



MEMORANDUM

To: Oregon Sustainability Board

From: Zechariah Heck, Statewide Sustainability Officer

Date: May 29, 2026

Subject: June 5, 2026, OSB Meeting

June 5 Meeting Overview

Welcome and Administrative Actions

This agenda item will include introductions of the Oregon Sustainability Board (OSB) members and guests. Board members will also review and approve minutes from the March 20, 2026, meeting.

Agency Presentations: Oregon State Marine Board and Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

The Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) will be represented by director Larry Warren and environmental coordinator Phil Hudspeth. This is OSMB's first time presenting to the OSB. Because OSMB is not listed in Executive Order 03-03, they are not expected to develop a sustainability plan. Meeting materials are attached.

Sara O'Brien, director of the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB), will present the agency's sustainability work. OWEB is a small agency with a low operational footprint, so their presentation focuses on program impacts. That said, their 2025-2027 sustainability plan is attached for reference. The OWEB team asked to share the following links in addition to attached materials with Board members:

- [Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds report](#)
- [Oregon Environmental Restoration Fund](#)
- [Summary of OWEB investments in Oregon counties](#)

Consideration of a Charter for the OSB

Staff will share a draft governance document based on Board members' interest in updating the OSB's responsibilities and role compared to other commissions. The proposed charter describes the OSB's authority, its role in statewide sustainability planning, expectations for governance, and ongoing tasks like writing reports to the legislature. The document is meant to start a discussion about whether the Board should adopt a document like this to better match current priorities.

Work Plan Review

The attached work plan shows the OSB's current priorities, including reducing emissions from fleet vehicles, improving building standards, statewide sustainability planning, and purchasing policies. Active projects include advancing sustainable design guidelines, updating agency sustainability plan guidance, preparing for the September Sustainability Summit, and working on the legislative report due in March 2027. The plan also lists ongoing work such as agency presentations. At the June 5 meeting, Board members will review the plan and note any concerns or updates.

Sustainability Plan Guidelines

Board members will review proposed updates to the Agency Sustainability Plan Guidelines, which would replace [the 2023 version](#). The goal of the update is to make the guidelines shorter and easier for all agencies to use. At the meeting, the Board will review the draft and suggest changes.

Sustainability Summit

This part of the meeting will give an update on planning efforts for the Sustainability Summit. The event is scheduled for September 10 at the Department of Revenue in Salem. Agenda items include presentations, breakout sessions, and panel discussions with other commissions. A draft agenda is attached. This update is meant to brief the Board on planning progress and gather any needed direction.

Attachments:

June 5, 2026, OSB Agenda

March 20, 2026, Meeting Minutes – Draft

OSMB Meeting Materials

OWEB Meeting Materials

OSB Charter – Draft

OSB Work Plan – last updated April 2026

Agency Sustainability Plan Guidelines – Draft Update

Sustainability Summit Agenda – Draft

AGENDA



OFFICE OF
SUSTAINABILITY
Oregon Department of
Administrative Services

Oregon Sustainability Board

DATE: June 5, 2026

TIME: 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION: DAS Executive Building, Fremont Conference Room, 155 Cottage Street NE, Salem, OR 97301.

JOIN VIRTUALLY: [Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 246 614 234 831 11

Passcode: 6BB6bu9o

Dial in by phone: 503-446-4951

Phone conference ID: 312 997 181#

Agenda Items

1. Welcome and Administrative Actions, Board Members, 10-10:15 a.m.
2. Agency presentations, Oregon State Marine Board, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, 10:15-11:30 a.m.
3. Consideration of OSB charter, Board Members, 11:30 a.m.-noon
4. Lunch, noon-1 p.m.
5. Work Plan review, Board Members, 1-1:45 p.m.
6. Sustainability Plan Guidelines, Board Members, 1:45-2:45 p.m.
7. Sustainability Summit, Board Members, 2:45-3:15 p.m.
8. Public Comment, 3:15-3:20 p.m.
9. Wrap-up, All, 3:20-3:30 p.m.

Board Members

Secretary Tobias Read,
Chair Secretary of State

Joshua Proudfoot,
Parametrix

Webly Bowles, New
Buildings Institute

Elin Shepard, Vice Chair
CLEAResult

Chris Enlow,
Futurescapes

Tom Kelly, Neil Kelly
Company (Retired)

Mayor Tanea Browning,
City of Central Point

Cassidy Quistorff,
Environmental and
Whole-Person Health
Coach

Next Meeting

DATE: September 10 (Sustainability Summit) and 11 (Board Meeting), 2026

TIME: TBD

LOCATION: Summit will be at Department of Revenue Conference Space, 955 Center St NE, Salem, OR 97301; Board Meeting will be at DAS Executive Building, Fremont Conference Room, 155 Cottage Street NE, Salem, OR 97301

DRAFT MINUTES

Oregon Sustainability Board

DATE: 03/20/2026

TIME: 9:00 am to 3:30 pm

LOCATION: Hybrid (155 Cottage Street Salem, OR 97301 and via Teams)

ATTENDEES: Board Members: Rex Burkholder, Elin Shephard, Webly Bowles, Josh Proudfoot, Chris Enlow, Mayor Tanea Browning, Cassidy Quistorff, Tom Kelly, Serena Dietrich, Secretary of State Tobias Read (Chair) Staff: Zechariah Heck (Department of Administrative Services - DAS), Steven Markham (DAS), Jeni Hall (DAS), Carol Moreno Cifuentes (Secretary of State Office)

GUESTS: Jessica Poppinga-Fleer (DAS), Sophorn Cheang (Business Oregon), Zak Binshaieg (Business Oregon), Kenechi Afediji (Business Oregon), Michael Held (Business Oregon), Marjorie Waniata (Business Oregon), Mandy Standiford (Public Utility Commission - PUC), Caroline Moore (PUC), Janine Benne (Oregon Department of Energy - ODOE) Edith Bayer (ODOE), Ann Gire (Department of Consumer and Business Services - DCBS), Adam Helvey (DAS), Shannon Ryan (DAS), Candice Bullard (DAS)

Welcome and administrative actions

New member welcome

Chair Read congratulated Cassidy Quistorff on her recent Senate confirmation as the board's newest member. Cassidy shared that while she currently works for a rural hospital, her academic and professional background is in environmental and soil sciences and natural resources, and she actively connects sustainability, built environment, and outdoor/mental-health activities (e.g., bird watching) to community health in rural areas. She expressed enthusiasm about contributing to the board's work.

Approval of previous meeting minutes

The board reviewed draft minutes from the OSB meeting on December 5, 2025. The minutes were approved with a minor title correction (Josh Proudfoot moved approval; Tom Kelly seconded).

Selection of vice-chair

Chair Read then raised the need to designate a Vice Chair, noting his potential absences and desire for continuity. Elin Shepherd expressed willingness to serve; Rex Burkholder formally

nominated Elin, and the motion received a second. With unanimous support, Elin Shepherd was elected Vice Chair.

Conflict of interest (COI) guidance and discussion

Sustainability Officer and Board Administrator Zechariah noted the COI training required for all OSB members and requested the following additional best practices are followed:

- If Board member contacts agency and references being OSB member, include Zechariah in email / give heads-up.
- Board members to declare COI – if present – when agenda is shared.
- Board members intending to propose or have submitted proposal to an agency solicitation – asked to recuse themselves if agency is meeting with the Board during time of solicitation.

Chair Read emphasized distinguishing actual vs. potential conflicts and the “member of a large class” concept. Members asked clarifying questions about contacting agencies while wearing multiple hats; the advice given was to state one’s OSB role transparently but clarify the contact is not on behalf of OSB. Board member Tanea Browning noted Oregon Government Ethics Commission (OGEC) has resources for conflict questions, and suggested financial impact to household members as a guiding test. Chair Read encouraged robust participation even when conflicts are declared (you may still need to vote; provide expertise while observing recusal where appropriate).

Legislative Session Recap

Presenter: Jessica Poppinga-Fleer, DAS Government Relations Director

Jessica provided a summary of the legislative session process and highlights from the recently completed 2025 short session, noting 305 concepts/bills introduced and 153 passed. Approximately 23 bills touched Oregon sustainability topics in some way. The dominant theme was sustainability through housing and real estate/land use, aligning with the Governor’s priority on housing production. Board discussion focused on trends (land use, zoning, building) and coordination with board focus areas (procurement, fleet, building operations). Shannon Ryan, Enterprise Asset Management Division Administrator at DAS, added context on HB 4037—the Governor has directed 19 land-owning agencies to identify under-utilized parcels within UGBs to bring transparently to market with an emphasis on affordable/middle housing; an active cross-agency workgroup is running on a fast track. Members asked for follow-up: Zechariah will review Jessica’s materials and flag issues that materially affect OSB’s work.

Agency presentations

Oregon Public Utility Commission (PUC) — Sustainability Plan Update

Presenter: Mandy Standiford, Chief Operating Officer.

Mandy reaffirmed the PUC’s mission—safe, reliable, high-quality service at just and reasonable rates—and described its funding model (primarily utility assessments) and post-COVID hybrid operations, which have reduced the Salem HQ footprint and lowered resource use through LED lighting, rooftop solar, HVAC upgrades, and recycling programs. She emphasized that the PUC’s most significant sustainability impact comes through regulatory decisions, not internal operations.

Legislative and Executive Direction

Mandy outlined major laws shaping the PUC’s work:

- HB 2021: Clean energy targets and CEP filings; Phase II implementation underway.
- HB 3630: Oregon Energy Strategy; PUC aligning clean electricity and rate planning with ODOE.
- HB 2409: Natural & Working Lands Fund; PUC coordinating electrification and clean-energy roles.

She highlighted 2025 legislation that has a sustainability nexus:

- HB 3179 (Fair Energy Act): Establishes multiyear rate planning to incorporate long-term clean-energy costs.
- SB 688 (Performance-Based Regulation): Allows linking utility earnings to outcomes such as GHG reductions, efficiency, and low-income service—described as a potentially transformative tool.
- Power Act: Addresses load-growth risks for affordability and clean-energy transition.

Staff and consultant capacity building is underway to implement these tools. She also noted three 2025 Governor’s Executive Orders: faster siting for wind/solar, a climate-resilience framework for natural/working lands and required alignment with ODOE’s five energy pathways. PUC and DEQ will also coordinate Clean Fuels revenue use for transportation electrification.

Board Q&A and Guidance

Board members asked about time horizons for multiyear rate planning, procurement intersections, and ways OSB can support the PUC’s external-impact focus. Mandy will follow up with Energy Program Administrator Caroline Moore on modeling timelines and potential links to statewide power purchasing.

The board recommended that future sustainability reports include regulatory milestones and measurable external outcomes. Additional suggestions included attention to wildfire-mitigation plans, ethical procurement (e.g., solar supply-chain labor conditions), and data-center energy footprints as compute demand grows. Members reiterated that OSB's strategic interest lies in the PUC's system-level impacts—grid performance, affordability, resilience, and decarbonization—beyond internal operational savings.

Mandy welcomed continued coordination and committed to developing meaningful external metrics and more frequent engagement with OSB.

Business Oregon — Sustainability Plan & Program Highlights

Presenters: Director Sophorn Cheang, Michael Held, with support from Marjorie Waniata.

Director Cheang introduced Business Oregon, a ~200 FTE economic development agency headquartered in Salem with a Portland office and statewide regional staff. The agency manages roughly \$2B per biennium, with about 70% supporting infrastructure. Programs include business retention/expansion/recruitment, R&D and high-growth sectors, technical assistance via partners, and support for the Oregon Arts Commission and Cultural Trust. She situated the agency's 2027 strategic plan within the Governor's Prosperity Roadmap (Dec 2025) and described Business Oregon's role in developing the statewide Economic Development Strategy in coordination with the Prosperity Council and multiple workgroups.

Following OSB feedback, Business Oregon expanded its sustainability goals from five to seven. Goals combine internal footprint reductions (e.g., ~45% reduction with the Salem office move) with external priorities: sustainable infrastructure investments, expanded brownfields work, clean tech manufacturing support, and sustainability-focused program scoring. New goals align with the Oregon Energy Strategy (e.g., industrial symbiosis work funded in 2026, upcoming 2027 decarbonization concepts) and targeted support for sustainable industry clusters such as mass timber and wine. While the agency often funds entities that procure independently, it is exploring standardized contract language reflecting state sustainability objectives and seeks OSB guidance on consistent definitions and metrics.

Michael Held provided examples across major programs:

- Brownfields Redevelopment—Low-cost financing for assessments/cleanup that converts contaminated sites into community assets.
- Governor's Strategic Reserve Fund—Discretionary financing for job creation and public benefits, including sustainability. Examples included Zena Forest Products' circular wood supply for PDX flooring and Revino's reusable wine bottle system, now used by ~70 wineries with over 1M bottles in circulation.

- Special Public Works Fund—Flexible infrastructure financing supporting resilience. Dallas used \$2.2M to upgrade aging water system components, with SPWF frequently supporting FEMA match needs.
- Community Development Block Grant—Funding for LMI communities with sustainability scoring bonuses; Lane County/Oakridge deployed \$500K for critical home repairs benefiting 18 households.
- SBIR Support—Early-stage capital; example: Leapfrog Design’s natural home water treatment/reuse systems.
- Industrial Lands Readiness—\$25M allocated over recent sessions to address industrial land shortages, with applications expected post-bond sale.
- Industrial Symbiosis—HB 4086 (2026) funds \$900K for four regional pilot roadmaps and \$250K for a statewide roadmap to scale by-product-to-feedstock solutions.

Board members praised the agency’s role in market transformation and urged continued focus on equity (e.g., rural/urban distribution, demographic tracking, partner engagement) and consistent sustainability definitions across programs. They recommended using recognized frameworks (e.g., Oregon benefit company standards, B Corp Certification where appropriate) to guide expectations for grantees. OSB offered to help develop standardized agreement language and reporting metrics covering GHG reductions, resource circularity, resilience, and equity impacts. Chair Read also noted that expanding the Strategic Reserve Fund could significantly advance economic development with sustainability co-benefits and encouraged continued discussion as budget proposals evolve.

Oregon Department of Energy – Overview of the Oregon Energy Strategy

Director Janine Benner opened by outlining ODOE’s mission and positioning the Oregon Energy Strategy as central to an equitable clean energy transition. Using visuals from the 2024 Biennial Energy Report, she reviewed Oregon’s energy flows—highlighting in-state hydropower, solar, and wind; full reliance on imported fossil fuels; and significant system inefficiencies shown as a large waste “black bar.” She also clarified Oregon’s primary energy consumption patterns and explained that “unspecified” electricity reflects market purchases without defined resource attribution. A follow-up noted the small amount of direct-use solar occurring outside the electricity sector.

Reviewing Oregon’s electricity mix, Benner emphasized hydropower’s dominant but variable role, small nuclear imports from Washington, persistent coal in the mix due to imports, and a sizeable unspecified share. She restated the state’s statutory trajectory—coal removed by 2030 and 100 percent clean electricity by 2040—and noted rising electricity demand driven by electrification and data centers. On data centers, ODOE described very large facilities with high

utilization and referenced regional forecasts showing Northwest electricity demand potentially doubling by 2046, prompting board interest in planning for large load increases.

ODOE then outlined statewide energy expenditures, noting transportation accounts for roughly half and fluctuates with global oil markets. In 2022, about \$11.2 billion left the state for transportation-related fuel costs, underscoring the greater budget stability of electricity. The agency expects the 2028 Biennial Report to capture recent price spikes.

Benner summarized HB 3630 (2023), which directs ODOE to craft an energy strategy identifying pathways to meet Oregon’s policy goals. After consulting agencies and stakeholders, ODOE modeled least-cost pathways and tested variations reflecting different policy choices. All alternatives met climate goals but at higher cost, with delayed efficiency and electrification emerging as the most expensive—about \$17 billion more by 2050 than the reference case.

In the reference case, electricity demand rises due to transportation electrification and data centers, while fossil fuel use falls. Total energy demand nonetheless declines about 22 percent by 2050 because electrification is more efficient, such as EVs compared with gasoline vehicles. ODOE’s “energy wallet” analysis showed EVs generally reduce household costs, while heat pump savings vary by energy prices, housing characteristics, and installation costs. The analysis suggests prioritizing shifts from electric resistance heat to heat pumps for major energy and cost savings and near-term grid benefits, while preparing for gas-to-heat-pump transitions with affordability and reliability protections.

The Strategy is organized around five pathways: energy efficiency; clean electricity; strategic electrification; low-carbon fuels; and resilience. Implementation applies an equity and justice framework centered on inclusive processes, recognition of lived experience, fair distribution of benefits, and prevention of repeated harms. For buildings—about 36 percent of energy use and 40 percent of expenditures—ODOE recommends stronger efficiency in existing and new structures, prioritization of low- and moderate-income households, alignment with the Building Performance Standard, and strategic electrification. Low-carbon fuels should support a managed transition to avoid stranded assets. Transportation recommendations emphasize multimodal efficiency, robust EV charging, vehicle-to-grid potential, and emergency response planning.

The Strategy includes 42 near-term actions across sectors, shared among ODOE, DEQ, PUC, DLCD, ODOT, utilities, and community partners, with updates planned every four to five years. Near-term emphasis areas include reliability and resilience amid rapid load growth, affordability challenges, and actions with low state budget impact. EO 25-29 directs agencies to prioritize Strategy implementation, and ODOE is developing a public tracking website.

During discussion with Board members, ODOE described interagency coordination, alignment with economic development efforts, and opportunities in emerging technologies such as wave energy and geothermal. The agency acknowledged secondary impacts such as declining road-use revenues, the need for transportation funding alignment, and work on a building decarbonization roadmap. Resilience efforts span supply diversity, redundancy, and distributed resources; ODOE highlighted strong demand for the solar-plus-storage Community Renewable Energy Grant Program. Questions on distributed batteries and demand-side flexibility prompted discussion of utility interest in battery-paired solar and the importance of valuing resilience. On biomass, ODOE noted mixed stakeholder views and reaffirmed the Strategy's environmental justice framing, including the need for improved wildfire smoke analysis. The agency also referenced ongoing examination of utility wildfire liability. ODOE closed by encouraging continued engagement and offering deeper future briefings.

