



Regional Solutions Participation Plan for the Department of Fish and Wildlife June 2014

Agency Background

The mission of the Department of Fish and Wildlife is to protect and enhance Oregon's fish and wildlife and their habitats for use and enjoyment by present and future generations.

The Department of Fish and Wildlife is headquartered in Salem. The agency field programs are administered through two resource divisions (Fish and Wildlife), two regions (East and West) and nine watershed districts. (five West and four East). The Department operates over 90 facilities across the state including 33 fish hatcheries and 16 wildlife areas.

The Department's statutory authority is focused primarily on managing the take of fish and wildlife through hunting and fishing regulations. The Department has no regulatory authority over activities that impact fish and wildlife habitat. In most cases, agencies that have such regulatory authority are required (statutorily or administratively) to consult with the Department regarding potential impacts to fish and wildlife.

The Department is funded by revenues from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses, federal contract and grant funds, and a small component of state general and lottery funds.

Regional Solutions Participation Plan

House Bill 4015 (2014 Session) requires specified natural resource agencies, including the Department of Fish and Wildlife, to submit a plan to the Governor's Office by July 1, 2014 describing each agency's plan for participating in Regional Solutions Teams. In a memorandum dated March 24, 2014, Regional Solutions Director Annette Liebe outlined the three-part content for those plans. The Department offers the following plan in response.

- 1) *Review the regional priorities and identify programs/projects that the agency is already involved in related to the regional priorities (by region).*
 - a. *Identify other state agencies involved in these programs/projects. If additional state, local or federal agencies are involved, how is interagency coordination and integration currently achieved?*
 - b. *Are additional resources (funding or staffing) needed in order to make these programs/projects successful? If so, what is the need?*

Attachment 1 is a table summarizing projects and programs that the Department is already involved in related to the currently established regional programs and priorities.

These projects and programs are a "snapshot" in time. It is expected that the Department will be engaged in new activities with the Regional Solutions Teams in the future. The Department is prepared to mobilize the resources necessary to meet our obligations to the Regional Solutions Teams and will be assigning each of our nine watershed managers to participate in their local RST. Regarding additional agency resources needed to make these programs and projects successful, the Department would require new staffing resources if it were determined that placing Department staff in the Regional Solutions Centers was warranted. In that case, the Department would seek Regional Solutions support for up to five new

positions to be housed in the Centers. The Department will not be seeking these positions for the 2015-2017 Legislative Session and instead is seeking state general fund support for our watershed managers and district fish and wildlife biologists so that they may participate in their respective RST (these positions are currently funded entirely with fishing and hunting license revenue).

Additionally, ODFW is working with the Department of State Lands (DSL) to improve coordination and efficiently manage trust resources for the state, consistent with each agency's statutory obligations. Currently, we are revising our Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to establish a more consistent and transparent framework for engagement between staff to conserve, restore and protect waters of the state and the ecosystem services and public trust values they provide. Constructive and early engagement between DSL and ODFW will provide a more timely regulatory process for applicants and more opportunity for ODFW and DSL staff to foster collaboration and provide guidance to applicants. The revised MOA will be completed by the end of 2014 and will include more detail on staff expectations regarding review and processing of DSL permits, an improved process for staff coordinating in-water work window variance requests, and outline the process for updating Essential Salmonid Habitat mapping.

2) *Identify grant and loan programs administered by your agency and their purpose.*

- a. *Describe if/how current decision making processes/scoring criteria support consideration of regional priorities.*
- b. *Identify needed changes to scoring criteria in order to support regional priority projects (are these changes in statute or rule?)*

The Department does not administer any loan programs.

The Department has several small grant programs.

The Access and Habitat program provides grants to private landowners to improve hunting access and/or wildlife habitat on their property. This program is funded through the sale of hunting licenses and is set in statute. Approximately \$1.5 million is available annually with no maximum grant limit or match requirements. Typical single grants are less than \$100,000.

The Game Bird program provides grants to landowners, agencies, and conservation organizations to improve game bird and waterfowl habitat. This program is funded through the sale of game bird and waterfowl stamps. Approximately \$200,000 is available annually with no maximum grant limit or match requirements. Typical single grants are less than \$25,000.

