



Annual Report of the Aquatic Resource Management Program

*Protecting Today, Investing in Tomorrow
Fiscal Year 2025*

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF STATE LANDS

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The 295-foot US Coast Guard EAGLE, a floating goodwill ambassador, approaches the St. Johns Bridge to join the Portland Rose Festival as part of a 14-week journey along the West Coast.

MEET THE PROGRAM



The Aquatic Resource Management (ARM) program at the Department of State Lands protects waters and wetlands for their many contributions to Oregon – streams for swimming and fishing, wetlands to clean water and reduce flooding, and rivers where commerce thrives. The program also manages uses of Oregon-owned waterways, such as for docks, marinas, and utility crossings, which protects the use of those waterways by the public and sends money to the Common School Fund and benefits our K-12 public schools.

This Annual Report of the Aquatic Resource Management Program for July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025 (Fiscal Year 2025) highlights the Program's efforts and accomplishments providing critical environmental protection while addressing community needs.

Morgan Dally, Proprietary Compliance Coordinator for Oregon Department of State Lands, at Upper Table Rock in Jackson County. Rare vernal pools on Table Rock provide unique habitat for endangered wildflowers and animals.

PROGRAM SERVICES

ABANDONED AND DERELICT VESSELS

We work with partners statewide to remove hazardous boats from Oregon waterways.

[More information](#)

OREGON-OWNED WATERWAYS

We manage many publicly owned rivers and lakes for everyone's enjoyment and authorize certain public, private, and commercial uses of these waterways, with revenues supporting K-12 education.

[More information](#)

REMOVAL-FILL PERMITTING

We issue permits for projects that add, remove, or move material in wetlands and other waters and include requirements so that negative impacts to people, fish, and wildlife are minimized.

[More information](#)

ASSISTANCE FOR GOVERNMENTS

We provide technical assistance that helps cities and counties protect wetlands, estuaries, and coastal shorelands, and plan for responsible housing and economic development.

[More information](#)

SUBMERGED LANDS ENHANCEMENT FUND

We fund projects benefiting water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, and waterway users of Oregon-owned waterways.

[More information](#)

ASSISTANCE FOR PROPERTY OWNERS

We help people identify where wetlands are and provide information that lets property owners know if a permit may be needed for a project.

[More information](#)

MITIGATING PROJECT IMPACTS

We promote wetland and stream compensatory mitigation projects that can replace permitted impacts and provide benefits that will be sustained in perpetuity.

[More information](#)

Marisa Mancillas, Wetland Scientist for Oregon Department of Transportation, and Melody Rudenko, Aquatic Resource Management Mitigation Policy Specialist for Oregon Department of State Lands, walk through small-flowered fiddleneck at the ODOT mitigation bank near Medford.

FISCAL YEAR IN NUMBERS

\$2.96M INVESTED

to support removal of hazardous boats to protect Oregon's waterways

\$435K PAYMENTS

to the Department to mitigate for losses of wetlands and streams due to development

1,852 ATTENDEES

at 15 presentations and trainings to support management and restoration of wetlands and waterways

\$4.8M GENERATED

from uses of Oregon-owned waterways

25 PROJECTS

providing wetland and stream habitat offsets that support development in the communities they serve

\$200K IN GRANTS

awarded to improve Oregon's waterways

Spring wildflowers (sea blush and blue-eyed Mary) and Oregon white oak trees create a unique wetland ecosystem at the ODOT mitigation bank near Medford.

TAKEAWAYS FROM THIS REPORT



1. *Protecting School Funding*

Increasing revenue sources,
directing more money to support Oregon's
K-12 public schools



2. *Protecting Oregon's Water*

Collaborating to prevent abandoned boats
from negatively impacting aquatic habitats,
impeding navigation, and damaging property.



3. *Meeting Housing Needs*

Helping balance Oregon's housing growth
with the protection of wetlands

1. Protecting School Funding

When application fees, lease payments, and other revenue sources don't cover program costs, the statutory Common School Fund makes up the difference.

The Department has made significant progress to reduce use of school dollars by making sure revenue covers costs. These efforts ensure Oregon's K-12 public schools can continue to count on the Common School fund dollars to support students.

21% OF COSTS

*of the removal-fill
program are currently
covered by fees*

80% OF COSTS

*of removal-fill
program should be
covered by fees in 2030*

1 METHOD

*proposed for
calculating waterway
leases*

Challenge

One of the greatest challenges has been the Removal-Fill program, where fees for permits and wetland delineations cover only 21% of costs and require an average \$2.8 million subsidy each year.