Board Work Session on Focus Areas

Buildings

- Sustainable Design Guidelines (SDGs): Members (Webly, Elin) reported that DAS is developing SDGs in compliance with HB 3409 (2023) for energy/water performance; opportunity exists to evolve it from a DAS tool to a statewide tool and potentially share with local governments and housing authorities. The board requested a preview when available.
- Green Code / Stretch Code Concept: Building Codes Division (Ann Gire, DCBS) is outlining a low-carbon construction guide (embodied carbon). Discussion explored combining the SDGs and other embodied-carbon guidance like DEQ's low-embodied carbon housing program.
- HB 3409 (2023) - Division 118 Revolving Fund: The board revisited the energy-savings reinvestment mechanism, which enables agencies to retain 100% of savings from efficiency projects and reinvest in further upgrades. Members noted the fund historically existed but was underutilized. A recommendation was made for the OSB to send a letter to decision-makers encouraging implementation guidance and cross-agency uptake, including pilot projects (e.g., chiller modernization).

Fleet

- Electrification Barriers & Opportunities: Key hurdles include utility interconnection costs at large fleet yards and the need to right-size charging. The Board endorsed staff to draft a support letter from OSB articulating the need for additional DAS Fleet budget (EVs +

charging), emphasizing budget predictability and total cost of ownership benefits versus volatile liquid fuels.

Procurement

- Policies & Training: Adam Helvey (DAS) is updating the Green Chemistry, Sustainable Procurement, and E-waste policies. His approach is to clearly define contract analyst vs. purchaser roles; embed how-to guidance (language for RFPs; “what to avoid”; price agreements to use); and develop training modules (self-help or mandatory) to increase correct use of sustainable price agreements and reduce off-contract purchases. Members stressed barrier-breaking communications and agency awareness.
- Renewable Electricity Procurement (e.g., Direct Access): The Board discussed aggregating meters by utility service territory to exceed load threshold to utilize benefit of Direct Access (procurement of renewable power through bulk contracts outside of utility programs). PUC input suggested administrative aggregation is permissible, not requiring a single meter, though pursuing direct access can take three years and requires coordination. Board recommendation: DAS to inventory meters and identify consolidation opportunities.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Other Items

- Staff proposed replacing the traditional two-day fall retreat with a one-day inter-agency Sustainability Summit (invite ISCN members and other boards/commissions), followed by an OSB meeting the next day. Members suggested reviving the OSB Sustainability Awards (e.g., recycled-glass artist awards) to celebrate 25 years of the Board (2001–2026) and align categories to the Strategy/pathways and OSB’s three focus areas. Volunteers offered to join a planning committee.
- Sustainability Plan Guidelines and agency presentation template: Webly and Elin will work with Zechariah to propose a streamlined agency sustainability plan guidelines as well as an agency presentation template for board consideration in June.

Action Items

1. Review 2026 short-session bill links from DAS and flag any direct impacts on OSB's focal areas (procurement, fleet, buildings) for the next agenda; coordinate with Jessica Poppinga-Fleer for clarifications.
2. Request a preview of the initial SDGs prepared by DAS when ready; OSB and other stakeholders to be given opportunity to inform final version of SDGs.
3. Explore opportunities for OSB to support awareness and utilization of HB 3409 Division 118 – Revolving Fund for energy conservation projects.
4. Prepare a support letter from OSB to encourage decision makers to fund DAS' fleet electrification budget requests (charging + EV procurement).
5. Explore opportunities and challenges associated with bulk renewable energy procurement (e.g., Direct Access).
6. Request to view Sustainable Procurement Policies for input before they are published.
7. Form a planning group to develop a Sustainability Summit in Fall 2026. Consider inclusion of a sustainability awards program aligned with OSB focus areas.
 - a. Request was made to Director Brenner to suggest focus areas for the summit.
8. Update the OSB Sustainability Plan Guidance and prepare agency presentation template – share in advance of June 5 meeting to facilitate approval during meeting.

Next Meeting

DATE: June 5, 2026

TIME: TBD

LOCATION: Hybrid (Team and tentatively 155 Cottage Street)

Oregon State Marine Board



Mission

Serving Oregon's recreational boating public through education, enforcement, access and environmental stewardship for a safe and enjoyable experience.



Strategic Plan Goals



Ensuring boaters have the resources and information they need so they can have a positive boating experience.



Ensuring boating is viable and public access is available in the future.



Ensuring staff is supported, trained, and provided with the tools needed to fulfill duties and the agency mission.

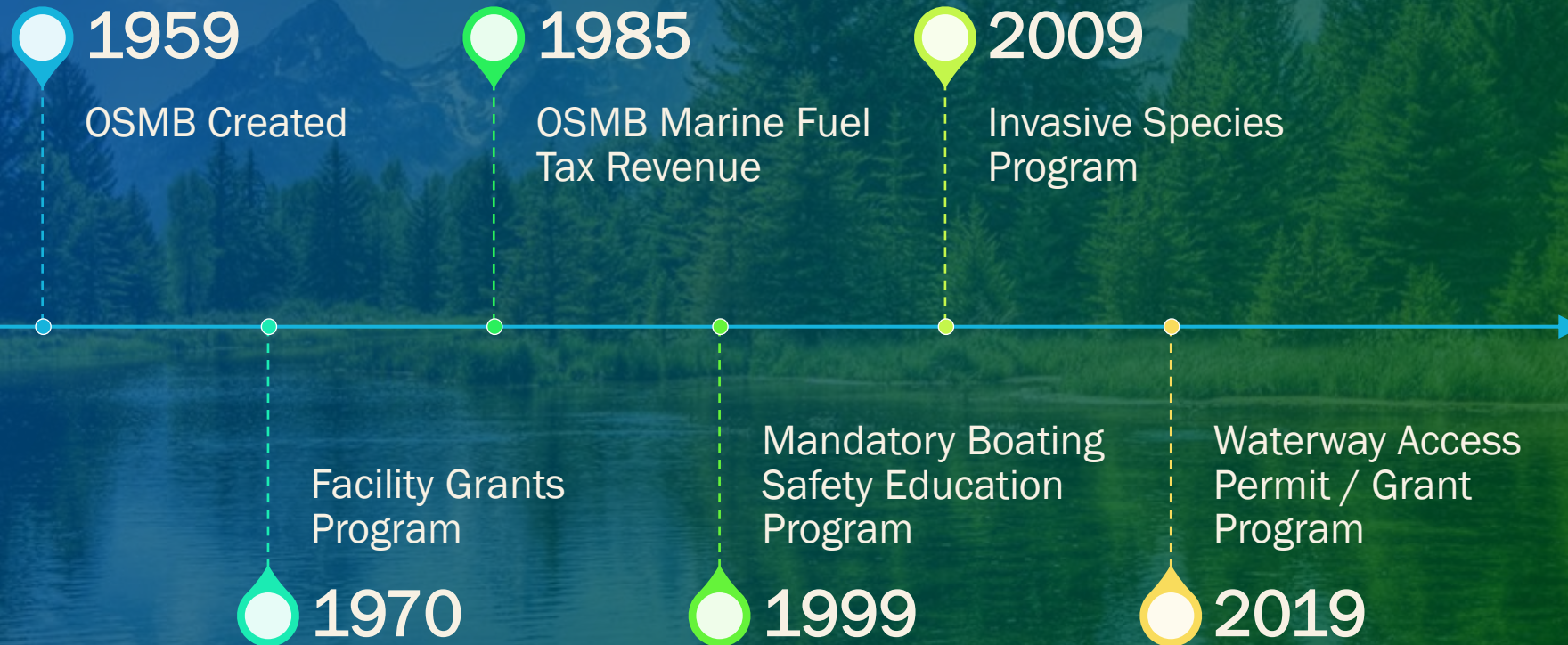


Vision

Boaters benefit as the Marine Board navigates change and growth of waterway use.

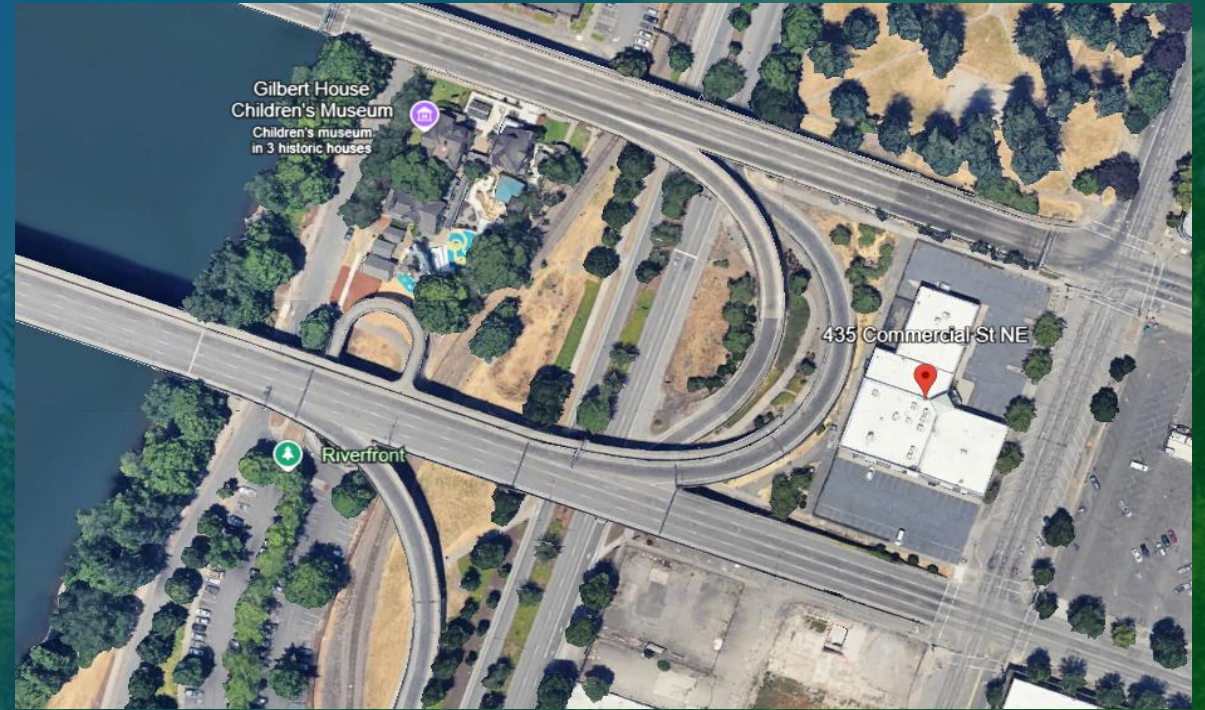


Historical Perspective



Board Members and Staff





**Oregon State Marine Board Offices
435 Commercial Street NE, Suite
400
Salem**

- **Leased Space**
- **Built 1948**
- **Former Car Dealership**

Oregon State Marine Board Programs



Titling, Registration, Customer Service



Registrations

- Motorboat Registrations – 2022 = 158,570
2023 = 154,258
- Waterway Access Permits – 2022 = 129,500
2023 = 130,309



Customer Service

- 2600+ calls taken monthly
- Over 300 email requests monthly
- 3303 in person visits (Jan – November 2024) with 3863 transactions



Floating Properties

- ~2800 active floating properties
- \$100 to title and \$50 for plate



Titling, Registration, Customer Service

- OSMB is encouraging customers to renew online; 40% of all applications are now online.
- Shift in processing application, customers are emailed regarding missing application information versus mailing a letter.
- Renewal notices are now sent digitally for customers with emails on file.



Waterway Access Program

- Enacted in 2020. Created a new funding mechanism for paddling access and education/outreach in underserved communities
- Required for paddlecraft, including sailboats
- Dedicated grant funding for eligible applicants to improve or develop new paddle access and education/outreach programs



Purchasing Options

7-Day Permit = \$6

Permit for One Calendar Year = \$20

Permit for Two Calendar Years = \$35



- 29 grants awarded to 22 entities (10 NGOs)
- \$1.43 million Waterway Access Grant funds awarded in '23-'25



Boating Facilities Program

Removing Barriers to Access



- **Grant Funding:** Leveraged \$6.54 million in state boater funds and \$1.15 million in federal boater funds for 119* grant projects with a total value of \$22.8 million.



- **Technical Assistance:** Provided survey, design, engineering and permitting assistance to applicants and grant recipients

**includes Waterway Access Grants*

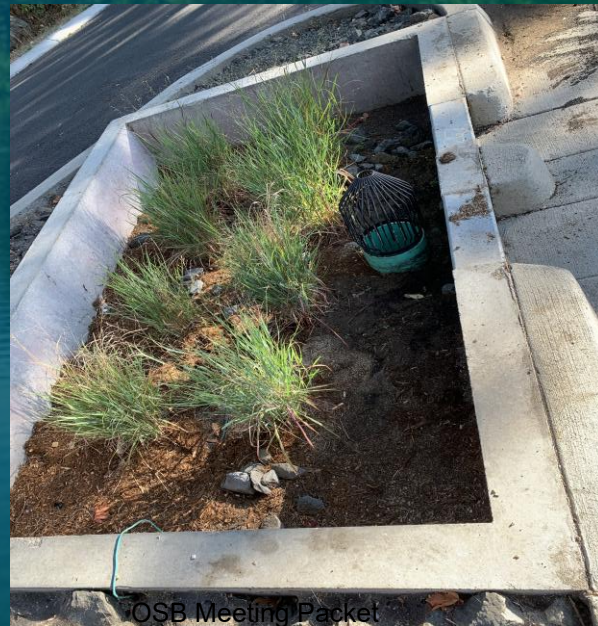


Boating Facilities Program: Grant Funding



- Boating access facility improvements-motorized and nonmotorized access - **32 grants awarded**
- Maintenance assistance for motorized boating access - **72 grants awarded**
- Increase opportunities for underserved communities to experience nonmotorized boating - **15 grants awarded**





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OSB Meeting Packet

Highlight –Port of Bandon Marina and Boat Basin

Coos County, Coquille River



Before Improvements



Before Improvements

June 5, 2026

After Improvements



After Improvements



OSB Meeting Packet

Outfitter Guide Program

- Credentials 1,500 Outfitter Guides
 - 2,000 Guide Employees
- 70 Ocean Charter Boats
- Registrations includes Background Checks, Licensing Requirements and Compliance Investigations
- Guides are Required to Meet Oregon Law, Insured & Bonded and have First Aid Certifications



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Boating Safety Program



Boating Safety Advocates

- Build relationships with traditionally underserved and underrepresented boaters through outreach and engagement.



Mandatory Boater Safety Education

- 429,966 Boater Education cards issued since 2000
- 2,426 Towed Watersports cards issued since 2020



Marine Law Enforcement

- 41,234 boaters contacted in FY 2024
- 10,547 warnings and 782 citations




Boating Safety Education

- Develop and administer boating education and outreach programs to reduce conflict, incidents, and fatalities.
- Programs include mandatory education, towed watersports education, and youth-focused education, both online and in the classroom.
- Provide small grants for creating life jacket loaner station kiosks, their maintenance, and to stock various sizes of life jackets for kiosks.
- Promote safe boating with bilingual signs, buoys, and bilingual educational outreach materials integrated with the agency's website and social media sites.



Oregon



OSMBLA

Course approved by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators and recognized by the U.S. Coast Guard

Boating Education Card

JOHN Q BOATER

CARD NUMBER	101010
DATE OF BIRTH	01/01/1955
HAIR COLOR	GRAY
EYE COLOR	BLUE
GENDER	MALE
ISSUE DATE	02/02/2005

*Card **MUST** be carried on board when operating motorboat*

Boating Safety Advocates

- Deliver boating and water safety messaging with emphasis on interacting and building community partnerships.
- Deliver education and outreach that is inclusive and resonates with Oregon's diverse boating communities.
- Directly benefits communities across Oregon as new boaters recreate on waterways who are at risk to unknown dangers of natural water environments.
- This approach modernizes boating safety education materials and adaptability for current and future boaters.



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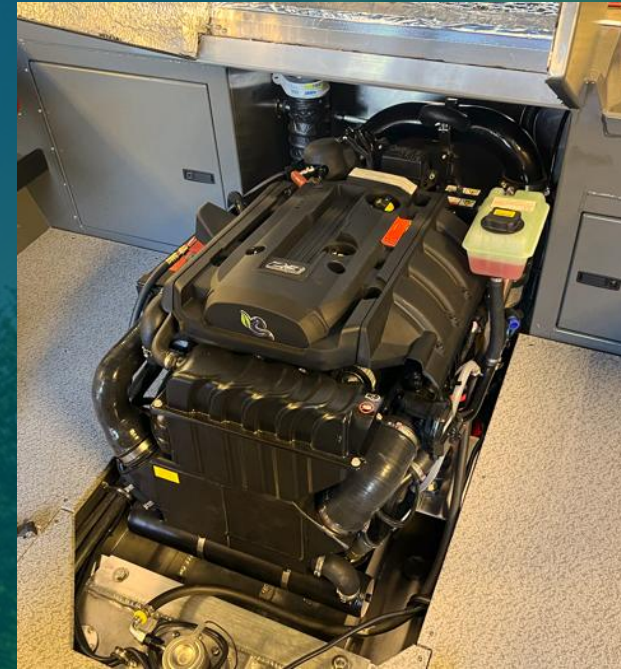
Marine Law Enforcement

- Manage contracts with Oregon State Police and Sheriff Offices to provide on water law enforcement.
- Law enforcement partners complete compliance inspections, make operational violation stops, investigate recreational boating incidents and fatalities, and conduct BUI investigations.
- The agency provides training, boats, and other necessary resources for contracted partners to provide marine law enforcement services across the state.



