

Fact Sheet

PFAS Strategic Plan

The Department of Environmental Quality is the lead recipient of a \$6 million grant as part of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Columbia River Basin Restoration Funding Assistance Program. This grant supported development of DEQ's statewide PFAS Strategic Plan and will support implementation of priority actions to address "forever chemicals" (per- and poly-fluorinated substances) in Oregon's air, land and water.

About this project

DEQ's PFAS Strategic Plan guides the agency's approach to prevention, reduction, assessment, investigation, and elimination of PFAS throughout the state. DEQ will prioritize actions that have the most significant benefits to air, land and water quality, including, but not limited to pollution prevention, identifying alternatives, modeling PFAS movement, offering guidance or technical assistance to regulated entities, and educating the public on PFAS risks and exposure.

Proposed rulemaking

Addressing existing PFAS contamination requires a varied approach, combining scientific research, regulatory action, and community engagement to ensure a safer and healthier environment for everyone in Oregon. To that end, DEQ has initiated a [rulemaking process](#) to list some PFAS as hazardous substances under Oregon cleanup law. This would give DEQ authority to require investigation, removal, and cleanup actions of PFAS contamination.

Benefits to communities

The Plan benefits Oregon communities by addressing disproportionate risks to communities facing increased PFAS exposure, such as Tribal people who rely on native fish and wildlife and people who live near sources pollution. Toxic contamination, especially from PFAS, poses a significant health risk to these communities. Efforts to prevent PFAS contamination in Oregon will be aimed at reducing and eliminating exposure to disproportionately high levels of contamination.



Translation or other formats

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Project outcomes

Developing and publishing the final PFAS Strategic Plan was an important first step toward addressing PFAS pollution in the Columbia River Basin. Short-term objectives are to gain more knowledge about PFAS, such as:

- PFAS concentrations in air, land and water;
- Sources of PFAS and mitigation approaches; and
- Public awareness about PFAS exposure routes and ways to reduce risks.

Mid-term and long-term outcomes are expected to include reducing PFAS in commercial and industrial use, developing regulatory tools to address and prevent PFAS contamination, properly managing and treating PFAS waste, and collaborating and communicating with interested parties to address PFAS comprehensively.

For more information

Visit DEQ's [web page on PFAS](#) or contact DEQ's Agency Toxics & Emerging Contaminants Strategic Coordinator to learn more about this project:

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