The Restoration and Enhancement program provides grants to restore and enhance fisheries in Oregon. This program is funded through the sale of fishing licenses and is set in statute. Approximately \$2.4 million is available annually with no maximum grant limit or match requirements. Typical single grants are less than \$100,000. Only public or private non-profit entities are eligible for grant funds.

The USFWS Sport Fish Restoration Boating Access program is administered by the Department in cooperation with the Oregon State Marine Board and provides grants to develop and improve boat ramps and boating access. This program is federally funded through excise taxes on fishing tackle and marine fuel sales. The requirements are published in the Code of Federal Regulations. Approximately \$150,000 is available annually with no maximum grant limit and a 25% match requirement. Grants for acquisition of real property require that the state hold fee title.

The USFWS Pitman-Robertson Section 10 funded shooting range grant program is administered by the Department and provides grants to develop and improve shooting ranges. Eligibility is limited only to non-profit entities that provide shooting access for the general public. The requirements are published in the Code of Federal Regulations.

Approximately \$100,000 is available annually with no maximum grant limit. Requires a 50/50 match component and the typical single grant is \$10,000.

The Fish Passage and Screens program provides grant funding to water users to address fish passage and screening at water diversions. The program is funded through the sale of fishing licenses and lottery funds and is set in statute. The program has a 60/40 state/recipient match requirement and is available to agricultural, municipal, and commercial water users. Approximately \$850,000 is available annually with a \$75,000 maximum single grant limit. Typical single grants are less than \$35,000.

3) Identify staff that will participate in Regional Solutions Teams to coordinate outreach, permitting, approval, grant, loan and planning functions within your agency.

As referenced earlier, we implement programs at the regional level through nine watershed districts. Each of our nine watershed district managers will be assigned to participate in the Regional Solutions Team that is geographically consistent with their area. In the event of overlapping areas, we will assign a single watershed manager to be the agency representative. The watershed managers have the ability to bring in appropriate field staff on an issue specific basis. Additionally, the watershed manager will engage the appropriate division staff for issues relating to the Columbia River, Pacific Ocean, or of statewide significance. Our nine watershed managers are as follows:

North Coast – Shannon Hurn

North Willamette – Jeff Boechler

South Willamette – Steve Marx

Umpqua/Coos/Coquille – Tim Walters

Rogue/South Coast – Russ Stauff

Deschutes – Bob Hooton

Malheur/Klamath – Chip Dale

Grande Ronde – Nick Myatt

John Day/Umatilla – Kevin Blakely

Attachment 1: Department of Fish and Wildlife Projects and Programs Related to RST-Established Regional Priorities