OSMB Boat Builds

- EcoBoost Marinized Engine Adaptation
 - Move from 6.0-.2L V-8 Engines (350-400 HP) to 2.3L EcoBoost, 4-cylinder turbo, 310 HP Engine, 18'-20' boats
 - 50% Weight Savings on Engine
 - 60% less Fuel Consumption
 - Oregon Emergency Management has adopted OSMB specifications/engine platforms to build ~10 boats for fire departments and Search & Rescue Units



Low Water Resilient Patrol Platforms – Jet Rafts

- Integrated New Patrol Platform
 - Response to Climate Driven Low Water Situations
 - Response to Increased Paddlecraft on Oregon Waterways
 - Costs is a Fifth for a Total Package Compared to Tradition Patrol Boat
 - Requirements for Launch & Operations is More Forgiving
 - Utilizes a 60 HP Outboard – Additional Fuel Savings



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Environmental Programs



**Adopt-A-River
Partnership
with SOLVE**

Oregon Adopt-A-River is a broad-based stewardship effort administered by SOLVE. The commitment is for 2 years doing at least 2 cleanups or invasive plant removal events per year. As a program partner, OSMB provides funding for cleanup materials and disposal. 2023-2025, \$78,461.



Clean Marinas

63 Certified Marinas - gain of 1 since '23-'24



**Aquatic Invasive
Species**

**16,428 inspections by ODFW staff in 2023
336 boats contaminated; 9 had zebra or quagga mussels**



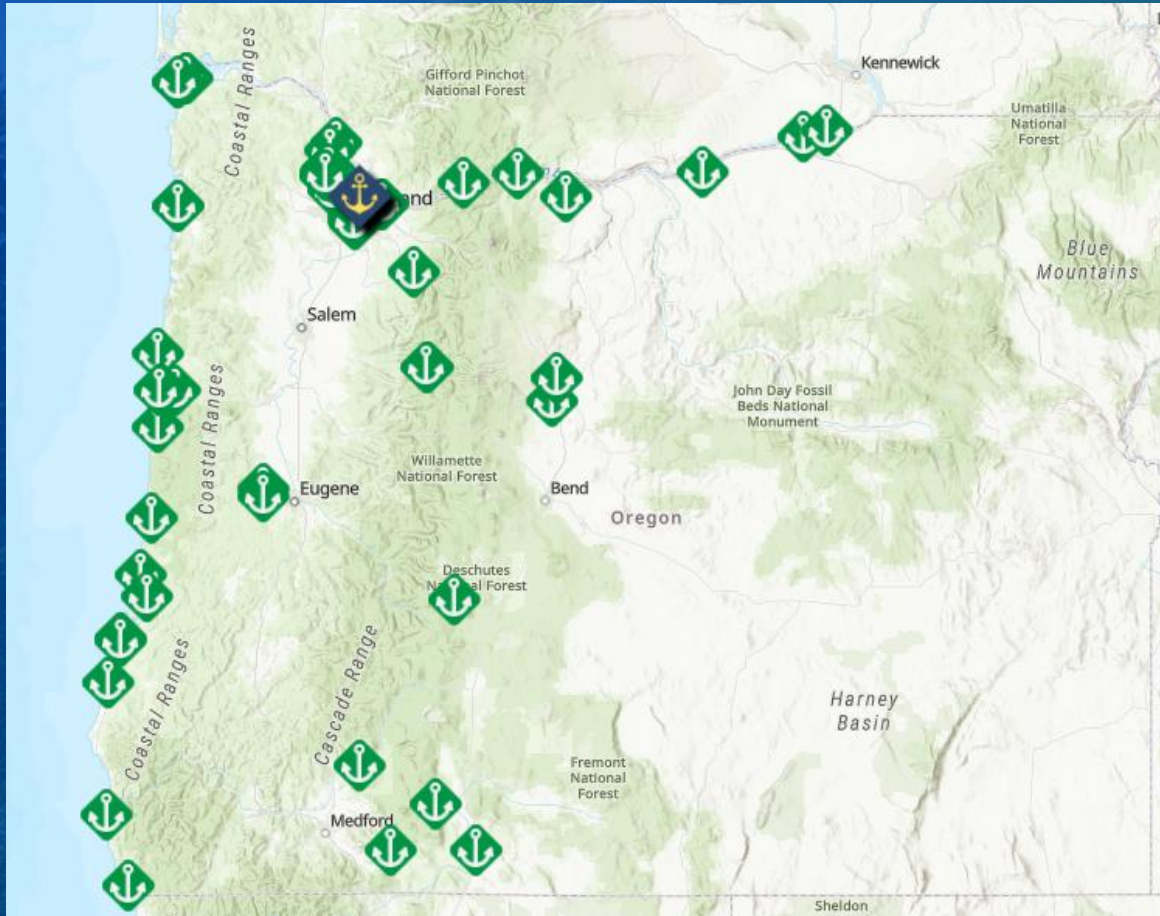
Clean Marina



- Voluntary Program Educates Marine Facility Managers on How to Protect & Improve Local Water Quality via Environmentally Sensitive Practices



Clean Marina



Clean Boater

- Guide Provides Tips on how to Keep Oregon Waterways Clean & Healthy
 - Management Guide:
 - Bilge
 - Sewage – Boat Waste Collection Facilities
 - Vessel Maintenance
 - Boat Bottom Paints
 - Boat Cleaning
 - Aquatic Invasive Species
 - Emergency Numbers



CLEAN BOATER GUIDE

*Protecting Oregon's
Marine Resources*



Aquatic Invasive Species

AIS Prevention Program

- The 2009 Oregon Legislature directed the formation of the program to create a dedicated funding mechanism to support on-the ground activities.
- The program is implemented by the Oregon State Marine Board and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.
- Oregon's program was modeled after Idaho's similar program that was started in 2009.

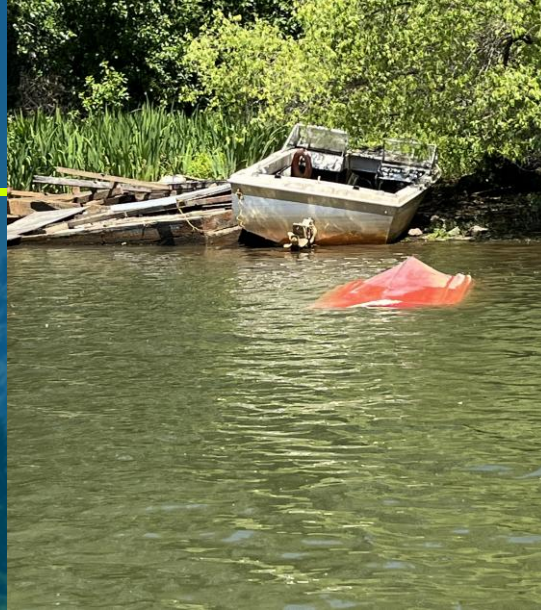
GOAL:

- To protect Oregon's water bodies against the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species.

Inspection Station Signage



Abandoned and Derelict Vessels



June 5, 2026



OSB Meeting Packet



Page 43 of 109

Abandoned and Derelict Vessels



\$1 Million funding received in May 2022 to address ADVs in Portland waterways. Funding was spent in November, before the December 31, 2024, deadline.



In 2024, OSMB partnered with the Department of State Lands to remove nine ADVs near St. Helens, maximizing the remaining ARPA funds



\$150,000 per biennium in Vessel Subaccount for ADV removal or reimbursement to agencies. Over 1,000 hours of indirect costs (marine law enforcement support) for ADV investigation and enforcement over the last biennium



American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for ADV Removal Totals

2022 – 25 vessels removed (\$170,850)

2023 – 19 vessels removed

2024 – *44 vessels removed

TOTAL: 88

**Denali (\$180K) Pictured* →

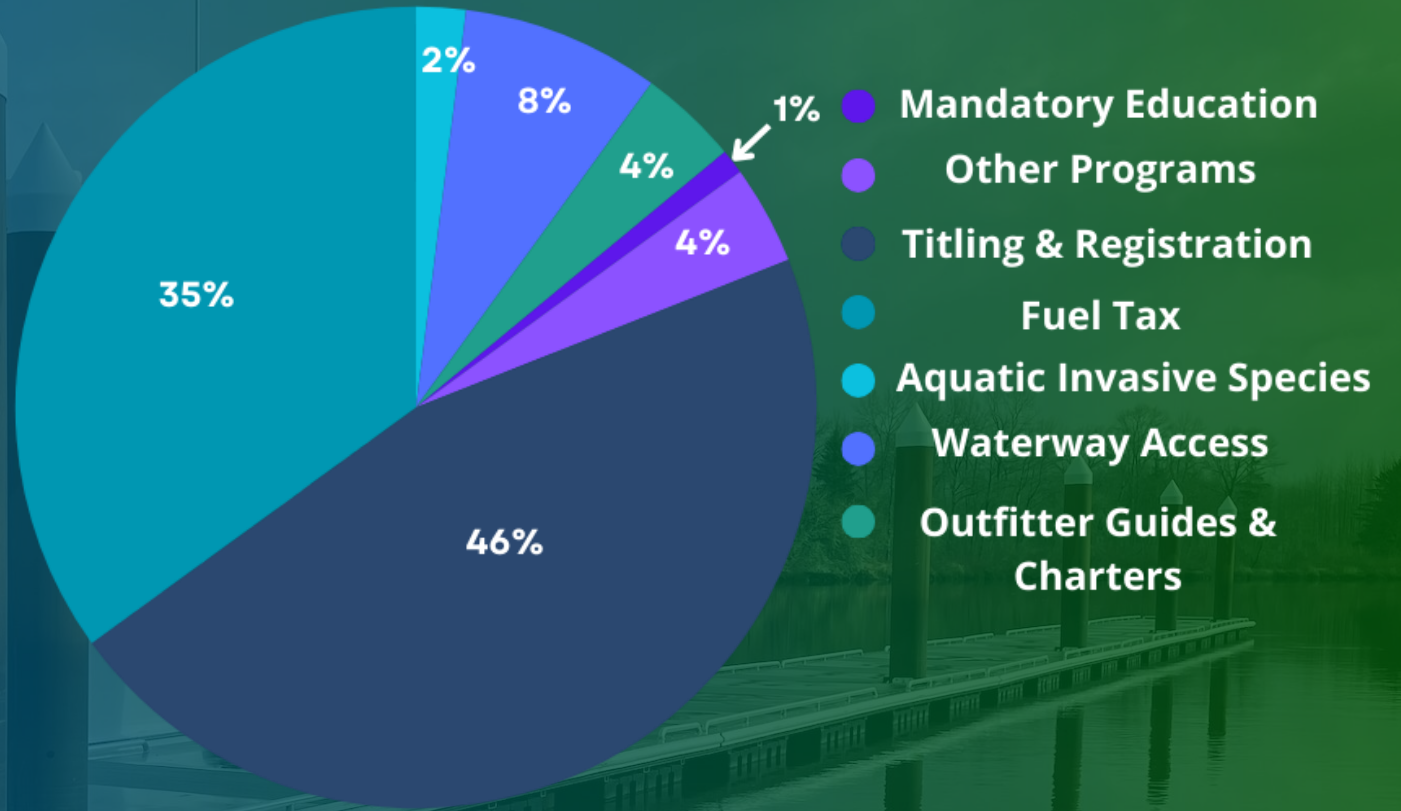
**Sunken sailboat in Multnomah Channel (\$52K)*

**Burned Sailboat (ultimately sank) near Ross Island (\$25.5k)*

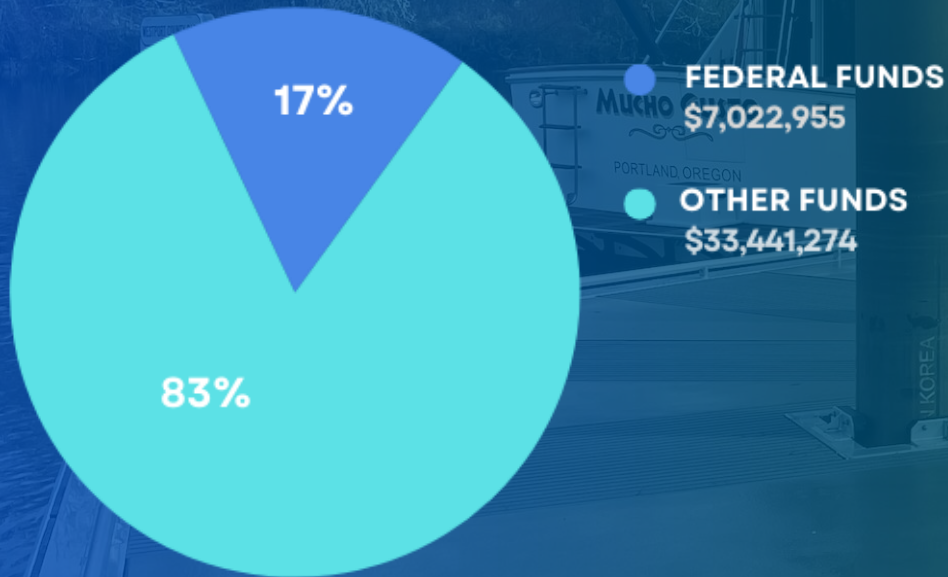


Revenue

REVENUE BY PROGRAM

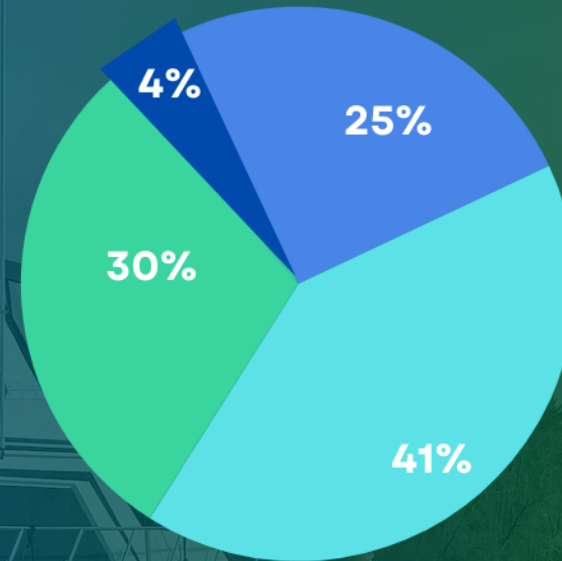


REVENUE BY FUND



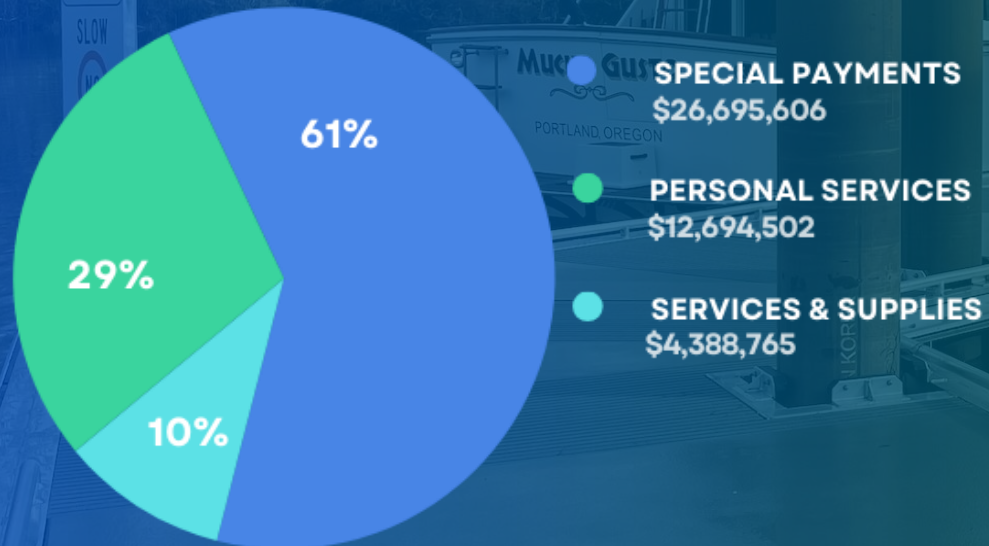
Expenditures

ALLOCATION BY PROGRAM



- ADMINISTRATION & EDUCATION
- LAW ENFORCEMENT
- BOATING FACILITIES
- AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

EXPENDITURES BY GROUP



THANK YOU!

Larry Warren

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Boat.Oregon.gov

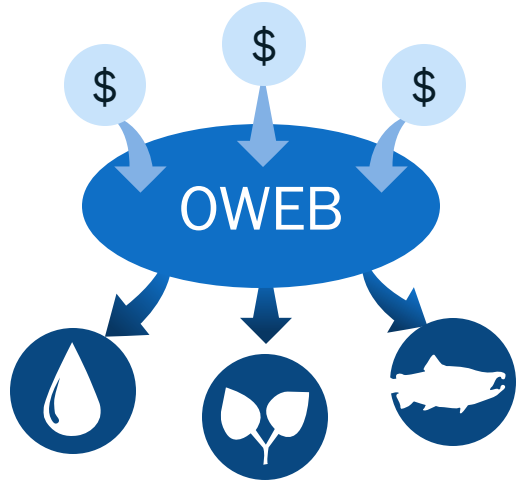


2026 SUSTAINABILITY

June 5, 2026

Photo: Gate Creek, McKenzie River Trust





Administer Funding Programs

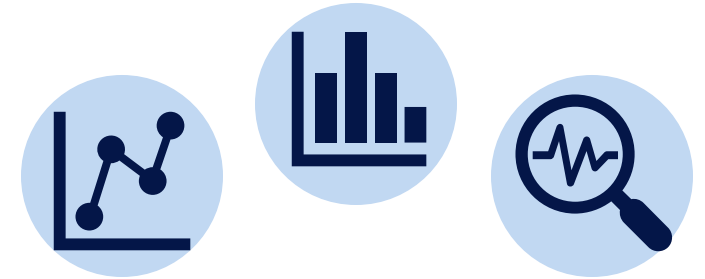
- Protect Oregon's environment through multiple funding sources
- Support state, federal, local, Tribal priorities

June 5, 2026



Community Cobenefits

- Environmental health
- Socio-economic wellbeing
- Working Lands



Collective Reporting

- How to collectively tell the story across the state enterprise – ideas for us?



