

**OREGON PLAN FOR SALMON AND WATERSHEDS
CHARTER AGREEMENT FOR REGIONAL TEAM COORDINATION
OF AGENCY FIELD OPERATIONS**

October 16, 2002

I. BACKGROUND

The Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds (OPSW), ORS 541-351 to 541.420, includes many measures for which interagency coordination, collaboration, support and sharing of information and data facilitate implementation.

Successful implementation of the OPSW measures is to a great degree dependent upon partnerships between state agencies and stakeholders in specific subbasins and watersheds. Executive Order 99-01 signed by Governor Kitzhaber recognizes the need to streamline and prioritize state agency field efforts and to focus on field activities and areas of highest priority under the OPSW.

II. PURPOSE

Agencies affiliated with this Charter are committed to partnerships among state agencies and between state agencies and regional stakeholders to achieve the goals of the OPSW.

Regional Teams of state OPSW agencies are intended to complement the work of the OPSW teams that are Salem or "headquarters" based (Implementation, Outreach, Monitoring, Core) by providing a direct link between OPSW policy development and implementation in the field.

The seven primary agencies with "core" OPSW responsibilities are the Departments of Agriculture (ODA), Forestry (ODF), Environmental Quality (DEQ), Water Resources (WRD), Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), the Division of State Lands (DSL), and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB). These agencies provide the foundation for the Regional Teams. Other Oregon agencies with responsibilities related to the OPSW are included in the Charter and are expected to support and participate in the Regional Teams as resources allow and as necessary for each Team to effectively respond to the OPSW issues in the region.

III. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Agencies commit to the following guiding principles in support of regional cooperation and problem solving:

- A. Active partnership among all participants
- B. Place-based or geographic orientation to problem solving
- C. Interagency coordination on a watershed basis

- D. Orientation of program efforts to achieve measurable outcomes
- E. Coordination and communication vertically within agencies, and horizontally between agencies and other OPSW entities
- F. Support for staff and managers to make decisions and solve problems at the field or lowest levels in each agency
- G. Support for the OPSW programs and policies of other state agencies

IV. AGENCY AGREEMENTS

Agencies agree to form and participate in “Regional Teams.” Teams will be composed primarily of regional state agency line managers, and staff as deemed appropriate in each region. Each team is encouraged to include local, federal, and tribal partners as much as is feasible and as issues warrant.

Teams will be organized to correspond, at a minimum, to each of the five regions established by OWEB. As resources allow, more teams may be formed.

The agencies agree to share information about OPSW actions and to capture opportunities for collaboration and coordination. The Regional Teams will coordinate resources to provide watershed councils, soil and water conservation districts (SWCDs) and other partners with technical support.

Regional Teams may serve as the coordination point for review and prioritization of OWEB grant proposals.

Regional Teams will develop and implement tactics that can improve and implement OPSW measures and actions. Such tactics may include new or enhanced partnerships, technology transfer, data and information sharing.

With assistance from the Core Team and OWEB, Regional Teams will facilitate development of regional objectives and will assist watershed councils, SWCDs, and other partners to develop strategies required to further the objectives. Regional objectives should be consistent with the OPSW statewide goals and objectives while providing for “neighborhood” solutions.

The Core Team will provide a liaison to the Regional Teams and will assist the teams in setting priorities for implementing the OPSW and assisting regional stakeholders.

The agencies agree to use the Regional Teams as a primary means of resolving operational issues when implementing the OPSW. If Regional Teams cannot resolve an issue, the team will agree to present the issue to one of the following forums:

- Normal agency channels
- The Core or Implementation Team
- Regional Community Solutions Team, if appropriate

V. REGIONAL TEAM WORK PLANS

Each Regional Team will develop a biennial work plan identifying key objectives, priorities, and collaborative actions to support implementation of the OPSW.

The Implementation Team and the Core Team for the OPSW will review regional work plans for consistency with statewide goals of the OPSW.

VI. DURATION OF CHARTER

This Charter will remain in effect unless it is replaced by another Charter or is terminated either by mutual consent of the listed agencies, or by the Governor's Office.

VII. EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS

Within budgetary constraints, agencies will place sufficient resources in the field to support Regional Teams and regional implementation of the OPSW. However, nothing in this Charter shall be construed as obligating any listed agency to expend funds or involve any listed agency in any contract or other obligation for the future payment of money in excess of appropriations authorized by law and administratively available for this work.

Governor's Office	Date
Director, Department of Agriculture	Date
Director, Department of Forestry	Date
Director, Department of Environmental Quality	Date
Director, Department of Fish and Wildlife	Date
Director, Water Resources Department	Date
Director, Division of State Lands	Date
Director, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board	Date
Director, Fish & Wildlife Division, State Police	Date
Director, Department of Transportation	Date
Director, Department of Land Conservation & Development	Date
Director, Department of Geology & Mineral Industries	Date
Director, Parks & Recreation Department	Date
Director, State Marine Board	Date
Director, Economic & Community Development Department	Date
Dean & Director, Oregon State University Extension	Date