ODFW Project Engagement	Associated Regional Priority	Other Agencies Involved	How is Inter-Agency Coordination Achieved?
North Coast Region (Clatsop, Tillamook, Columbia Counties)			
1. Tillamook flooding – southern flow corridor project: consulting on fish and wildlife impacts/benefits/mitigation	Providing support for Oregon Solutions projects	ODOT, DLCD, DSL, OEM, County, Port Tillamook Bay, OR Solutions project team	Oregon Solutions Project Team
2. Botts Marsh interpretive center/terminus for rails & trails project. Salmonberry Creek rails to trails project.	Expand region’s economic base while being responsible stewards of natural resources	OPRD, ODOT, DEQ, DLCD, OBDD, DSL, Tillamook County, City Wheeler, Tillamook Estuary Partnership	OPRD with coordination assistance by Regional Solutions Team
3. Clatsop Plains sub-area planning effort: consulting on fish and wildlife impacts/benefits/mitigation	Working with rural communities to plan, coordinate, fund and install needed infrastructure	DLCD, ODOT, DEQ, WRD, IFA, DSL, OR Military, Clatsop Community College, Warrenton, Gearhart, Clatsop Co.	Via Clatsop County Community Devt. Dept. with coordination assistance by Regional Solutions Team
4. North Coast Business Park: consulting on fish and wildlife impacts/benefits	Readiness for industry; Job creation	OBDD, DEQ, DLCD, DSL, Clatsop County	Via Regional Solutions Team
5. Coastal dredging: technical assistance and regulatory streamlining; consulting on fish and wildlife impacts/benefits/mitigation	Sustain and grow NW Oregon’s businesses	OBDD, IFA, DEQ, DLCD, ODOT, DSL, Ports	Via SW Regional Solutions Team
6. Re-certify McNulty Industrial Park: consulting on fish and wildlife impacts/benefits/mitigation	Readiness for industry	OBDD, IFA, DEQ, ODOT, SHPO, DSL, Port St. Helens, Columbia Co.	Business Oregon (Sierra Gardiner) coordinates agencies involvement
Mid-Valley Region (Marion, Polk, Yamhill Counties)			
1. Aquaculture industry expansion project – in development	Promote regional workforce development; Increase business capital for existing and emerging businesses	Ag, DSL, DEQ	Via Dept. of Agriculture working group (Jerry Gardner)
2. Industrial Site Certification: consulting on fish and wildlife impacts/benefits/mitigation	Promote regional workforce development	OBDD, DEQ, ODOT, IFA, SHPO, DSL	Business Oregon (Sierra Gardiner) coordinates agencies involvement
South Valley Region (Benton, Linn, Lane, Lincoln Counties)			
1. Linn & Benton Counties Industrial Lands Regulatory Streamlining Project: creating new regulatory framework for 19 industrial sites in 2 counties	Increase number certified industrial sites; Explore wetlands permit streamlining	DEQ, DSL, OBDD, SHPO Cascade West Council of Governments and 6 cities, USACE, NMFS, USFWS, EPA	Cascade West Council of Governments (project sponsor) coordinates agencies involvement.

ODFW Project Engagement	Associated Regional Priority	Other Agencies Involved	How is Inter-Agency Coordination Achieved?
2. Industrial Site Certification: consulting on fish and wildlife impacts/benefits/mitigation	Increase number certified industrial sites	OBDD, DEQ, ODOT, IFA, SHPO, DSL	Business Oregon (Sierra Gardiner) coordinates agencies involvement
South Coast/Umpqua Region (Coos, Curry, Douglas Counties)			
1. Small Ports Dredging Project: technical assistance and regulatory streamlining, consulting on fish and wildlife impacts/benefits/mitigation	Regulatory streamlining and technical assistance; Enhance marine infrastructure	DEQ, DSL, DLCD, OBDD, IFA, USACE, NMFS, EPA, Port districts	Via Regional Solutions Team
2. Industrial Site Certification: consulting on fish and wildlife impacts/benefits/mitigation	Business retention, expansion and creation; Regulatory technical assistance	OBDD, DEQ, ODOT, IFA, SHPO, DSL	Business Oregon (Sierra Gardiner) coordinates agencies involvement
Southern Region (Jackson, Josephine Counties)			
1. Gold Hill Kayak Whitewater Park Project: consulting on fish and wildlife impacts/benefits/mitigation	Business retention, expansion, creation and recruitment	DEQ, DLCD, OPRD, DSL, OBDD, OSMB, USACE, NMFS	Via Regional Solutions Team
2. Industrial Site Certification: consulting on fish and wildlife impacts/benefits/mitigation	Business retention, expansion, creation and recruitment	OBDD, DEQ, ODOT, IFA, SHPO, DSL	Business Oregon (Sierra Gardiner) coordinates agencies involvement
3. Active forest management on O&C lands: consult of fish and wildlife impacts and benefits	Active forest management on federal lands	ODF, USFWS, BLM	
Metro Region (Multnomah, Washington, Clackamas Counties)			
1. Metro Area Industrial Lands Readiness Initiative: consulting on fish and wildlife impacts/benefits/mitigation	Regulatory coordination, streamlining; Economic development; Redevelopment; Regional planning and development	ODOT, DEQ, DLCD, OBDD, OWRD, DSL, Port of Portland, City of Troutdale	Via Regional Solutions Team
2. Port of Portland Industrial Sites Permitting: consulting on fish and wildlife impacts/benefits/mitigation	Regulatory coordination, streamlining; Economic development; Redevelopment;	ODOT, DEQ, DLCD, OBDD, OWRD, DSL, Port of Portland, City of Troutdale	Via Regional Solutions Team and Port of Portland
3. Industrial Site Certification: consulting on fish and wildlife impacts/benefits/mitigation	Regulatory coordination, streamlining; Economic development; Redevelopment	OBDD, DEQ, ODOT, IFA, SHPO, DSL	Business Oregon (Sierra Gardiner) coordinates agencies involvement
North Central Region (Wasco, Hood River, Sherman Counties)			
1. The Dalles Industrial Lands Regional Permitting Project and NW Aluminum Redevelopment, The Dalles: consulting on fish and wildlife impacts/benefits/mitigation	Availability of Industrial Land; Regulatory integration/ streamlining	OBDD, IFA, DSL, SHPO, DEQ, USACE, NMFS, EPA, USFWS	Port of The Dalles with assistance by Regional Solutions Team
2. Cascade Locks Sail Park Project: consulting on fish and wildlife impacts/benefits/mitigation	Regulatory integration/ streamlining	DSL, SHPO, DEQ, USACE, NMFS	Port of Cascade Locks with assistance by Regional Solutions Team

