclearance systems all around the country. Green Light transponders can be used in any other state. Truckers just need to enroll with the state and agree to the terms and conditions of its system.

A total of 4,330 trucking companies now participate in Green Light and they have transponders in 41,000 trucks. The Oregon DOT is distributing transponders at no cost to companies with trucks that regularly stop at Green Light weigh stations. For more information, contact the Motor Carrier Division at 503-378-6054.



## Green Light Weigh Stations

### Site

#### Interstate 5

Woodburn Port of Entry, Southbound  
Woodburn Weigh Station, Northbound  
Ashland Port of Entry, Northbound  
Ashland Weigh Station, Southbound  
Booth Ranch Weigh Station, Northbound

#### Interstate 82

Umatilla Port of Entry, Southbound

#### Interstate 84

Farewell Bend Port of Entry, Westbound  
Olds Ferry Weigh Station, Eastbound  
La Grande Weigh Station, Eastbound  
Emigrant Hill Weigh Station, Westbound  
Cascade Locks Port of Entry, Eastbound  
Wyeth Weigh Station, Westbound

#### US Highway 97

Juniper Butte Weigh Station, Northbound  
Juniper Butte Weigh Station, Southbound  
Bend Weigh Station, Northbound  
Klamath Falls Port of Entry, Northbound  
Klamath Falls Weigh Station, Southbound

#### OR Highway 58

Lowell Weigh Station, Westbound

#### US Highway 26

Brightwood Weigh Station, Westbound  
Brightwood Weigh Station, Eastbound

#### US Highway 30

Rocky Point Weigh Station, Westbound