



2009-2011 BIENNIAL REPORT

The 2009-2011 Biennial Report describes the ongoing implementation of the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds (Oregon Plan) and lays out recommendations from the OWEB Board for improving implementation of the plan.

The full report at www.oregon.gov/OWEB/biennialreport2011.shtml includes information about each of the 15 Oregon Plan basins (as shown in the map), each element of the plan, online resources and links, and data source information.

WHAT IS THE OREGON PLAN?

The Oregon Plan is an initiative where all Oregonians can join to help restore healthy watersheds that support the economy and quality of life in Oregon. The Oregon Plan combines the natural resources management programs of state and federal agencies and local governments with voluntary restoration by private landowners and others.

Since creation of the plan in 1997, cooperative solutions to address clean water, watershed health, and native salmon populations have been achieved by building partnerships between government agencies, tribes, watershed councils, soil and water conservation districts, nonprofit organizations, landowners, and citizens.



The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) is a state agency that provides grants to help Oregonians take care of local streams, rivers, wetlands, and natural areas.

OWEB grants are funded from the Oregon Lottery, federal dollars, and salmon license plate revenue. The agency is led by a 17-member citizen board drawn from the public at large, tribes, and federal and state natural resource agency boards and commissions.

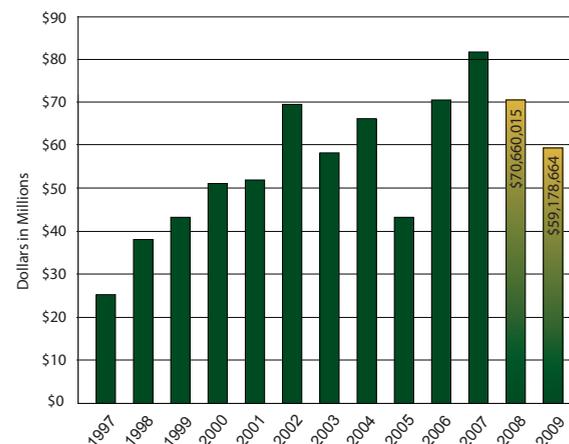
OWEB is also charged with the responsibility to prepare and submit a report to the Governor and Oregon Legislature assessing the implementation and effectiveness of the Oregon Plan by January 15 of each odd numbered year.



REPORTED RESTORATION INVESTMENTS

The amount of funding reported for restoration projects under the Oregon Plan has almost tripled since 1997. In 1997-1998, the total funding for completed and reported restoration projects from state, federal, and other sources was nearly \$48 million. In 2008-2009, total funding was over \$130 million.

Funding for Completed and Reported Restoration by Year, 1997-2009 Adjusted to 2009 Dollars



OREGON PLAN STATUS REPORT

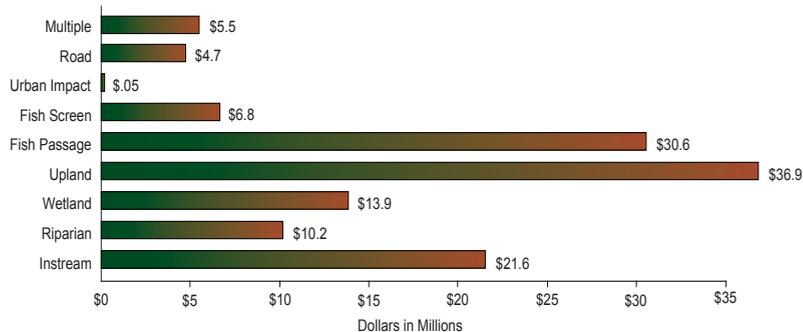
Oregon has been tracking completed restoration work for 15 years through the Oregon Watershed Restoration Inventory (OWRI). Information contained in the Biennial Report includes data from the OWRI, Federal Interagency Restoration Database, and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Fish Screening and Passage Program Database.

- Between 1997 and 2009, the total funding for completed and reported restoration projects from state, federal, private, and other sources exceeded \$646.1 million.
- In 2008 and 2009 alone, the total funding for reported restoration projects was \$130.1 million. The majority of those funds (68%) were provided by federal and state government sources.
- The Watershed Outcomes Summary table below shows the results of voluntary restoration work in Oregon between 1997 and 2009.