Similarly, leases for uses of Oregon-owned waterways have relied on multiple calculation methods and outdated fee levels, while also lacking adequate financial assurances, exposing the state to financial and environmental risks.

Undersea cable easements present another challenge, with statutory fees that do not reflect the value of long-term use of the seafloor and therefore limit revenue potential.

Finally, the ADV program, though temporarily supported by a one-time infusion of funding, remains vulnerable without a long-term funding source to sustain removals and prevent risks to navigation, habitat, and water quality.

Next Steps

New removal-fill fees, effective January 1, 2026, will cover 60% of program costs and gradually increase to cover 80% of program costs by 2030.

Updated waterway authorization rules will take effect July 1, 2026 and establish fair and consistent rates, recover administrative costs, and reduce state liability.

For undersea infrastructure, thanks to the passage of Senate Bill 793 (2025), rulemaking is underway and updated administrative rules will be complete in 2026. These rules will reduce liability and risk to the state, align with standards and processes established in Oregon's Territorial Sea Plan, and ensure fees reflect the scale of long-term use and generate revenues for the Common School Fund.

The most pressing need ahead is securing stable funding for the ADV program to ensure this critical work continues without drawing on school resources.

2. Protecting Oregon's Water

There are hundreds of hazardous boats and ships in Oregon's public waterways, including large tugboats, barges, and former military vessels as well as recreational vessels like sailboats and motorboats. These abandoned and derelict vessels (ADV) seriously threaten the health and safety of our rivers, lakes, and ocean by contaminating water and degrading habitat, damaging property, and creating navigational hazards.

The Waterways Stewardship Unit leads the Department's work to address these issues, including implementation of the state's new ADV Program, and supports ongoing collaboration with government agency and community partners to develop long-term solutions for safe and healthy waterways.

20 VESSELS

*removed ranging
from 10 feet to
140 feet long*

32 CLEANUPS

*completed on Oregon-
owned waterways*

765 TONS

*of material removed
from Oregon's
waterways*

\$2,961,853

*invested to support
ADV removal*

Challenge

While the program has been able to celebrate wins both small and large, the problem of ADVs is persistent with heavily impacted areas along the coast and along the Willamette and Columbia rivers.

The three major challenges for the statewide ADV program are:

1. Stemming the flow of ADVs into Oregon waterways
2. Establishing an efficient and consistent process for seizure and deconstruction
3. Identifying a source of sustainable funding

Next Steps

We are navigating challenges by:

1. Partnering with the Oregon Public Ports Association on proactive removal of abandoned vessels via a \$1 million grant from the BoatUS Foundation and NOAA.
2. Implementing SB 795 (adopted by the 2025 legislature) to make the seizure process more efficient and alter the definition of marine debris to seriously derelict vessels.
3. Participating in nationwide efforts to identify and map ADVs.

*The 100-foot Dredge Herb Andersen
had been moored and in decline for
over 20 years on the Columbia River.*

DREDGE DECON TIMELINE

Towed 10 hours from
Astoria to Portland
deconstruction facility

Drydock, environmental
mitigation begins

Cut into sections

Deconstruction complete

NOV 2024

DEC 2024

JAN 2025

FEB 2025

3. Meeting Housing Needs

The Department is responsible for conserving wetlands while also permitting unavoidable wetland impacts. Some wetlands are safeguarded from development at the local level to ensure wetlands continue providing benefits like flood control, habitat for sensitive species, and recreation. Other wetlands may be developed, and replaced elsewhere, but doing so requires permitting from the Department.

As the state agency responsible for ensuring that suitable wetland replacement is completed, the Department needs sufficient staffing and resources to meet ongoing demand.

3 STAFF

doing mitigation work statewide

21 BANKS

providing mitigation bank credits statewide

4 IN-LIEU FEE

projects selling credits statewide

1 NEW BANK

currently in process

\$408,007

accepted by the program from total of 27 permits

Challenge

Meeting Oregon's housing needs is challenged by the continued net loss of wetlands and limited availability of resources and staffing to expand mitigation efforts in high-need areas. Purchasing credits from wetland habitat projects developed by third parties, called mitigation banks, is a convenient and efficient option to compensate for wetland loss. However, many areas do not have this option available and higher-demand areas, like the Willamette Valley, have low credit availability. The Department's own mitigation programs face funding and implementation challenges resulting in unspent funds and limited geographic coverage, constraining the ability to keep pace with demand.