To protect and restore healthy watersheds and natural habitats that support thriving communities and strong economies.

Agency Structure



Director's Office



Business Operations



Monitoring & Reporting



Restoration Grants

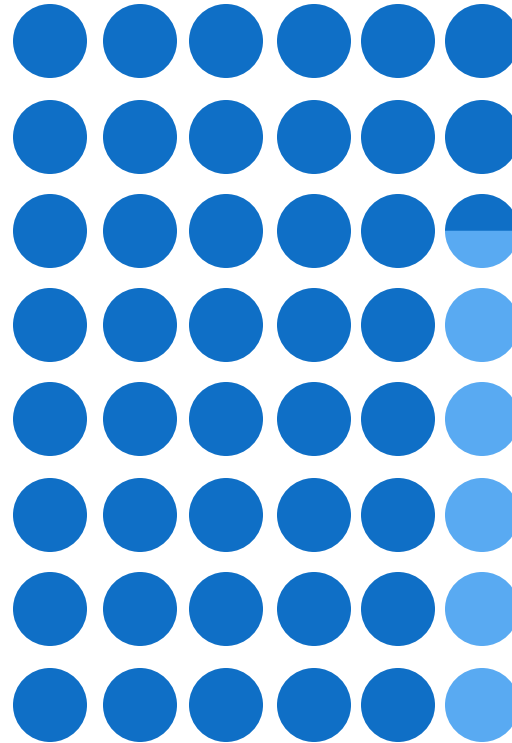


Acquisitions & Special Programs



Oregon Environmental Restoration Program

6 Sections



47.5 FTE

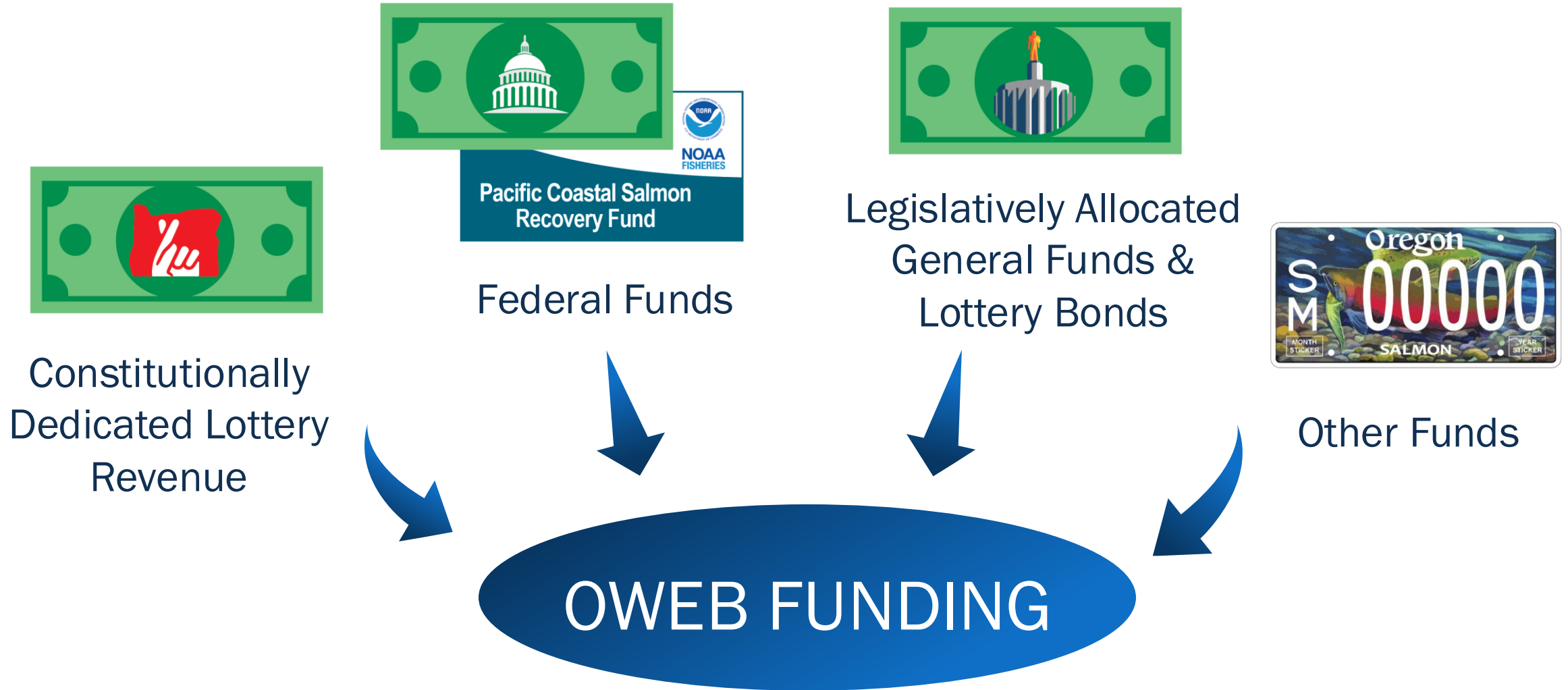
Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)

Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission (OAHP)

Oregon Environmental Restoration Council (OERP)

**3 Boards,
Commissions,
Councils**

Fund Sources



Build and operate watershed health grant programs



Establish **program rules**



Maintain in-house funding **systems**



Run **technical review processes**



Award funds and create funding **agreements**



Track investments to show outputs and outcomes

Award and administer individual watershed health grants



Grantee and applicant **consultations and assistance**



Project manage awarded grants



Ensure consistency with grant conditions



Issue payments for grantee expenses

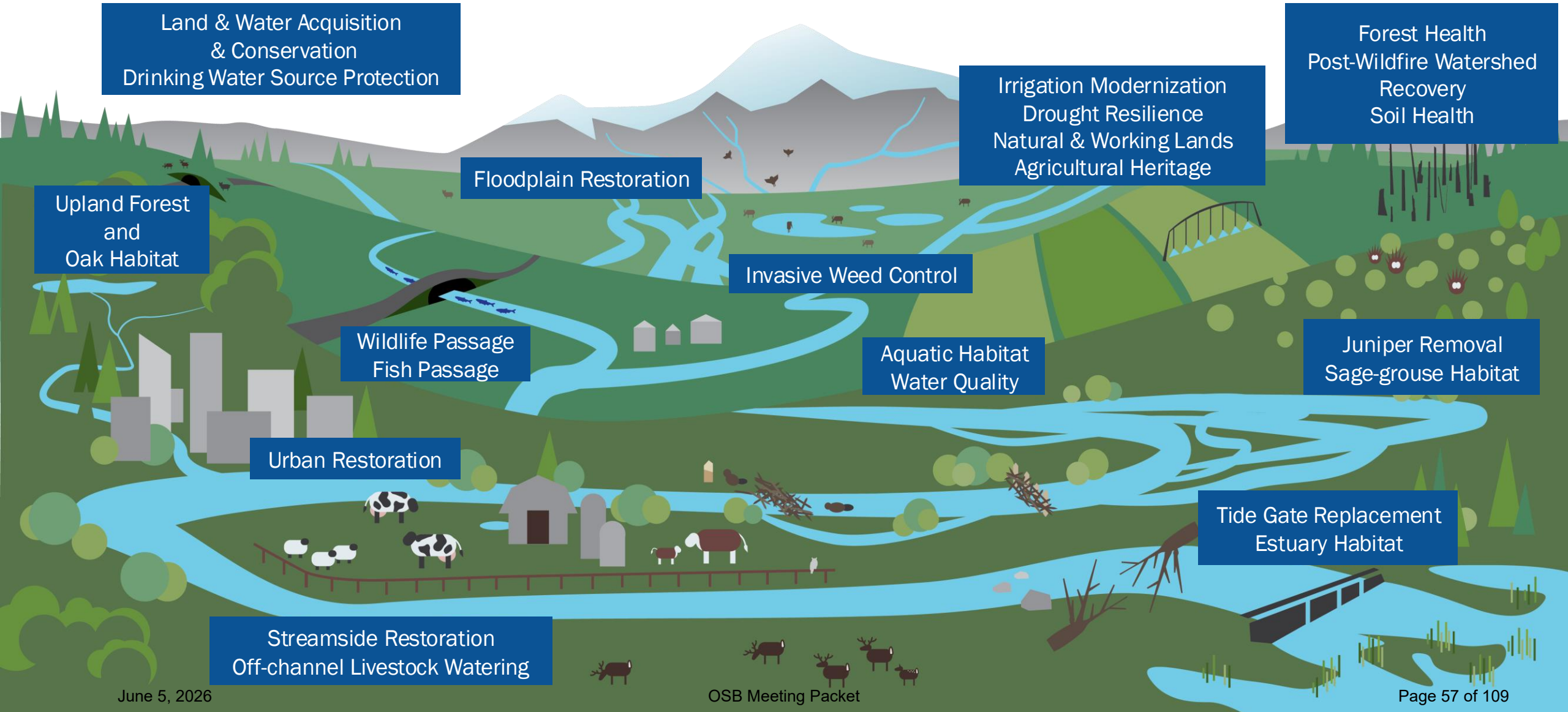


Fund monitoring & evaluation of results

Categories of Grants We Administer

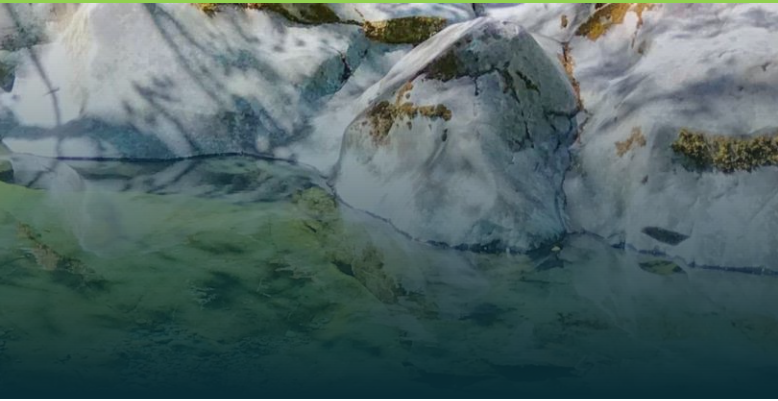


The Whole Watershed





Oregon Environmental Restoration Program



Background

- 2024 Legislative Session SB1561
- State of Oregon vs. Monsanto settlement proceeds
- Purpose: environmental restoration and remediation

Oregon Environmental Restoration Program



**State Agency
Program Fund**
50% (transfers)

**Tribal Nation Natural
Resource Program Fund**
25% (transfers)

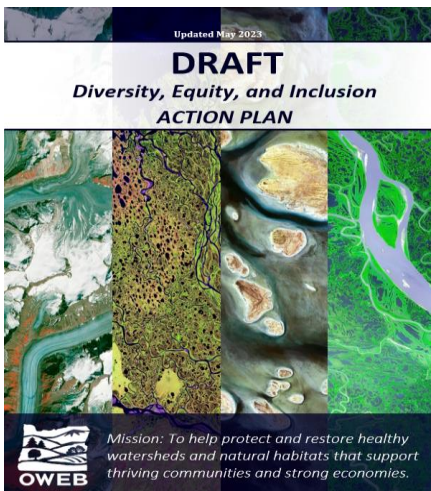
**Community
Impact Fund**
25% (grants)



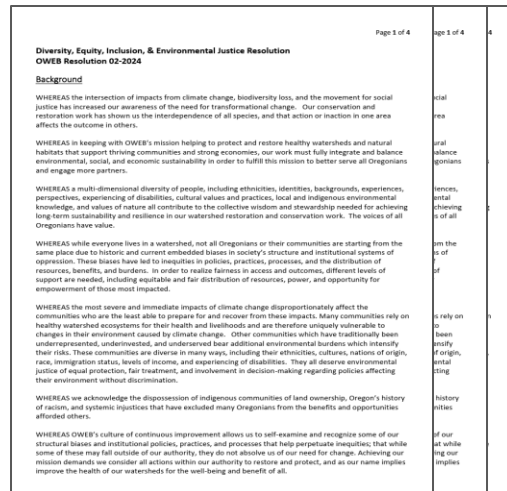
IDEA Team



Meaningful Engagement Panel to OWEB Staff



DEI Action Plan
June 5, 2026



DEI Resolution



Meaningful Engagement Panel to OWEB Board

Tribal Project Development Grants

Design, permitting, cultural resources review and effectiveness monitoring of stream restoration projects

Land Acquisition Grant Program

Modernization efforts to increase accessibility to Tribes

Cultural Resource Compliance Work

Delegating responsibilities under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)

Oregon Environmental Restoration Program

Developing the Tribal Nations Natural Resource Fund



Areas of Focus



Land Acquisition Program



Greater agency stability



Grant program integration



OERP standup/implementation

Recent Accomplishments

Climate resiliency attributes



Klamath dam footprint restoration



Tribal nation fund distribution



Sustainability Outcomes



Healthy Watersheds



Fish & Wildlife Benefits



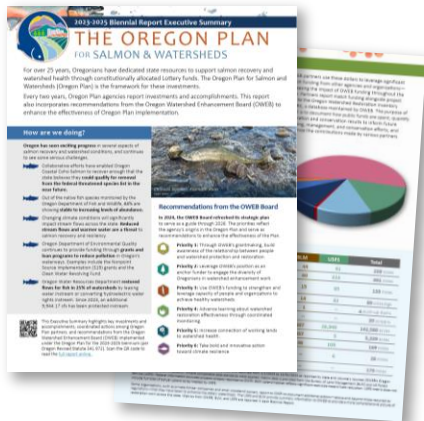
Community & Economic Benefits



Sustainability for Working Lands



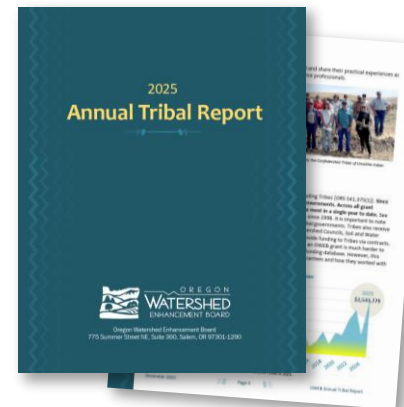
Tracking and Reporting Outcomes



Oregon Plan for Salmon & Watersheds



County Fact Sheets



Tribal Report



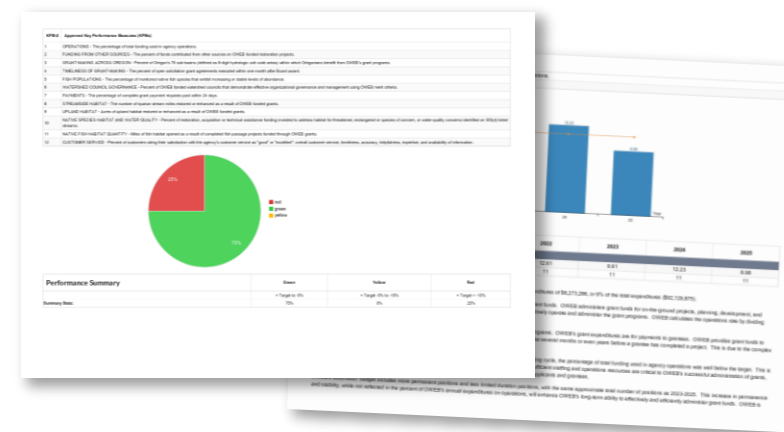
Environmental Justice Council



Natural & Working Lands



Drinking Water Source Protection



Key Performance Measures

Questions for the Board

How does the Sustainability Board collectively evaluate how we are doing on sustainability across the state enterprise? Are there lessons we can learn from you?

Any suggestions for us on ways to collectively tell the story of how we are doing on sustainability and/or climate resiliency across agencies?





OREGON
WATERSHED
ENHANCEMENT BOARD



Thank You!



Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

2025-2027 Sustainability Plan Update

Mission, Overview & Strategic Plan

Mission: To help protect and restore healthy watersheds and natural habitats that support thriving communities and strong economies.

Vision: Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) is a leader in the conservation of Oregon's natural resources and enjoys strong public support for its contributions to community-based conservation, watershed health, and local economies.

Organization: The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board is a state grantmaking agency. OWEB grant programs support healthy watersheds, protect farms and ranchlands, support clean drinking water, implement environmental restoration activities, and encourage carbon sequestration on natural and working lands. The agency administers Lottery Fund, Federal Fund, General Fund, and Other Fund dollars as part of its grant programs. OWEB awards grants to local partner organizations who complete the project work. The agency is led by an 18-member citizen board drawn from the public at large, Tribes, and federal and state natural resource agency boards and commissions.

The past few years have highlighted OWEB's potential as an effective and responsive grant administrator to support state natural resource priorities. OWEB has responded to requests from partners, customers, the Governor's Office, and the Legislature to take on new responsibilities due to OWEB's reputation as an effective and responsive grant administrator. OWEB offers a menu of grant and fiscal administration services for grant funding connected to watershed health.

Today, the agency's ability to adapt and meet grantee and partner needs depends heavily on limited duration positions. This biennium, sixteen of the agency's forty-nine budgeted positions are limited duration. Many of these positions do not have an identified source of funding beyond the 2023-2025 biennium. Workload in new and existing programs will extend into the 2025-2027 biennium and includes ongoing grant administration, continuous improvement efforts in existing programs, continued focus on excellent customer service, expanded outreach and engagement, new program development, and grant application review and evaluation.

OWEB is now evaluating agency needs to serve natural resource grant administration priorities sustainably and predictably in the future. A stable agency structure and staffing level will foster continuity and allow OWEB to continue standing up new programs in support of the needs of Oregonians and as requested by policymakers and other partners.