Funding for Completed and Reported Restoration by Basin, 2008 and 2009

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Deschutes | \$18.4 million |
| Grande Ronde | \$3.2 million |
| Hood | \$4.3 million |
| John Day | \$6.1 million |
| Klamath | \$27.7 million |
| Lakes Basin | \$8.6 million |
| Lower Columbia | \$4.2 million |
| North Coast | \$10.4 million |
| Owyhee-Malheur | \$5.0 million |
| Powder | \$1.3 million |
| Rogue | \$4.2 million |
| South Coast | \$4.5 million |
| Umatilla | \$4.0 million |
| Umpqua | \$11.3 million |
| Willamette | \$16.8 million |

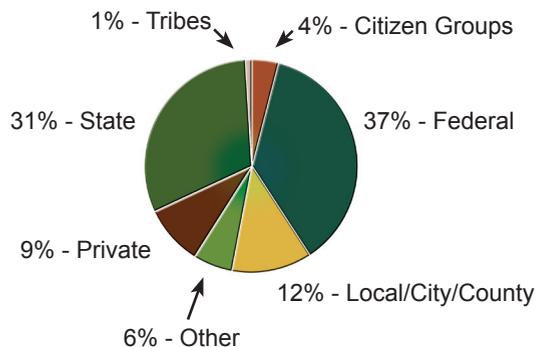
Funding for Completed and Reported Restoration by Activity Type, 2008 and 2009 Based on \$130.1 Million Reported



Watershed Outcomes Summary, 1997-2009

| Year | riparian miles treated | miles of road closures and decommissionings | miles of road improvements with fish screens installed | miles made accessible to stream crossings improved | stream crossings improved | push-up dams retired | miles made accessible to fish due to stream crossings improved |
|-------|------------------------|---|--|--|---------------------------|----------------------|--|
| 1997 | 310 | 138 | 565 | 0 | 179 | 167 | 5 |
| 1998 | 332 | 281 | 769 | 5 | 326 | 507 | 14 |
| 1999 | 317 | 373 | 804 | 2 | 286 | 415 | 8 |
| 2000 | 364 | 323 | 764 | 5 | 250 | 290 | 8 |
| 2001 | 376 | 321 | 633 | 155 | 314 | 346 | 15 |
| 2002 | 406 | 206 | 1396 | 110 | 260 | 402 | 24 |
| 2003 | 551 | 197 | 885 | 113 | 208 | 411 | 6 |
| 2004 | 454 | 133 | 723 | 70 | 199 | 314 | 22 |
| 2005 | 368 | 97 | 836 | 63 | 150 | 308 | 1 |
| 2006 | 537 | 129 | 440 | 95 | 167 | 339 | 5 |
| 2007 | 508 | 282 | 1083 | 80 | 102 | 230 | 14 |
| 2008 | 694 | 42 | 104 | 94 | 172 | 254 | 5 |
| 2009 | 245 | 50 | 61 | 72 | 133 | 167 | 8 |
| Total | 5463 | 2572 | 9064 | 864 | 2746 | 4150 | 135 |

Sources of Funding for Completed and Reported Restoration, 2008 and 2009



OWEB BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

Support and maintain the Oregon Plan infrastructure at both the state and local level to achieve clean water and healthy habitats.

- ☞ Oregon Plan success depends on strong leadership from the Governor, Legislature, and citizens, and the sustained investment in voluntary restoration, state natural resource agency actions, monitoring, and science oversight.
- ☞ Oregon Plan outcomes can be more effectively addressed if natural resources agencies have the staffing and capacity to work together to address joint goals and objectives.
- ☞ Volunteer participation by landowners and citizens in watershed restoration actions is a key value of the Oregon Plan approach; continued funding is needed to support the planning, design, outreach, and implementation of voluntary restoration projects.

Maintain a strong investment in clean water and habitat restoration grants across Oregon.

