



Fact Sheet

Pesticide Stewardship Partnership Program

The Department of Environmental Quality is the lead recipient of a \$6 million grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Columbia River Basin Restoration Funding Assistance Program to enhance the Pesticide Stewardship Partnership Program. The PSP Program is a long-standing joint effort with the Oregon Department of Agriculture. The PSP Program's goal is to increase voluntary adoption of urban and agricultural practices that keep pesticides on-site and out of aquatic environments. Adopting best practices will help achieve measurable water quality improvements and benefit human health and aquatic life while maintaining effective strategies to control pests and weeds. The PSP Program works closely with partners in eight watersheds in Oregon's portion of the Columbia River Basin.

About this project

The PSP Program will build upon its existing competitive grant program for PSP partners to fund water quality monitoring collection and education and outreach activities. The federal grant will support awarding up to 21 additional outreach and education or technical assistance grants to PSP partners. A review team composed of the Water Quality Pesticide Management Team (an inter-agency group consisting of representatives from state agencies) and ODA/DEQ staff will select projects for funding based on an evaluation of expected project effectiveness, prioritization of work to address pesticides of high concern in the PSP watershed, and other criteria. Grants awarded to PSP partners will support up to 60 presentations at commodity group meetings, watershed council meetings, conferences, or other public events, up to 10 technical workshops or education events, and pesticide collection events. DEQ and ODA will make presentations about pesticide water quality data and implemented actions to local pesticide users in each of the eight watersheds annually.



Photo courtesy of ODA

Benefits to communities

DEQ and ODA are committed to addressing environmental impacts and burdens to communities throughout Oregon. Toxic contamination of fish and water in the Basin creates a disproportionately high health risk for Tribal people and other people who consume high amounts of fish. Actions to address pesticides from entering and spreading in Oregon waters will help recover native fish populations and allow people to eat

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more traditional amounts of fish without being exposed to disproportionately high levels of contamination. Additionally, the PSP Program promotes safe pesticide practices for farmers and farmworkers that protect human health and minimize exposure to toxics.

Project outcomes

In the short-term, the PSP Program anticipates a 5% reduction in the detection frequency and/or median concentration pesticides of high concern and other pesticides through increased outreach and education and adoption of best practices.

In the long-term (i.e., 5-20 years or longer), the PSP Program aims to eliminate pesticide detections above aquatic life benchmarks or water quality criteria in PSP watersheds within the Columbia River Basin.



Photo courtesy of DEQ

For more information

Visit [ODA's PSP Program web page](#) and [DEQ's PSP Program web page](#), or contact the PSP Program to learn more about this project:

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