Sustainability at OWEB

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board mission and vision is firmly grounded in the three sustainability tenets of environment, economy, and community. The inputs, outputs, outcomes, and impact of the organization support a more sustainable Oregon (Figure 1).

OWEB’s grant programs directly support healthy watersheds, clean water, natural habitats, and climate resiliency and carbon sequestration. OWEB grants provide funding to partner organizations, including local governments, non-profit organizations, and Tribes, for restoration, natural disaster resiliency, farm and rangeland protection, technical assistance, stakeholder engagement, and monitoring projects, among others, that improve watershed function and target at-risk species. Acquisition grants directly protect natural areas and conserve water in streams.

OWEB programs connect closely to public health, community wellbeing, and climate resiliency of ecosystems and people. OWEB grants have supported natural infrastructure projects that reduce flood impacts to communities, prevent soil loss, and filter and clean water for drinking and recreation. Grants support land acquisitions that provide low-impact recreation opportunities in many Oregon communities. Grants also fund streamside planting, rangeland management, and fire prevention and recovery; these activities help make communities and Oregon’s environment more resilient in the face of changing climate conditions.

Figure 1. Sustainability at OWEB: Inputs, Outcomes, and Impacts



Other grant programs invest in the social and human capital required for restoration to be effective. Operating capacity grants directly support watershed councils and soil and water conservation districts to enable community engagement, build local social networks and provide volunteer opportunities. They also create a critical, local connection to private landowners and land managers to engage in conservation and restoration projects.

OWEB serves as the lead state agency to administer several key funding sources. OWEB is responsible for administering state lottery dollars for watershed restoration, clean water, and salmon recovery grants. OWEB is the lead state agency that applies for and administers federal Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund dollars, which support programs at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and fund OWEB grants that benefit salmon. OWEB maintains an extensive reporting framework to provide accountability for these dollars. Federal and state audits have provided high marks for OWEB's performance as a grant fund administrator.

OWEB administers several other funding programs that support on-the-ground restoration work and community planning and stewardship. For example, OWEB is partnering with the Bureau of Land Management to administer Good Neighbor Authority funds to support on-the-ground projects. OWEB administers Forest Collaboratives funding on behalf of the Oregon Department of Forestry to support community-based forest health planning efforts. And OWEB is administering multiple types of grant funds in partnership with the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service to support Farm Bill program delivery in Oregon communities.

During the 2023 and 2024 regular legislative sessions, OWEB received several new responsibilities due to the agency's reputation as an effective grant administrator and fiscal agent. OWEB is the fiscal agent for Natural and Working Lands funds allocated by the Oregon Climate Action Commission and also received an allocation for grant funding from the commission. OWEB received a new drinking water source protection land acquisition grant program and has acted rapidly to stand up this new program. In 2024, Senate Bill 1561 identified OWEB as the agency responsible to staff the newly established Environmental Restoration Council which will oversee stewardship of the State of Oregon vs. Monsanto settlement fund.

Measuring Our Mission

OWEB tracks several metrics related to grantmaking as part of required annual or biennial reports. These reports include:

- [Annual Key Performance Measures](#) report, which evaluates several measures of OWEB's customer service as well as outputs and outcomes resulting from OWEB grant investments.
- The biennial [Oregon Plan report](#), which looks at investments and agency actions that support salmon and watershed recovery.
- The annual [Environmental Justice report](#) that is submitted to the state's Environmental Justice Council.

In 2024, OWEB adopted a new strategic plan in accordance with Governor Kotek’s expectations of state agencies. The updated strategic plan reflects OWEB’s role as a watershed restoration-focused grant administrator and more centrally incorporates this theme throughout the priorities, objectives, and strategies.

Strategic plan objectives include diversity, equity, and inclusion; monitoring the effectiveness of OWEB projects in supporting a healthy environment; and farm and rangeland protection. The plan objectives connect strongly with sustainability given the watershed focus of OWEB’s grant administration work. As with the previous strategic plan, OWEB staff will prepare quarterly strategic plan progress reports to the board.

A summary of key highlights and examples of progress in the 2023-24 year of strategic plan implementation is in Table 1. Table 1 describes OWEB’s strategic plan priorities, inputs or actions taken in 2023-24 and their link to sustainability, and the corresponding outputs and outcomes.

Table 1. Strategic Plan (SP) Progress. The three sustainability tenets – community (C), environment (EN), and economy (EC) – are noted next to SP inputs.

SP Priorities	SP 2023-24 Highlights	Progressing Towards
<p>Priority 1: Through grantmaking, build broad awareness of the relationship between people and watersheds</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OWEB participated in tours for Congressional and state legislative representatives and staff. Tours showcased local partner projects funded with federal and state dollars as well as future opportunities. ^C 	<p>Output: Policymakers are aware of the impact of watershed investments and future opportunities and needs Outcome: Broad-based and bipartisan support for watershed restoration funding</p>
<p>Priority 2: Leverage OWEB’s position as a funder to engage diversity of Oregonians in watershed work</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OWEB adopted a diversity, equity, inclusion, and environmental justice resolution and agency action plan ^C • OWEB leadership meets regularly with new and non-traditional partners ^C • OWEB conducted an engagement process to gather input on use of Natural and Working Lands funds ^C 	<p>Output: OWEB board and staff have set a course to better incorporate DEI and EJ into OWEB grantmaking Outcome: New and varied partners are engaged in and benefit from watershed restoration</p>
<p>Priority 3: Use our funding to strengthen capacity to achieve healthy watersheds</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OWEB participated in a biennial training conference for SWCD and watershed council staff ^C • With the support of federal PCSRF dollars, OWEB initiated its first tribal project development grant offering ^C 	<p>Output: Information and resources are available to support local partner capacity Outcome: Partners access best community capacity and strategic practices and approaches</p>

SP Priorities	SP 2023-24 Highlights	Progressing Towards
<p>Priority 4: Advance learning about watershed protection and restoration effectiveness through coordinated monitoring</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OWEB contributed information to a synthesis report on the Management Implications from Pacific Northwest Intensively Monitored Watersheds, which provides evidence of how restoration efforts have improved watershed health and species viability, and participated in a panel presentation to the OWEB board ^{EN} 	<p>Output: Information is readily available to wide audiences to incorporate into adaptive management and strategic planning at the local level</p> <p>Outcome: Decision-making at all levels is driven by insights derived from data and results</p>
<p>Priority 5: Increase investment connecting urban and working lands to watershed health</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OWEB has continued to fund agricultural water quality enhancement efforts with a variety of grant programs and is part of an interagency partnership to support ag water quality ^{EC/EN} Staff worked with the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission (OAHC) on a comprehensive rulemaking to update Oregon Ag Heritage Program rules ^{EC/EN} The OAHC recommended conservation easement grant awards at its November 2024 meeting ^{EC/EN} 	<p>Output: The OAHP has administrative rules and funding to protect working lands</p> <p>Outcome: Fully functioning working landscapes remain resilient into the future</p>
<p>Priority 6: Take bold and innovative action toward funding projects that advance climate resilience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OWEB works closely with partners to implement continuous improvement efforts in its landscape-scale funding program ^{EC/EN} OWEB committed \$15 million to support post-JC Boyle (Klamath River) dam removal restoration ^{EC/EN} 	<p>Output: OWEB’s landscape-scale granting involves effective partnerships around the state</p> <p>Outcome: Multi-phased, high-complexity, and large geographic footprint restoration projects are underway</p>

Current Practices, Activities, and Policies

Remote and Hybrid Work Opportunities

OWEB's staff continue to work primarily remotely, rather than commuting into an office. When staff do go into the office, they regularly look for opportunities to carpool, ride public transportation, or walk/bike. OWEB maintains a small office in Salem to be able to on-board new staff and conduct collaborative in-person work.

The OWEB staff and board consider whether meetings are best held virtually or in-person, and offer hybrid options for many in-person meetings. OWEB board committees meet virtually to minimize travel and at least one board meeting per year is virtual to avoid weather-related travel disruptions. Other meetings are held in person to promote interaction between the OWEB board, staff, and local partners and customers.

Generally, OWEB staff now schedule grant application technical reviews and project site visits in-person. This has traditionally been OWEB's practice, but the agency pivoted to virtual technical review meetings and site visits during the COVID-19 public health emergency. The staff, technical reviewer, and local partner consensus is that the added value of in-person site visits and team meetings warrant the travel time and energy consumption. However, during times of year when inclement weather is likely, staff appreciate the flexibility of being able to schedule virtual review meetings.

Climate Resolution

In 2022, the full OWEB board adopted a [Climate Resolution \(OWEB Resolution 01-2022\)](#). Following adoption of the resolution, OWEB staff embarked on a public engagement process with the intent of learning from partners about the potential challenges and opportunities associated with incorporating mitigation, adaptation, and DEI evaluation criteria in grantmaking. Following this process, OWEB convened a rules advisory committee to incorporate climate criteria into much of OWEB's grantmaking.

In 2024, the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission incorporated climate criteria into draft updated rules for the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program. The OAHP rules will go through a public comment process before being presented to the OWEB board to consider for adoption.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Environmental Justice Policy and Planning

In 2024, the OWEB board adopted a [Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Environmental Justice resolution](#). OWEB also created a DEI Action Plan in accordance with Governor Kotek's expectations of state agencies. Additionally, one of OWEB's six priorities in the agency strategic plan refresh relates to engaging diverse communities in watershed restoration.

OWEB’s DEI plans and priorities include a variety of strategies to make grant programs more accessible to all prospective applicants. OWEB also plans to develop methods to better understand who is benefiting from OWEB grant programs.

Additional Sustainability Updates

OWEB employs multiple avenues to minimize waste and increase efficiency. For example, OWEB prioritizes the use of vendors that employ sustainable practices and/or give back to the local community. Staff look for opportunities to donate unused food from in-person meetings, when appropriate. Table 2 outlines some of OWEB’s current sustainability practices.

Table 2. 2025-27 Sustainability Practices

Topic	Practice
Policy & Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Operations section identifies and establishes practices to reduce waste within the office environment • Solutions Forum cross-section team defines problems, identifies strategies, and monitors implementation related to grantmaking processes to foster efficiency and a high-level of customer service
Procurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mailings have been minimized to field offices, most communication is done electronically • OWEB follows DAS pricing lists and contracting guidelines when considering purchase of sustainable products and services • Use eco-friendly paper
Waste Reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A small garbage bin and large recycling container is at every desk • Communal areas include a recycling bin • Coffee mugs are available for employee use • Printer toners are recycled where possible • Board meeting materials are accessible online • Electronic equipment is prepared for e-waste recycling and taken to Water Resources Department (they manage OWEB IT) to recycle with their items • Batteries are collected in the office and properly disposed of • Unwanted items are donated to DOC and state surplus facility or transferred to another state or local government entity (e.g., school district, Soil & Water Conservation District)
Meeting Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use vendors that employ sustainable practices and support or give back to the local community • Donate unused meeting food whenever possible (e.g., to Free Fridge Salem)
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DAS Motor Pool includes option to select fuel-efficient vehicles • Most employees work remotely at least 3 days per week • Carpooling to meetings and OWEB office is encouraged and coordinated • Virtual and hybrid meetings are regularly used to reduce travel
Energy Conservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close blinds during summer to reduce HVAC need and at the end of work shifts as regular practice

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OWEB’s leadership has prioritized efforts to reach out to and engage three non-traditional partners per quarter • Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Awareness (IDEA) Team meets monthly to identify and advance OWEB DEI priorities as well as plan staff DEI learning opportunities
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Metrics

After consulting with the Sustainability Board at its September 2024 meeting, the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board is changing the type of metrics provided in the agency sustainability plan. Previously, the agency provided metrics related to agency operations, including vehicle fuel usage and paper consumption. However, as a small state agency that has already dramatically reduced paper consumption through online grantmaking, OWEB has a very small operational footprint.

In the 2025-2027 sustainability plan and future plans, OWEB will include metrics related to the impact of the agency’s grantmaking work. These metrics include restoration outputs as well as outcomes such as the stability of native fish populations.

OWEB has funded more than 11,000 grants since 1999. Oregonians have used these grants to restore more than 6,807 miles of streams and have made more than 7,224 miles of habitat accessible for fish. The grants have helped landowners improve more than 1,469,606 upland habitat acres and restore, improve or create more than 61,500 wetland or estuarine habitat acres. These projects help to restore and create resilience to climate change through reconnected floodplains, enhanced wetlands, instream work, and wildfire resilience.

Since 2000, OWEB has funded over 100 land acquisition projects with Measure 76 lottery dollars, permanently protecting over 90,000 acres of significant habitat. OWEB’s land transaction portfolio continues to grow with newer acquisition programs, notably the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program and the Drinking Water Source Protection Program.

OWEB’s annual Key Performance Measures include an outcome-based metric that looks at the percentage of monitored native fish species that exhibit increasing or stable levels of abundance. In 2023 and 2024, this percentage exceeded the 75% target, with reported levels at 88% and 94% respectively.

During the 2021-2023 biennium, the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) awarded \$112,186,346 for watershed enhancement projects in Oregon. Data are from the OWEB Grant Management System from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023. This total includes funding from the Oregon Lottery, federal Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund which includes additional investments from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, salmon license plate revenues, and other sources. These dollars

leverage significant funding that is provided by other agencies and partner organizations, increasing the impact of OWEB funding throughout the state.

Table 3 is an excerpt from the 2021-2023 Oregon Plan Biennial Report and showcases key on-the-ground accomplishments during calendar years 2021 and 2022. OWEB publishes OWRI data on an annual basis organized by calendar year, so this report includes 2021 and 2022 data available at the time of publication.

Table 3. Metrics for watershed restoration activities completed and reported from 1/1/2021 to 12/31/2022 as reported by state and voluntary sources in OWRI (OWEB’s Oregon Watershed Restoration Inventory).

Watershed Metric	OWRI	BLM	USFS	Total
Riparian Miles (e.g., Streamside Plantings)	107	12	9	128 miles
Instream Habitat Miles (e.g., Wood Placement)	124	21	119	264 miles
Miles of Fish Habitat Made Accessible (due to stream crossing improvements)	73	19	66	158 miles
Stream Crossings Improved for Fish Passage	71	13	73	157 crossings
Push-Up Dams Retired to Improve Fish Passage	5	--	--	5 push-up dams
Fish Screens Installed on Water Diversions	16	2	--	18 screens
Upland Acres (e.g., Juniper Thinning, Seeding)	109,903	70,613	5,838	186,354 acres
Wetland Acres (e.g., Wetland Habitat Created)	1,177	268	34	1,479.75 acres
Miles of Road Closure and Decommissioning	11	69	75	155 miles
Miles of Road Improvements (e.g., Erosion Control)	21	--	179	200 miles
Miles of Riparian Invasive Treatments	148	--	--	148 miles

Supporting State Priorities & Strategic Collaboration

OWEB participates in multiple interagency initiatives with a statewide impact. These partnerships shape natural resource operations and policy, and help agencies coordinate and plan for strategic investments to address critical environmental issues. They involve significant time investment for agency staff and leadership, and are another reason that OWEB is evaluating current staffing and resource needs.

Oregon Climate Action Commission (OCAC) Natural and Working Lands – House Bill 3409 (2023) named OWEB as the fiscal agent of a new Natural and Working Lands fund and made the

OWEB 2025-27 Sustainability Plan Update

OWEB Executive Director an ex-officio member of the Oregon Climate Action Commission. House Bill 3409 invested \$10 million into the new Natural and Working Lands fund and also created four sub-funds, each of which is allocated to one of four state agencies. The legislation directed the OCAC to determine how to allocate the \$10 million among the four sub-funds in consultation with the four state agencies – OWEB, the Oregon Department of Agriculture, the Oregon Department of Forestry, and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

OWEB worked closely with the OCAC, the Governor’s Office, and the other three Natural and Working Lands agencies to develop a proposal to distribute \$2.25 million in funding through two existing OWEB grant programs. OWEB received the \$2.25 million in grant funding and has been leading an engagement process before launching grant offerings to accept applications.

Water Core Team – OWEB participates in the interagency Water Core Team, which is comprised of representatives from various natural resource agencies, Regional Solutions, Business Oregon, and the Oregon Health Authority. The purpose of this team is to facilitate timely and efficient cross-agency coordination and communication on urgent, emergent, long-term, and strategic water-related issues.

Interagency Ag Water Quality collaboration – OWEB staff meet regularly with representatives from the Oregon Department of Agriculture, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife regarding collaborative efforts with local partners to enhance water quality on agricultural lands and meet state water quality goals. OWEB provides grant funding to support local partner efforts to engage agricultural landowners and managers, provide technical and financial assistance for on-the-ground projects, and evaluate effectiveness of ag water quality improvement efforts.

STREAM Team – OWEB staff lead the interagency STREAM Team. The STREAM Team informs collaborative decision-making to support a healthy environment through coordinated planning, monitoring, and communication of water-related data and information among Oregon’s state natural resource agencies. Accomplishments include regional water monitoring summits, an issue paper describing challenges and recommendations for more efficient sharing of Continuous Water Temperature, and a collaborative water monitoring calendar and map. The monitoring map is being used to inform natural resources monitoring in response to wildfires, among other things.

Shared Stewardship – OWEB is participating with several other natural resource agencies, including the Oregon Department of Forestry, USDA Forest Service, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Bureau of Land Management, to implement an all-lands, coordinated wildfire resiliency plan for the state of Oregon. The agencies jointly identified priority regions of focus for wildfire resiliency efforts and conducted extensive partner and stakeholder engagement prior to finalizing the current version of the plan.

Sustainability Goals

OWEB's mission, role, and strategic plan priorities are strongly connected to sustainability. The following priorities and strategies are excerpted from OWEB's agency strategic plan adopted in 2024. OWEB's full [2024 strategic plan](#) includes additional detail on planned actions and time frames. OWEB will provide quarterly progress reports to the OWEB board regarding strategic plan implementation.