- ☞ Every \$1 million of public investment in clean water and habitat restoration creates 15-24 total jobs.
- ☞ Watershed council and soil and water conservation district implementation of Oregon Plan projects supports local jobs and services and increases the long-term sustainability of local economies.
- ☞ Oregon Plan projects prepare watersheds for climate change by increasing their resilience and ability to adapt.

OWEB would like to thank all of the individuals and organizations who are involved in Oregon Plan efforts to improve and restore Oregon's watersheds and native fish populations. This report attempts to demonstrate the impact and results of their work.

Improve information accessibility to help Oregonians understand and engage in activities that support healthy watersheds.

- ☞ Success of the Oregon Plan over the long term depends on the informed participation of all Oregonians.
- ☞ Continue efforts to improve the accessibility of data and information for the public and watershed practitioners to demonstrate and ensure the success of watershed and salmon recovery efforts.

Build and maintain strong partnerships with local, state, tribal, and federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private landowners.

- ☞ Oregon should continue and expand efforts to build strategic partnerships with both public and private funders to leverage resources to achieve shared ecological objectives as efficiently and effectively as possible.
- ☞ Diverse funding from state, federal, and private foundation sources is critical to maintain investment in Oregon Plan capacity and watershed restoration efforts.

Support an enduring, high capacity local infrastructure for conducting voluntary conservation.

- ☞ Watershed councils and soil and water conservation districts are the conduit between interested landowners and agencies to address local watershed conditions.
- ☞ Adequate funding is critical for councils and districts to work with interested landowners and agencies to address local watershed conditions under the Oregon Plan.

Agency Actions

Effective actions by government agencies to implement existing regulatory and conservation programs to protect natural resources are essential to improve Oregon's watersheds. State and federal agencies are responsible for conservation investments, clean water, fish and wildlife habitat, and fish production and harvest management.

- ☞ The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and other agencies are coordinating and leading development of conservation and recovery plans for native fish in the Middle Columbia, Lower Columbia, and Upper Willamette River recovery domains.
- ☞ The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) issued clean water plans for the John Day, Wallowa-Imnaha-Lower Grande Ronde, and Malheur basins.
- ☞ The Department of State Lands streamlined regulations by exempting six categories of habitat restoration activity from removal-fill permit requirements.

Voluntary Restoration

Voluntary restoration work completed by landowners under the Oregon Plan, often with the assistance of watershed councils, soil and water conservation districts, local government, or nonprofit organizations, allows Oregon to accomplish significant watershed, fish and wildlife, and clean water results that cannot be achieved by government programs alone.

- ☞ For 2008 and 2009, a total of over 1,000 projects were completed and reported on private land.
- ☞ Through those projects, riparian conditions were improved on nearly 664 miles while road crossing work improved fish access to 244 stream miles.

Monitoring

Monitoring programs and projects allow for the documentation of watershed conditions, track various key environmental attributes over time, evaluate the effectiveness of conservation and restoration efforts, and provide data and information including those used for setting priorities and making informed decisions in the future.

- ☞ The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board funded \$2.4 million in monitoring grants, compiled 10 years of restoration project information, and featured new tools on the agency's web site.
- ☞ DEQ completed a Willamette Basin water quality assessment report, which combined 10 years of data collected through 15 different surveys by municipalities, local groups, agencies, and universities.
- ☞ ODFW maintained its high intensity coastal Coho monitoring program and expanded the work into the Middle Columbia River Recovery Domain, expanded surveys and plans for additional Lower Columbia River monitoring including those important for chum salmon reintroduction, and influenced regional adaptation of Oregon Plan monitoring methods.

Science Oversight

The Independent Multidisciplinary Science Team (IMST) is an impartial scientific review panel charged with advising the State of Oregon on science matters related to the Oregon Plan.

- ☞ During the biennium, the IMST provided independent, scientific analysis and evaluation of state actions and policies, including two recovery plans for ESA-listed salmonids, the Elliott State Forest's draft Habitat Conservation Plan and Environmental Impact Statement, technical considerations in using ecological flows in state waterways, and development of water quality benchmarks for bedded sediments.
- ☞ The IMST also completed its in-depth technical report examining the role of urban and rural-residential areas in overall watershed health and recovery of wild salmonids in Oregon.