ODFW Project Engagement	Associated Regional Priority	Other Agencies Involved	How is Inter-Agency Coordination Achieved?
3. Industrial Site Certification: consulting on fish and wildlife impacts/benefits/mitigation	Availability of Industrial Land; Regulatory integration/ streamlining	OBDD, DEQ, ODOT, IFA, SHPO, DSL	Business Oregon (Sierra Gardiner) coordinates agencies involvement
Central Region (Jefferson, Crook, Deschutes Counties)			
1. Industrial Site Certification: consulting on fish and wildlife impacts/benefits/mitigation	Ensure region has land and infrastructure available to retain/attract employers	OBDD, DEQ, ODOT, IFA, SHPO, DSL	Business Oregon (Sierra Gardiner) coordinates agencies involvement
South Central Region (Klamath, Lake Counties)			
1. Industrial Site Certification: consulting on fish and wildlife impacts/benefits/mitigation	Availability and marketability of industrial land; Regulatory integration/ streamlining	OBDD, DEQ, ODOT, IFA, SHPO, DSL	Business Oregon (Sierra Gardiner) coordinates agencies involvement
2. Geothermal energy development: consulted on fish and wildlife impacts/benefits/mitigation	Sustainable energy development		
Greater Eastern Oregon Region (Gilliam, Wheeler, Morrow, Umatilla, Grant, Harney, Malheur Counties)			
1. Sage Grouse Project: Multiple party effort (SageCon Partnership) to demonstrate sufficient regulatory certainty to make ESA listing unnecessary in Oregon or across the range in conjunction with similar efforts in other affected States	Avoid/mitigate sage grouse ESA listing	BLM, USFS, USFWS, DLCD, DSL, NRCS, ODF, DSL, TNC, DOW, ONDA, OSU, PSU, OAC, GO, others	Partnership Agreement
2. Silvies Valley Ranch Stream Habitat Restoration: technical assistance, consulting on fish and wildlife impacts/benefits/mitigation	Regulatory technical assistance	DEQ, DSL, EPA, USACE, NMFS	GO with Regional Coordinator (Scott Fairley)
3. Industrial Site Certification: consulting on fish and wildlife impacts/benefits/mitigation	Marketable industrial land	OBDD, DEQ, ODOT, IFA, SHPO, DSL	Business Oregon (Sierra Gardiner) coordinates agencies involvement
4. Grassy Mtn Mine: evaluate fish and wildlife impacts/benefits/mitigation	Mining/metals extraction	DOGAMI, DEQ	
5. Umatilla Forest Collaborative: consult on impacts and benefits to fish and wildlife	Increased productivity from federal forests	ODF, USFS	
Northeast Region (Union, Baker, Wallowa Counties)			
6. Industrial Site Certification: consulting on fish and wildlife impacts/benefits/mitigation	Marketable industrial land	OBDD, DEQ, ODOT, IFA, SHPO, DSL	Business Oregon (Sierra Gardiner) coordinates agencies involvement