Priority 1: Through our grantmaking, build awareness of the relationship between people and watershed protection and restoration.

- Tell the watershed protection and restoration story clearly and compellingly.
- Elevate the success of watershed restoration and the benefits to the people of Oregon.
- Increase awareness for the long-term horizon of watershed outcomes.
- Emphasize our commitment to partners in watershed work.

Priority 2: Leverage our position as an anchor funder to engage the diversity of Oregonians in watershed enhancement work.

- Pursue diverse representation in watershed work through engagement grant offerings.
- Thoughtfully pursue board and staff diversity.
- Increase engagement with non-traditional partners on working lands and in urban and rural communities.
- Engage communities disproportionately impacted by climate change.

Priority 3: Use our funding to strengthen and leverage capacity of people and organizations to achieve healthy watersheds.

- Elevate expectations for the quality of watershed work in communities.
- Provide training and technical support to increase internal capacity of organizations.
- Incentivize and increase strategic partnerships among people, organizations, and agencies.
- Contribute to a stable funding portfolio for sustained watershed work.

Priority 4: Advance learning about watershed protection and restoration effectiveness through coordinated monitoring.

- Facilitate the use and development of science-based planning tools, indigenous knowledge, and different ways of knowing.
- Facilitate the exchange of information and insight from monitoring while being respectful of tribal sovereignty and self-governance.

- Promote tools and best practices to connect all forms of ecological knowledge to the practitioners.
- Monitor the effectiveness of actions in pursuit of climate objectives.
- Invest in long-term monitoring efforts.

Priority 5: Increase investment connecting urban and working lands to watershed health.

- Improve the engagement of working lands in coordinated watershed strategy.
- Increase adoption of best practices among landowners.
- Communicate the economic benefits of healthy watersheds for working lands.

Priority 6: Take bold and innovative action toward funding projects that advance climate resilience.

- Pursue and support experimental programs.
- Make room to try new techniques in restoration.
- Design actions to respond and mitigate the effects of climate change on watershed health.
- Identify and develop new and innovative ways of pursuing watershed health and communicating climate benefits.
- Reduce barriers in grantmaking.

Conclusion

The 2025-27 OWEB Sustainability Plan Update links OWEB’s mission and strategic plan to state priorities related to sustainability. The current plan reports on implementation progress and shares opportunities for OWEB to establish a sustainable future organization structure, fulfill its existing and new responsibilities, and support healthy watersheds, communities, and economies through longtime and new funding programs.



Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board Environmental Justice Council Annual Report 2025

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Cover photo: Camas flowers in the Camp Creek Hills burn unit, April 2025, as a result of the OWEB grant “Regenerating Native Plant Communities with Cultural Fire” to the Long Tom Watershed Council in coordination with the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians.



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AGENCY INTRODUCTION

Mission Statement & Statutory Authority

The mission of the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) is to help protect and restore healthy watersheds and natural habitats that support thriving communities and strong economies. OWEB fulfills this mission by administering grant programs and environmental restoration funds. OWEB's programs enable partner organizations to implement voluntary conservation actions that improve watershed health and provide habitat restoration.

Agency Leadership

Sara O'Brien, *Executive Director*

Stephanie Page, *Deputy Director*

Miriam Scharer, *Business Operations Manager*

Eric Williams, *Restoration Grant Programs Manager*

Courtney Shaff, *Monitoring & Reporting Manager*

Renee Davis, *Acquisitions & Special Programs Manager*

Eric Hartstein, *Senior Policy Coordinator*

Nicole Maness, *Oregon Environmental Restoration Program (OERP) Manager*

OWEB is led by an 18-member policy oversight and decision-making board. Board members represent the public, federally recognized Tribes, five state natural resource agency boards and commissions, Oregon State University Extension Service, and six federal land management and natural resource agencies.

Environmental Justice Personnel

OWEB's internal 10-member Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Awareness (IDEA) team promotes ongoing learning on topics related to diversity, equity, and inclusion for all staff and board members. The Water and Climate Coordinator serves as the agency liaison to the Environmental Justice Council. OWEB has a Tribal Liaison who is the agency's point of contact for Government-to-Government relationships with the federally recognized Tribes of Oregon and is responsible for ensuring that OWEB's programs and policies adhere to our [Tribal Relations Policy](#). More information is available in [OWEB's 2025 Tribal Report](#).

Photo at right: Dogbane plant material and cordage made at the Carbon and Culture Symposium hosted by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.



Agency Budget and Revenue Sources

OWEB's total 2025-2027 biennial budget is \$230 million, of which \$209 million is funding for grants, with the remainder supporting agency operations. Historically, OWEB has received lottery revenues, federal funds, and salmon license plate dollars for its programs. Beginning with the 2021-2023 biennium, OWEB received additional grant funding through General Fund and Other Fund allocations as well as from federal sources, which have grown and diversified. OWEB's 2025-2027 staff includes 47.5 full-time positions, of which 5.5 are limited duration. Information is available in [OWEB's 2025-2027 Legislatively Adopted Budget](#).

Agency Programs

Acquisitions

- Land
- Water
- Drinking Water
- Oregon Ag Heritage Program

Restoration

- Open Solicitation
- Weed Grants
- Small Grants
- Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) Cost-Share
- Natural and Working Lands
- BLM Good Neighbor Authority
- Coastal Wetlands

Operating Capacity

- Operating Capacity
- Organization Collaboration
- Partnership Technical Assistance
- Forest Health Collaboratives

Technical Assistance

- CREP Technical Assistance
- Open Solicitation
- Tribal Project Development
- USDA Farm Bill

Focused Investment Partnerships (FIP)

Engagement

- Open Solicitation
- Strategic Implementation Areas

Other

- Environmental Restoration Council

Monitoring

- Open Solicitation
- Quantifying Outputs and Outcomes
- FIP Effectiveness
- Intensively Monitored Watersheds

DEI-EJ Resolution and Strategic Plan

In 2024, the OWEB board adopted a [DEI and Environmental Justice Resolution](#). This resolution acknowledges the dispossession of Tribal communities, the disproportionate impacts of climate change, and the historical marginalization of certain communities from environmental processes and decision-making. This resolution makes explicit OWEB’s commitment to integrating and prioritizing environmental justice throughout our work.

Also in 2024, OWEB developed a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Action Plan with the following five goals:

1. Foster a culture of inclusivity and belonging
2. Provide equitable access to all of OWEB’s services
3. Engage with all Oregonians, actively build relationships, and promote the work of new and non-traditional partners
4. Leverage qualitative and quantitative data to identify needs and track progress
5. Ensure OWEB’s communication is transparent, open, and accessible

These actions are reflected throughout the six priorities of [OWEB’s 2024 Strategic Plan Refresh](#), and in particular, in priority #2, to *leverage our position as an anchor funder to engage the diversity of Oregonians in watershed enhancement work*. In addition to the goals outlined above, the Strategic Plan includes a strategic priority to learn, share, and support efforts to integrate Traditional Ecological Knowledge in effectiveness monitoring. In 2026, the IDEA Team is beginning a refresh of the DEI Action Plan, starting with a revised team charter.

2025 ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE HIGHLIGHTS



Internal Staff Capacity

IDEA Team Training

In October, five staff from the IDEA Team attended a three-day DEI retreat led by the Center for Diversity & the Environment entitled “Exploring Power, Privilege and Tools for Change.” This session empowered IDEA Team members to explore in-depth DEI topics at both personal and organizational levels, which team members are now integrating into how the IDEA Team functions, as well as using these tools and learnings to inform the update to OWEB’s DEI Action Plan.

Photo at left: OWEB IDEA Team members attend the “Exploring Power, Privilege and Tools for Change” retreat.

Meaningful Engagement Session at an All-Staff Meeting

All OWEB staff participated in a 90-minute workshop meant to contribute to a shared understanding of what OWEB expects from the grant application evaluation criteria on *how engagement with, and input from, local communities disproportionately impacted by climate change has informed or will inform the project*. OWEB leadership presented on the development of this criterion and how it ties to both statewide environmental justice efforts and to agency strategy. The session was designed for staff across the agency, from programs to fiscal, to help clarify what we would like to see and how we can improve our guidance to applicants and technical reviewers around this question.



Learning Sessions

As part of OWEB’s commitment to ongoing education, the IDEA team facilitates bi-monthly learning sessions about DEI topics. In 2025, staff from the McKenzie River Trust presented to OWEB staff about their DEI-related programming, including programming geared for folks with limited mobility and diverse levels of ability, such as birding by sound programs for people with visual impairments or a chair with off-pavement capabilities for people with disabilities. Presenters also discussed their outreach and engagement to historically underserved communities, including BIPOC and LGBTQIA+ communities. The McKenzie River Trust’s programming occurs on protected lands, some of which have OWEB conservation easements.

Photo above: Keara Milch pauses for a photo during a demonstration at the Willamette Confluence property in June 2024. Credit: Elizabeth Goward.

Grant Administration

Small Grant Program

The Small Grant Program updated program rules to allow all organizations that are listed as eligible applicants in agency rules to apply to be a Small Grant Team Contact or to apply for a Small Grant Project. The Small Grant Team engagement grant funding supports outreach efforts to engage new Small Grant Team members and potential applicants for program funding. Each Small Grant Team across the state (28 teams) is eligible to receive up to \$20,000 to engage new eligible organizations. Previously, the Small Grant Program was limited to watershed councils, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and Tribes.

Natural and Working Lands Equity Review

The Natural and Working Lands Fund was established to support the adoption of natural climate solutions, with priority given to programs “administered or proposed by an environmental justice community or Indian tribe.” As part of OWEB’s rollout of these funds, the agency conducted a public engagement process and after the application period closed, completed an equity review to evaluate the extent to which Tribes and environmental justice communities applied, either as lead applicants or as partners of lead applicants.

Of the 22 organizations that applied, the majority had prior OWEB experience, however three were new applicants, and two of those three organizations were BIPOC-led. Applications also had a wide geographic range throughout much of the state and included projects in both urban and rural areas. Additionally, applications for the Natural and Working Lands funds were quite diverse in the types of projects proposed and the ways they connected their projects to social co-benefits. The equity review also considered other factors that may have impacted whether new applicants or new project types were proposed, including that this grant offering was open for two months, which is shorter than other OWEB offerings, and that the solicitation came at the same time as changes at the federal level, which may have impacted organizations’ capacity to apply.

Map below: Project locations funded by OWEB, ODA, and ODFW across all NWL grant offerings.

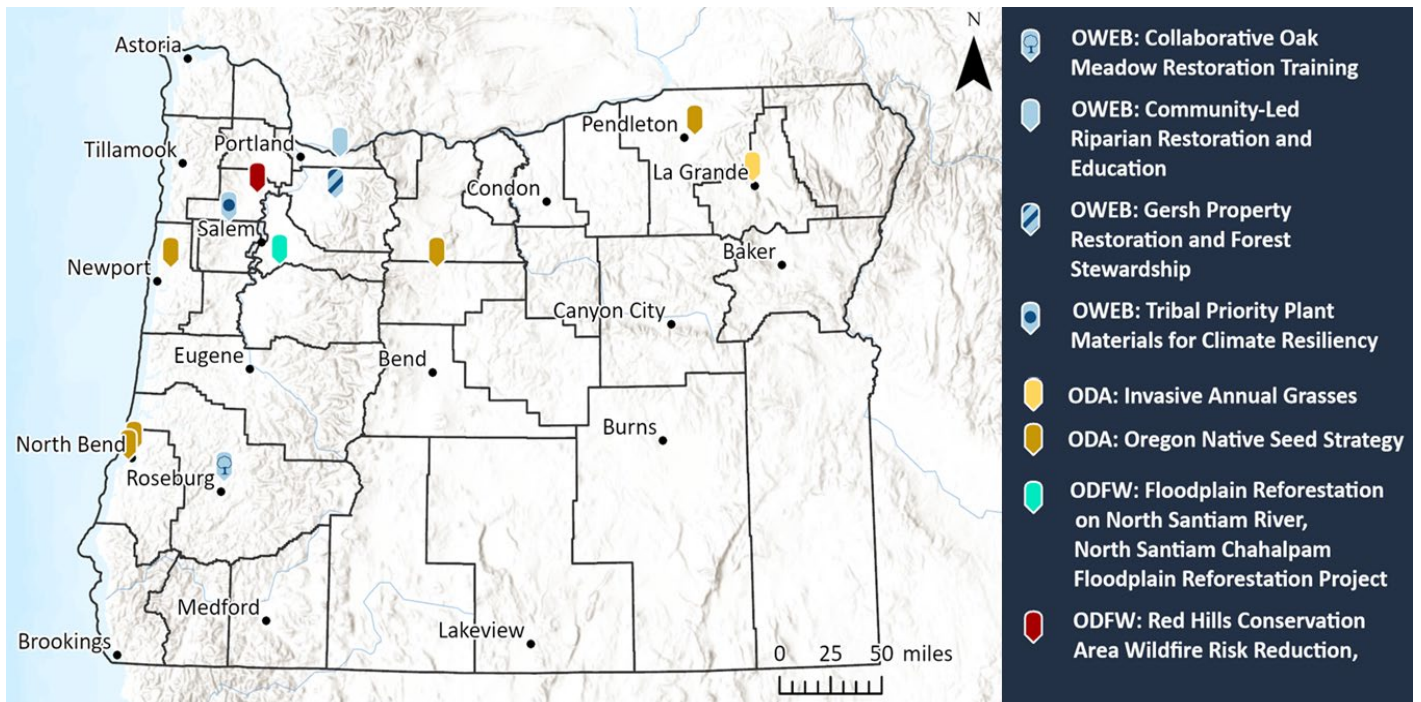




Photo above: Clear Lake Watershed, the City of Reedsport’s sole source of drinking water. Credit: Trout Mountain Forestry.

Funding Allocations

Drinking Water Source Protection

In April 2025, OWEB awarded \$5 million in Drinking Water Source Protection grants to six public water suppliers. These grants support small, rural, and under-resourced communities to protect their drinking water supplies at the source. The grantees include City of Port Orford, City of Reedsport, City of Rockaway Beach, City of The Dalles, Neskowin Regional Water District, and Rhododendron Water Association. Collectively, grantees will be protecting over 5,000 acres of land in their drinking watersheds.

The City of Reedsport is an economically distressed community with a lower-income population, however despite these challenges, the City has prioritized protection of its sole drinking water source for decades. It already owns over 200 acres within the Clear Lake Watershed and, with OWEB funding, is now working on purchasing an additional 332 acres.

Klamath Siskiyou Oak Network Focused Investment Partnership

The Little Butte Oak Initiative project is located in the Little Butte Watershed, northeast of the metropolitan area of Medford. Guided by the Klamath Siskiyou Oak Network (KSON) Strategic Conservation Action Plan, this project aims to reduce the two highest-ranked threats to oak-prairie ecosystems—fire exclusion and conifer encroachment—through restoration actions and strengthened partnerships. KSON and partner organizations are engaging Tribal communities to integrate indigenous priorities into site selection and to incorporate Traditional Ecological Knowledge into conservation actions, ensuring that partnership activities also yield positive outcomes for local Tribal communities. OWEB is one of the funders of this multi-year effort.



Photos at right: Pre-thinned (above) and post-thinned understory (below) in the Little Butte Oak area. Lomakatsi Restoration Project uses Traditional Ecological Knowledge to create wildfire resilience by thinning understory vegetation and implementing cultural burns. Credit: Lomakatsi Restoration Project.



Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council

The Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council (WWBWC) has been conducting more outreach with Latino residents through an OWEB engagement grant. In their application, WWBWC acknowledged that their prior restoration work had taken place on privately owned properties located outside city limits, typically including irrigation districts, government agencies, and English-speaking property owners. While projects have been worthwhile, they have overlooked two major basin communities: those living within the Milton-Freewater city boundary and Latino/Spanish-speaking residents. The WWBWC is offering workshops, in both English and Spanish, to inform the community about the basin's challenges, including inadequate stream flow, high water temperatures and sediment loads, poor habitat complexity, groundwater declines, and fish passage obstructions. Community members will be able to engage with WWBWC staff and partners to identify future projects, and to learn about urban water conservation, pesticide stewardship, and living in a changing climate.

Photo at left: WWBWC with students from the Engineering Club at Walla Walla University on the Couse Creek Restoration site.

Oregon Environmental Restoration Fund

OWEB is responsible for fulfilling the state's responsibilities to administer the [Oregon Environmental Restoration Fund \(OERF\)](#).



This fund was established in 2024 by [Senate Bill 1561](#) to invest the proceeds of a nearly \$700 million settlement between the state and Monsanto for the impacts of the company's polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) chemicals on Oregon's land, water, fish, and wildlife. The settlement dollars will earn investment and interest income, and will be distributed among three sub-funds:

- The **Tribal Nation Natural Resource Program Fund** will distribute 25% of the disbursement to federally recognized sovereign Tribes in the state of Oregon. These payments will be made in equal amounts to each of the nine federally recognized Tribes, who may use the funds to invest in their stewardship of natural resources.
- The **State Agency Program Fund** will receive 50% of the disbursement to support the work of state agencies whose mission has a nexus with the settlement terms.
- The **Disproportionately Impacted Community Fund** will receive 25% of the disbursement. A grant program will support projects and programs that directly benefit impacted communities.

In 2025, OWEB hired staff to provide support to the 13-member Council that will oversee stewardship of the OERF and sub-funds. In 2025, the Council initiated rulemaking to guide the process for the

disbursement of the Tribal Nation Natural Resource Fund. Rulemaking for the Agency Program Fund and the Community Impact Fund will take place later in 2026.

ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ISSUES

(ORS 182.550 SECTION 1)

Environmental Justice Consideration Process

Does the agency have a defined process for incorporating environmental justice factors into agency operations and decision-making?

In July 2023, the OWEB Board first adopted climate-related evaluation criteria (OAR 695-005-0045), which apply to grant programs including Restoration, Engagement, Monitoring, Technical Assistance, Outcome-Based Watershed Council Operating Capacity, Land Acquisition, Water Acquisition, and Focused Investment Partnerships. These criteria have also recently been incorporated by the board in OWEB’s Drinking Water Source Protection Grant Program through OAR 695-048-0110(5) and in the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program (OAR 698-005-0045). The first criteria, *how engagement with, and input from, local communities disproportionately impacted by climate change has informed or will inform the project* makes environmental justice considerations a key part of our competitive grant applications.

How does your agency keep track of identified environmental justice issues?

OWEB has an internal IDEA team that meets monthly and includes representatives from all sections of the agency; OWEB’s Tribal Liaison and a member of the agency’s Executive Team are permanent members. This team is responsible for helping develop the agency’s DEI Action Plan and tracking implementation progress, organizing efforts to build agency DEI capacity, and working with OWEB’s Executive Team to operationalize DEI and environmental justice practices. Additionally, IDEA Team members actively follow emerging environmental justice topics for incorporation into agency planning, and also share new topics, issues, and stories with staff via a DEI-focused Teams chat.

Environmental Justice Community Considerations

How does your agency define environmental justice communities?

OWEB uses the definition of environmental justice communities from the Environmental Justice Council and HB4077, “communities of color, communities experiencing lower incomes, communities experiencing health inequities, tribal communities, rural communities, remote communities, coastal communities, communities with limited infrastructure and other communities traditionally underrepresented in public processes and adversely harmed by environmental and health hazards, including seniors, youth and persons with disabilities.” A slightly modified version of this definition has been adopted by the OWEB Board in a rule defining “Local Communities Disproportionately Impacted by Climate Change” for the agency.

What tools does your agency use to identify and prioritize environmental justice communities?

In advance of a statewide environmental justice mapping tool, [OWEB's guidance for addressing climate-related evaluation criteria](#) provides applicants the following resources for identifying and engaging with communities disproportionately impacted by climate change:

1. [State of Oregon Climate Equity Blueprint](#): the guiding questions that start on page 18 are a good place for applicants to start in considering how to conduct meaningful community engagement.
2. [Oregon by the Numbers report](#): from the Ford Family Foundation is a good resource for identifying demographic trends and highlighting those community indicators that might be outliers relative to the rest of the state.
3. [Capacity Building Through Effective Community Engagement](#): from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is a concise 7-page booklet, a roadmap to building trust within a community, outlined on page 4 is especially useful.
4. [Best Practices for Community Engagement](#): should be incorporated for Technical Assistance applications that are doing community engagement plans.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION & MEANINGFUL INVOLVEMENT (ORS 182.535 SECTION 2)

ORS 182.550 Section 2: Increase public participation of individuals and communities affected by agencies' decisions.

Meaningful Involvement: (ORS 182.535 Section 7)

“Meaningful Involvement” means:

- (a) Members of vulnerable populations have appropriate opportunities to participate in decisions about a proposed activity that will affect their environment or health;
- (b) Public involvement can influence a decision maker's decision;
- (c) The concerns of all participants involved are considered in the decision-making process; and
- (d) Decision makers seek out and facilitate the involvement of members of vulnerable populations.

Public Engagement Policy and Processes

Does your agency have a public engagement process for promoting community participation in agency decision-making processes? Describe the current level and quality of public participation.



Photo above: Representatives from the Network of Oregon Watershed Councils, Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts, and Oregon Association of Conservation Districts provide public comment at an OWEB board meeting.

OWEB promotes community participation in agency decision-making in several ways, including:

- Inviting members of the public to submit verbal or written comments for consideration during our board and committee meetings. We have also shifted to virtual or hybrid board and committee meetings, which allow the public to engage in agency decision-making even if they cannot attend an in-person meeting. OWEB regularly receives and considers public comment for board and committee meetings.

- Bringing together local partners for panel discussions during board meetings. Local partner panels are intended to improve understanding of how OWEB funds are utilized by these partners for on-the-ground projects as well as how important OWEB funds are to sustaining local organizations. During panel discussions, local partners have an opportunity to share ideas about how OWEB processes and funding could be adjusted to better meet emerging challenges and opportunities.

For example, in December 2025, a Tribal panel presented to the Acquisitions and Restoration Board Committee about the barriers that have made land acquisitions difficult or less desirable for Tribes to access. Panelists discussed challenges such as cost share requirements, longer-term stewardship funding, and conflicts between conservation easement content and Tribal sovereignty.

Photo at right: A panel of local north coast partner organizations led a discussion with the OWEB board and staff in Astoria about meaningful engagement with non-traditional and traditional communities in watershed work in coastal Oregon.



- Regularly recruiting representatives from environmental justice communities to participate in Rules Advisory Committees (RACs). Members of the public are also invited to provide comments as part of the RAC meetings. These meetings are virtual and OWEB accepts verbal and written comments at each meeting.
- In some instances, prior to initiating rulemaking, OWEB has begun implementing a scoping/public engagement phase to better understand challenges and opportunities faced by our partners that could be affected by new rules. For example, prior to initiating rulemaking to establish rules for capacity grants for Soil and Water Conservation Districts and Watershed Councils, OWEB is facilitating a series of regional and virtual listening sessions.
- The law governing the OERP, directs the Oregon Environmental Restoration Council (OERC) to consult with related agencies and the EJC in establishing strategic priorities for the State Agency Program Fund and Community Impact Fund. In 2026, the OERC will be developing the fund's strategic priorities, informed by engagement including outreach to impacted communities.

Targeted Audiences

With which audiences does your agency engage?

OWEB regularly engages with Soil and Water Conservation Districts, irrigation districts, non-profit organizations such as Vesper Meadow and The Nature Conservancy, watershed councils and land trusts, federally recognized Tribes, local governments, and state and federal agencies, among others. Many of OWEB's grants go to organizations that serve rural communities.

Has the agency performed an analysis to determine groups impacted by agency decisions?

In 2023, OWEB conducted an evaluation of the agency's grantmaking, which identified opportunities to improve equitable distribution of grant funding for restoration. OWEB is committed to implementing the recommendations identified by this project, many of which are ongoing efforts, such as simplifying grant applications and project reporting.

ORS 182.550 Section 3: Determine the effect of agencies' decisions on environmental justice communities.

Does your agency measure the impacts of agency decisions on environmental justice in Oregon communities? Why or why not?

Over the past several years, OWEB has undertaken two efforts to measure the impacts of agency decisions on environmental justice communities, including a 2021 assessment of how our practices impact federally recognized Tribes' ability to apply for and receive agency grants and a 2023 evaluation of grantmaking barriers and opportunities.

The Natural and Working Lands Equity Review, mentioned above, is another example of our efforts to understand whether agency processes and decision-making have had the intended impacts.

AGENCY ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PROGRESS (ORS 182.550 SECTION 4)

ORS 182.550 Section 4: Improve plans to further improve environmental justice in Oregon.

How is EJ built into agency strategic plans?

OWEB's 2024 Strategic Plan refresh has environmental justice considerations included throughout. These include priority actions around expanding work with non-traditional partners, including Traditional Ecological Knowledge in effectiveness monitoring approaches, and deepening our work in urban watersheds.

What does your agency need to further develop and implement environmental justice policies at the agency?

1. Increased collaboration and resource sharing with other state agencies and small agency boards and commissions on environmental justice training opportunities.
2. Improved coordination among the natural resource agencies in engaging environmental justice communities to ensure that outreach is strategic and streamlined.
3. Enterprise-level guidance about how to compensate environmental justice community members who participate in RACs, focus groups, and advisory councils.

ORS 182.550 Section 5: Utilize the environmental justice mapping tool developed under section 12 of this 2022 Act.

How is your agency participating in the development of the environmental justice mapping tool?

OWEB has responded to the requests for agency input on the environmental justice mapping tool and looks forward to utilizing the tool to advance environmental justice considerations in grantmaking decisions.

AGENCY ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COUNCIL ENGAGEMENT 2025

How would your agency like to engage with the EJC in 2026?

In 2025, OWEB has been working closely with the Governor's Office and numerous partners to begin implementation of Senate Bill 1561 (2024) which established the Oregon Environmental Restoration

Program (OERP). The OERP will present to the Environmental Justice Council in early 2026 and will consult with the EJC on the establishment of strategic priorities.

OWEB plans to use the council’s environmental justice mapping tool to support and enhance equity in grantmaking and will update resource materials to encourage OWEB grantees and partners to use the tool once it is developed. The tool will also help OWEB understand where funding gaps exist and how OWEB and other partner funding programs can be the most helpful.

AGENCY MEANINGFUL-ENGAGEMENT-RELATED LEGISLATION

Please share agency-impacted legislation that includes language regarding meaningful engagement. Example: HB 3293 (2021)

How do agencies collaborate when multiple agencies are listed?

HB 3293 (2021). OWEB is one of six agencies considered to be “a provider of water project support” referenced in the bill. The bill requires each provider of water project support to, in coordination with the other providers, adopt rules recognizing best practices for community engagement. OWRD led rulemaking and the other natural resource agencies are incorporating the practices into relevant program guidance and rulemaking as applicable.

HB 3409 (2023). This bill established a \$10 million Natural and Working Lands (NWL) Fund to support natural climate solutions. OWEB received \$2.25 million to support Tribes, landowners, land managers, and environmental justice communities in implementing projects that protect or enhance net biological carbon sequestration and improve ecosystem resilience while also supporting human well-being through the social, health, and economic co-benefits of these solutions.

SB 1561 (2024). In the 2024 legislation, OWEB was selected as the administrator to fulfill the state’s responsibilities under the State of Oregon vs. Monsanto settlement over PCBs. The legislation established an Environmental Restoration Council to be staffed by OWEB to administer the settlement funds. OWEB is administering the state’s responsibilities to work with the council to adopt rules, identify funding priorities, and transfer funds as described in the legislation to state agencies, Tribes, and a disproportionately impacted community grant fund.

DEFINITIONS

Environmental Justice: (ORS 182.535 Section 3)

“**Environmental justice**” means the equal protection from environmental and health risks, fair treatment and meaningful involvement in decision making of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, immigration status, income or other identities with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies that affect the environment in which people live, work, learn and practice spirituality and culture.

Environmental Justice Community: (ORS 182.535 Section 4)

“**Environmental justice community**” includes communities of color, communities experiencing lower incomes, communities experiencing health inequities, tribal communities, rural communities, remote communities, coastal communities, communities with limited infrastructure and other communities traditionally underrepresented in public processes and adversely harmed by environmental and health hazards, including seniors, youth and persons with disabilities.

Meaningful Involvement: (ORS 182.535 Section 7)

“**Meaningful involvement**” means:

- (a) Members of vulnerable populations have appropriate opportunities to participate in decisions about a proposed activity that will affect their environment or health;
- (b) Public involvement can influence a decision maker’s decision;
- (c) The concerns of all participants involved are considered in the decision-making process; and
- (d) Decision makers seek out and facilitate the involvement of members of vulnerable populations

Environmental Burdens: (ORS 182.535 Section 2)

“**Environmental burden**” means the environmental and health risks to communities caused by the combined historic, current, and projected future effects of:

- (a) Exposure to conventional pollution and toxic hazards in the air or in or on water or land;
- (b) Adverse environmental conditions caused or made worse by other contamination or pollution; and
- (c) Changes in the environment resulting from climate change, such as water insecurity, drought, flooding, wildfire, smoke and other air pollution, extreme heat, loss of traditional cultural resources or foods, ocean acidification, sea-level rise, and increases in infectious disease.

APPENDIX

[Senate Bill 420 \(2007\)](#)

Legislation established the Environmental Justice Task Force, the predecessor for the Environmental Justice Council. It also includes requirements for the Task Force to submit biannual reports to the Governor and the requirement for natural resource agencies to submit an annual report to the Environmental Justice Task Force.

[House Bill 4077 \(2022\)](#)

Legislation established the Environmental Justice Council, the Council's responsibility to develop an environmental justice mapping tool, develop a biannual report to the Governor, and the requirement for natural resource agencies to submit an annual report to the Environmental Justice Council.

[ORS 182.550 Reports by Natural Resource Agencies](#)

All directors of natural resource agencies, and other agency directors as the Governor may designate, shall report annually to the Environmental Justice Task Force and to the Governor on the results of the agencies' efforts to:

1. Address environmental justice issues;
2. Increase public participation of individuals and communities affected by agencies' decisions;
3. Determine the effect of the agencies' decisions on environmental justice communities;
4. Improve plans to further the progress of environmental justice in Oregon; and
5. Utilize the environmental justice mapping tool developed under section 12 of this 2022 Act.

[House Bill 3409 \(2023\)](#)

Legislation established a \$10 million fund (with OWEB distributing \$2.25 million) to provide financial incentives and technical support to help Tribes, landowners, land managers, and environmental justice communities adopt practices that support natural climate solutions.

[Senate Bill 1561 \(2024\)](#)

Legislation established an Environmental Restoration Council to be staffed by OWEB to fulfill the state's responsibilities to administer the settlement funds from the State of Oregon vs. Monsanto.

Oregon Sustainability Board — Charter (DraftV2 – June2026)

I. Preamble & Mission

The Oregon Sustainability Board (OSB) exists to advance a balanced approach to sustainability, ensuring the environmental, economic and community objectives of today are met without compromising future generations' ability to meet their own.

This Charter operationalizes OSB's purpose, authorities, and duties; and sets expectations for governance, engagement, and accountability consistent with Oregon law and executive direction.

II. Relevant Statutes, Executive Orders, and Policies

1. Statutory Foundation: Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 184.421–184.435 define sustainability, statewide goals, OSB membership, powers, stakeholder consultation, and biennial reporting obligations.
2. Executive Orders: EO-03-03, EO-06-02, EO-17-20, EO-17-21, EO-20-04, EO-25-26, EO-25-29 provide statewide sustainability, greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction, procurement, and built environment directives.
3. Statewide Policies: DAS 107-009-0040 (Sustainable Procurement), 107-011-010 (Energy & Resource Conservation), 107-009-0080-PO (Green Chemistry Procurement Guidelines).

III. Purpose & Scope

The OSB shall lead and coordinate measurable sustainability planning across state agencies; advise on policy and legislation; consult interested and impacted parties; review agency sustainability strategies and plans; and submit a biennial report to the State Legislature.

IV. Board Composition, Tenure & Support

The Board includes the Governor - or designee - plus ten members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Members generally serve four-year terms, and can

be appointed to fill a vacancy or ask to serve additional terms. The Office of Sustainability within the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) provides administrative support.

V. Governance

The Board meets at least quarterly. A majority of current members constitute a quorum. Decisions are made by majority vote when consensus is not possible. Traditionally, the Secretary of State serves on the Board as the Governor's designee and the Board Chair. A Vice-Chair shall be selected amongst Board members to serve a one year term assisting the Board Chair and staff. Board members may meet with staff and other parties on special projects outside of the quarterly meetings. Staff shall appropriately notice meetings of the Board per applicable statutes and rules. Conflicts of interest must be disclosed per applicable statute and rules. The Board's internal policy for conflict of interest is outlined below:

- Board members are to notify staff when referencing OSB membership during communication with a state agency.
- Board members are to declare any conflicts upon receipt of an upcoming meeting agenda.
- Board members are asked to recuse themselves if they are actively pursuing paid work with a state agency (e.g., preparing a bid to RFP) that happens to be presenting before the Board.

VI. Board Responsibilities & Deliverables

OSB provides guidelines for sustainability strategies and plans relevant for all state agencies regardless of mission alignment or size of operational footprint. As guided by statute and executive orders, the Board reviews agency plans on a reoccurring basis, issues biennial legislative reports that include recommendations for elected representatives to consider, provides support letters on relevant topics, and engages communities to advance sustainability throughout Oregon.

VII. Distinction from Other Governor Appointed Boards and Commissions

The OSB differs from other governor appointed bodies in its statutory scope, mandates in executive orders, and cross sector integration. While many commissions address specific

policy domains, for example, climate mitigation, transportation, and environmental quality and justice, the OSB is uniquely charged under the Oregon Sustainability Act to integrate environmental, economic, and community goals into statewide sustainability governance.

Unlike commissions with regulatory or advisory roles confined to particular sectors, the OSB reviews and guides sustainability plans across all Executive Branch agencies, ensuring alignment with executive orders, statewide sustainability policies, and operational performance. This includes operational areas such as procurement, fleet management, facilities, energy use, and resource conservation, as well as strategic alignment with long-term statewide sustainability goals.

The OSB also emphasizes systems level coordination, bringing together agencies, local governments, businesses, and community leaders, reflecting its charge to support sustainable economic and community development, not solely emissions reduction or sector specific outcomes. This integrator function distinguishes the Board as a statewide governance mechanism designed to bridge policy silos and ensure holistic, future oriented decision making

VIII. Amendment & Review

This Charter may be amended by majority vote following public notice. Comprehensive review occurs every three years or upon major policy changes.

Oregon Sustainability Board
OSB Work Plan V2, Updated April 2026

Focus Area	Project/Initiative	Board Role	Lead Board member	Timeline	Status and Other Comments
Fleet Decarbonization	EV acquisition + charging infrastructure expansion	Letter of support for funding request on topic	Josh Proudfoot	Draft letter to be approved at September meeting.	approved, staff will include in budget proposal for consideration by DAS director and Governor Office.
Sustainable Buildings	Sustainable design guidelines for state buildings, parking lots, and landscapes	Advise DAS on sustainable design principles and concepts; advocate for policy, incorporation in capital project funding review process, and/or legislation.	Webly & Elin	DAS to initiate engagement ASAP (work plan in development). Draft policy to decision makers by end of year?	HB 3409 (2023) calls on DAS to develop sustainable design guidelines for the enterprise. OSB has expressed interest in assisting in development of the SDGs and promoting their use by state agencies.
Statewide Sustainability	Sustainability Plan Guidelines	Update existing plan guidelines to be of value for all state agencies. Include a presentation template to assist agencies in preparing presentations to the OSB.	Webly & Elin	Elin, Webly, Z currently working on update - proposed update to be shared in advance of June meeting (ideally approved during June meeting).	- Review and approve language for agency sustainability plan guidelines with consultation with the EJTF. - GHG metrics (Scope 1 & 2), Scope 3 where feasible? - Water conservation
Statewide Sustainability	Sustainability Summit / 25th Anniversary Celebration	OSB as "host organization" - board members as active participants, hosting sessions / facilitating discussions, etc.	Rex, Chris, Cassidy	**Target date is September 10	Opportunity to engage other boards / commissions related to sustainability (OCAC, OTC, EJTF, EQC, etc.) as well as the Interagency Sustainability Coordinators Network (ISCN)
Statewide Sustainability	Legislative Report	Statutory required report	Secretary Read	can be shared in advance of session. Statutory deadline - March 30 of 2027.	

Ongoing initiatives / 'parking lot items'

Fleet Decarbonization	Increase renewable diesel fuel use as bridge fuel.	Letter of support as appropriate		TBD - depends on opportunities	
Procurement	Advance renewable energy use by DAS / state agencies. Explore Direct Access as a potential path (i.e., contracting directly with renewable energy service provider instead of utility).	Advocate for best path forward once options are identified.		Stretch goal to be done by EOY - likely a 2027 task	Day to day work on this task doesn't seem to be appropriate for OSB engagement. Staff proposes to pursue internally and update OSB / ask for guidance at key intervals.
Statewide Sustainability	Agency presentations on sustainability plan progress / updates.	Receive presentations from agency leadership on a regular internal.		Staff to identify which agencies are due to present to OSB at beginning of year.	
Statewide Sustainability	DAS statewide sustainability policies	Review policies and make suggestions for improvement and impact.		Ongoing - as policies are up for renewal	Examples include: - Energy management and conservation policy - Sustainable procurement policy
Statewide Sustainability	Sustainability awards program	Board would lead up statewide awards program.		Initiate if capacity available come June	Board historically supported an awards program, but efforts were phased out.
Sustainable Buildings	Building Portfolio Standards (HB3409)	Receive updates on implementation. Advocate for improvements / funding as deemed appropriate.		Ongoing - fit into OSB agendas as needed / time allows.	



Department of Administrative Services

STATE OF OREGON EXECUTIVE BUILDING

2026 Oregon Sustainability Board -- DRAFT

Agency Sustainability Plan Guidelines



OFFICE OF
SUSTAINABILITY
Oregon Department of
Administrative Services



Oregon Sustainability Board
Governor's Sustainability Office
900 Court St, NE, Ste. 160
Salem, OR 97301

Introduction

This document provides guidelines for state agencies that are developing sustainability strategies or plans for the first time or revising existing plans or strategies. The Oregon Sustainability Board has designed these guidelines to help agencies put the concepts of sustainability into plans and, ultimately, into practice, contributing to sound stewardship of Oregon’s natural, social, and economic systems for today and tomorrow.

For additional guidance or assistance, contact the Office of Sustainability within the Department of Administrative Services (DAS):

Zechariah Heck, Statewide Sustainability Officer
(971) 493 - 8531
Zechariah.Heck@das.oregon.gov

Steven Markham, Statewide Sustainability Analyst
(503) 932-6319
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Why develop a sustainability plan?

State agencies in Oregon are expected to develop sustainability plans not only as a best practice, but to comply with state laws, executive orders, and statewide policies that integrate sustainability into government operations and decision-making.¹ That said, sustainability plans do not need to be standalone documents. Agencies are encouraged to integrate sustainability strategies into existing planning or reporting processes wherever appropriate to reduce duplication of effort and avoid unnecessary reporting.

The Oregon Sustainability Act defines sustainability as balancing environmental, economic, and community needs for current and future generations, while subsequent executive orders and policies require agencies to improve energy and resource efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, support equitable and resilient communities, and incorporate sustainable procurement, fleet, and facility practices. A comprehensive sustainability plan helps agencies meet these obligations, improve operational efficiency, reduce long-term costs and risks, strengthen public trust, and support Oregon’s long-term environmental, economic, and social well-being.

Approaches to Sustainability Planning

Oregon’s state agencies vary widely in their missions, facility and fleet characteristics, and program responsibilities. To ensure that each agency contributes meaningfully while avoiding unnecessary burden, the OSB suggests two criteria to guide expectations for sustainability planning:

¹ See Appendix for list of applicable statutes, executive orders and statewide policies.

Criterion 1: Mission Relevance

Some agencies have missions that directly influence Oregon’s overarching environmental quality, climate resilience, natural resources, transportation systems, social equity, economic wellbeing, or community health. Here, an agency’s mission relevance applies regardless of agency size or operational footprint. For these agencies, program design and service delivery are major drivers of sustainability outcomes.

Agencies with sustainability-related missions should at least have a ‘sustainability strategy’ that:

- Focuses on how agency programs, policies, and investments advance long-term sustainability outcomes for Oregon.
- Describes how the agency’s programs relate to climate, equity, and community impact.
- Includes operational sustainability as suggested below in Criterion 2.

Criterion 2: Operational Footprint

Agencies differ in their level of control over operations (i.e., facilities, fleet, and infrastructure). The Board identifies three categories that agencies can self-identify with:

1. Little-to-no operational control: Leased facilities, small or no fleet, no bulk fuel or owned assets.
2. Medium operational control: Leased facilities but pay utility bills and/or have ability to track energy use; moderate fleet size with some influence on vehicle type; and/or field programs where sustainable strategies could be employed.
3. High operational control: Owned facilities, land, or bulk-fuel systems; large fleets with diverse occupational needs; and various programs where sustainable strategies can be employed.

When combined, these two criteria guide agencies toward an appropriate approach to developing a sustainability strategy or plan, depending on mission relevance and operational control. The next section provides specific guidance for agencies as they develop their plan.

Sustainability Plan Template

Use the table below to determine which elements to include in your sustainability strategy or plan. Start at the top and work downward – your responses will point you to the questions and metrics that apply to your agency.

Criterion 1: Mission Relevance
Agency does not have an overarching mission related to sustainability: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ No expectations
Agency has an overarching mission that relates to sustainability: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➔ Include statement in biennial budget proposal speaking to how the agency advances Oregon’s sustainability objectives (reference Sustainability Act and relevant Executive Orders). ➔ Encouraged to include narrative in sustainability plan by answering any of the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How does your agency’s mission align with Oregon’s definition of ‘sustainability’? - How do your agency’s programs or services influence the environmental, social, or economic well being of Oregon communities? - How does your agency assess the downstream or upstream effects of its work on natural resources, community health, and overall resilience?

- How do equity considerations influence the way your agency evaluates the external impacts of its programs or regulations?
- How does your agency engage communities to understand the external impacts of your programs?
- Are there policies, mandates, or operational constraints that limit your ability to maximize positive external sustainability outcomes? If so, what would help?
- What innovations or cross-agency collaborations could expand the positive external impacts of your agency's work?
- How does your agency consider intergenerational impacts when designing programs or setting priorities?
- What external sustainability successes or challenges from your recent work could the OSB learn from or help amplify?

Criterion 2: Operational Footprint

****Little-to-no operational control**

➔ Agencies in this category are not expected to develop a strategy or plan. However, such agencies should regularly check-in with the DAS Sustainability Office to confirm awareness of the latest statewide policies related to sustainability.

**** Medium operational control**

➔ Agencies in this category should prepare an operational plan with the following metrics, including trends for each to highlight progress or where additional resources are needed.

Metric	Unit	Measure	Data Source
Building Performance Standards (BPS) // Status of facilities enrolled in the State Energy Efficient Design (SEED) Program	Energy Use Intensity (EUI)	Identify facilities that are subject to BPS / SEED and report on compliance.	Facility manager Oregon Dept. of Energy DAS
Percent of Zero-Emission Vehicles in Fleet	Vehicle count	% - Total ZEVs / Total fleet vehicles	Agency fleet manager
Fleet carbon emissions per total vehicle miles travelled	Metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MT CO2e).	Calculated from vehicle fuel mix and total vehicle miles traveled.	DAS Fleet report (annual)
Water consumption	Gallons per meter	Use quantities reported on utility bills (may need to convert to gallons).	Invoices from utilities May need to ask landlord if in leased building and do not directly pay utilities
Waste diversion	Tons	Amount of material diverted from landfill and recycled, salvaged or composted. Estimated by container size and pick-up frequency.	Invoices from utilities May need to ask landlord if in leased building and do not directly pay utilities

**** High Operational Control**

➔ Agencies in this category should develop a comprehensive operational sustainability plan, inclusive of the metrics listed above in addition to the following metrics...

➔ Consider reporting on other relevant metrics, like amount of electric landscaping equipment used or number of staff engaged in sustainability education, events, or trainings.

Metric	Unit	Measure	Data Source
GHG emissions	MT CO2e	Scope 1 – 3 GHG emissions, calculated using the G3C carbon calculator tool (or similar).	Varies – most readily available data comes from financial audit software Contact DAS for access to tool

Installed solar capacity	Annual energy generation in MWh/year	Total amount of electricity solar system(s) produce over a 12-month period.	Facility manager
Percent of renewable fuel used	Gallons	% - total gallons of renewable fuel / total gallons used over a 12-month period	Fleet fuels manager

Setting Goals and Targets

Agencies should establish clear goals and targets tied directly to applicable metrics in the template above to ensure measurable and meaningful progress. These goals must be quantitative, such as percentage reductions or absolute thresholds, and time-bound, with specific interim and long-term milestones. When drafting a sustainability plan, agencies should articulate why each target matters, outline how it will be achieved, and define who is responsible for monitoring and reporting performance.

For agencies with ‘high operational control’ – it is strongly recommended they align their GHG targets with the directives in EO 20-04 (i.e., 45% below 1990 levels by 2035 and 80% below 1990 levels by 2050). These requirements should serve as the minimum standard for agency GHG goals. In your plan, include interim milestones, such as reductions by 2028, to guide progress and enable early adjustments. Be explicit about how GHG reductions will be achieved (e.g., strategies like energy efficiency upgrades, ZEV fleet procurement, and sustainable procurement practices).

Review of Agency Plans

As noted previously, the OSB is charged with assisting state agencies in advancing sustainability throughout both their operational practices and their programmatic work. In fulfilling this role, the OSB seeks to support agencies in identifying their most significant sustainability impacts, strengthening strategic approaches, and aligning statewide efforts to achieve meaningful environmental, economic, and social outcomes. The Board’s engagement is intended to foster collaboration, elevate opportunities, and help agencies integrate sustainability in ways that reflect their core missions and service to Oregonians.

A key step in the Board’s engagement with agencies is regularly meeting with agency staff to discuss their sustainability plan. The OSB aims to meet proactively with agencies whose missions have strong relevance to sustainability (Criterion 1) and those that fall within medium or high operational control categories of Criterion 2. These agencies may have particularly significant opportunities to influence statewide sustainability outcomes through their programs, operations, or regulatory authority.

Plans and updates will be reviewed and either approved or returned with comments and requested improvements. Criteria used in evaluating plans include the following:

- Alignment with the template provided above.
- The clarity and credibility of the agency goals and targets.
- The presence of meaningful actions and timelines.
- The agency’s communication strategy for sharing progress with Oregonians.

To support smooth and high-quality reviews, agencies should share a draft updated plan with the DAS Office of

Sustainability no less than two months prior to their scheduled appearance before the OSB. Sustainability Office staff will review drafts and provide feedback as appropriate. Final updated plans should then be shared with OSB members at least one month before the agency’s presentation so that Board members have adequate time to review materials and offer meaningful input. Once endorsed by the OSB, final plans will be posted on the [agency sustainability plan website](#).

Appendix: State Agency Sustainability Requirements

Statutory Authority

Pursuant to the Oregon Sustainability Act, codified at ORS 184.421–184.435, state agencies are expected to engage in sustainability planning and to conduct agency operations in a manner consistent with the statutory definition of sustainability. Under ORS 184.421, “sustainability” is defined as the use, development, and protection of resources in a manner that meets present needs while ensuring that future generations are able to meet their own needs, viewed from the combined environmental, economic, and community perspectives.

In accordance with ORS 184.423(1)–(3), state agencies, in consultation with the Department of Administrative Services, must integrate sustainability considerations into operational, administrative, and procurement practices designed to:

- Support long-term environmental, economic, and social well-being
- Prioritize facilities, equipment, and goods with demonstrably low life-cycle costs
- Improve efficient use of energy, water, and other resources
- Support rural, distressed, and downtown communities
- Expand opportunities for historically underemployed populations
- Foster partnerships with local communities and businesses
- Protect native habitats, reduce ecological impacts, and restore natural systems
- Reduce contaminants and promote resource reuse and recycling

The Act further establishes the Oregon Sustainability Board, charged with advising the governor, legislators, state agencies and private entities, recommending actions, and advancing policies promoting sustainable statewide environmental, economic, and community objectives. All agencies are directed to assist the Board in the performance of its functions. (ORS 184.427)

Executive Direction

Executive Orders issued by governors of Oregon provide further directions to state agencies regarding the implementation of statutory sustainability mandates:

- **Executive Order 03-03** requires certain state agencies to prepare sustainability plans, adopt performance measures, and operate within a statewide sustainability framework consistent with the statutory responsibilities of the Sustainability Board.
- **Executive Order 06-02** reaffirms the agency planning expectations established under EO 03-03, directs agencies to maintain current sustainability plans, evaluate performance outcomes, and participate in interagency sustainability initiatives.

- **Executive Order 17-20** mandates energy and water conservation measures in state-owned facilities and requires that new construction achieve carbon-neutral performance.
- **Executive Order 17-21** directs agencies to accelerate the conversion of state fleets to zero-emission vehicles as part of statewide efforts to reduce transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Executive Order 20-04** establishes statewide greenhouse gas reduction targets (i.e., 45 percent below 1990 levels by 2035; 80 percent by 2050), requires integration of climate considerations into budgeting and decision-making processes, and directs agencies to center equity considerations in their operations and programmatic activities.
- **Executive Order 25-26** expects state agencies to integrate climate resilience into existing programs and planning processes, with a target of conserving ten percent more climate resilient areas by 2035.
- **Executive Order 25-29** orders certain agencies to implement greenhouse gas reduction strategies and align decisions with the Oregon Energy Strategy, streamline clean energy projects, and build a resilient clean energy economy.

Statewide Policies

Agency responsibilities under statute and executive order are operationalized through statewide administrative policies, including but not limited to:

- **Sustainable Procurement Policy (107-009-0040)**, requiring the use of life-cycle cost analysis and prioritization of environmentally preferable products.
- **Green Chemistry Policy (107-009-0080)**, guiding procurement toward safer chemical alternatives and reduced toxic exposures.
- **Energy and Resource Conservation Policy (107-011-010)**, directing implementation of energy efficiency and resource conservation measures in support of statewide emissions-reduction goals.
- **Fleet Management Policy (107-011-040)**, establishing fleet efficiency standards and requiring the adoption of electric vehicles in state fleets.

2026 Oregon Sustainability Summit – DRAFT AGENDA

September 10, 2026 – 8:30am – 5pm

Dept. of Revenue Conference Space

8:30 – 9:00 AM | Arrival + Coffee

- Informal networking
 - Potential sustainability program / project poster boards around room?
-

9:00 – 9:30 AM | Opening: Where We Actually Are

- Possible comments from Governor/Governor's Office?
 - Chair provides framing, history of Sustainability Act
 - Practitioner story – from agency staff?
-

9:30 – 10:00 AM | The Board's Coordination Role

- Focus on internal clarity and operational effectiveness...
 - What is OSB's role across the sustainability system?
 - Where are roles unclear or duplicative?
 - How can OSB better coordinate, support, or align with other commissions and agencies?
 - What should OSB carry forward into its work plan or biennial report?
-

10:00 – 11:30 AM | Cross-Commission Panel: OSB + Governor-Appointed Boards

- Shared priorities, overlapping mandates, coordination opportunities... Focus on hearing external perspectives, priorities, and coordination needs...
 - What are your commission's sustainability-related priorities?
 - Where do our mandates overlap?
 - Where is coordination needed across commissions?
 - Where are there opportunities to align work for greater statewide impact?
-

11:30 AM – 12:00 PM | Presentation: Updated OSB Sustainability Plan Guidelines

- Overview of updated sustainability plan guidelines, which include guidance for several different types of agencies.
-

12:00 – 1:15 PM | Lunch

- Buffet-style, open-seating
- Presentation during lunch or open conversations at tables?

(Version: OSB Meeting – June 5, 2026)

2026 Oregon Sustainability Summit – DRAFT AGENDA

1:15 PM – 3:00 PM | The Real Work: What Can We Move in 12 Months?

- Three rooms based on OSB’s current focus areas: buildings, fleet, and procurement.
- Participants spend 30 minutes per room and then rotate (~5 minute transitions).
- Intention to identify near-term actions under each focus area... Goal to provide a list of actions for the OSB to consider and prioritize for actualize within defined timeframe.
- Room structure / flow: scene-setting, idea generation, prioritization...

3:00 – 3:15 PM | Break

- Informal networking + refreshments

3:15 – 4:00 PM | Focus Area Report-Outs

- OSB members facilitating each breakout room to share top recommendations, barriers, themes, support needs from Board, etc.
- 10 minutes each focus area.

4:00 – 4:45 PM | Deep Dive: Biennial Report Priorities

- OSB has legislative report due March 2027 (aiming to submit by EOY 2026)...
- Identify report-ready items, needed analysis, legislative vs. administrative paths, interagency dependencies and recommendations for improvements... Highlight what is not working...

4:45 – 5:00 PM | Concluding Remarks from OSB Chair

- Reflection, takeaways, next steps, biennial report timeline.

5:00 – 7:00 PM | Informal Happy Hour / Dinner

- Continued networking opportunity for attendees as interested. Held at local restaurant with group socializing space.

(Version: OSB Meeting – June 5, 2026)