Next Steps

To meet Oregon's no net wetland loss target across all mitigation options, the Department has begun a rulemaking process to encourage wetland restoration and creation to reduce reliance on enhancement of existing wetlands. This will maintain a stable resource base across the state and add wetland acres to the landscape where needed.

For applicants buying wetland credits, the Department is seeking ways to promote additional wetland mitigation bank applications which will increase the amount of credits available. This includes providing additional guidance on what projects qualify as compensatory mitigation, particularly enhancement of existing wetlands, and holding annual coordination meetings for mitigation bank sponsors.

For applicants paying a fee, the Department will use accumulated interest in the Oregon Removal-Fill Mitigation Fund to hire a limited duration position in 2026 to focus on finding wetland compensatory mitigation projects. To deploy the current balance of \$3.8M, the Department has developed a grant agreement template, so that as projects and project partners are identified, timely work can occur.

With additional resources, the Department could take a more active role in advancing compensatory mitigation opportunities by working with communities in high-need areas to plan new mitigation banks, seeking approval from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to expand DSL's mitigation program, and fostering partnerships to fund and deliver projects.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHT



The Dairy Creek Mitigation Bank is a 132-acre site in Banks that services the Tualatin River watershed. The site is both a stream and wetland compensatory mitigation project, one of only three combination banks in Oregon.

Dairy Creek Mitigation Bank is between Phases I and II of construction. When completed in 2026, the bank will provide approximately 87 wetland mitigation credits and 5397 linear feet of stream mitigation.

The site is crucial as the Tualatin River watershed needs wetland and stream compensatory mitigation due to the rapid pace of residential and commercial development in the area.

The success of Dairy Creek Mitigation Bank is a story of collaboration as a mitigation banker, local neighbors, and government partners at all levels have come together in support of this multi-benefit project.



STRATEGIC PLAN CHECK-IN

The Aquatic Resource Management program has been working towards completion of **Strategic Plan** projects.

Some examples of measurable objectives tracked by the plan include:

- Investments in research, projects and practices in climate change and wildfire resilience
- Trainings, presentations, and public meetings held
- Mitigation projects funded
- Publications, maps, GIS data, videos and story maps released

20

number of program projects

26%

program percent of total Strategic Plan projects

20%

percent of projects completed

45%

percent of projects in progress

35%

percent of projects not started

0%

percent of projects continuous

A beaver, nicknamed “Beavonce,” moves through sunlit water in Hedges Creek Marsh, an urban wetland among housing and development in Tualatin.

THE FUTURE



The Department extends its gratitude to our dedicated staff and partners for their efforts in tackling challenges and seizing opportunities to enhance the management and preservation of Oregon's aquatic resources.

Looking towards the future, the Aquatic Resource Management program has identified eight actions to better achieve conservation goals, support public education funding, and manage Oregon's aquatic resources more effectively.

1

RECRUIT AND TRAIN NEW STAFF

Seven new staff positions were approved in our 2025-2027 budget to improve response times for permit processing and to support increased demand for wetland and stream management services. Funding for most positions begins on or after December 15, 2025. Recruiting and training for these staff is critical.

2

MONITOR GENERAL AUTHORIZATIONS

The number of these notice-based authorizations declined in FY25, which may have resulted from a new July 1, 2024 requirement for fish passage plan approval from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. The Department will investigate the reasons behind this trend.

3

UPDATE FEES FOR EASEMENTS

Implement the planned rulemaking on a new fee structure for easements in the territorial sea. This involves setting fees that reflect the administrative cost of processing easements and that compensate Oregon for the long-term uses.

4

REMOVE BARRIERS FOR TRIBES

Complete rulemaking to adjust long-term protection and state access requirements for compensatory mitigation sites to give Oregon's federally recognized Tribes the same options available to public entities. The Department is also working to expand State-Tribal engagement to understand additional solutions.

5

PROMOTE MITIGATION PARTNERSHIPS

Identify additional resources to expand compensatory mitigation options in areas of the state with high compensatory mitigation needs.

6

ESTABLISH A MITIGATION FORUM

Create a forum to pursue opportunities with interested parties, including developing memorandums of understanding or other agreements, joint funding for projects for multiple benefits, and improved data sharing.

7

SEEK ADDITIONAL MITIGATION RESOURCES

Consider options to add capacity for expanding mitigation options. Additional administrative fees for Department-provided mitigation are being considered to support additional staff.

8

IMPROVE HAZARDOUS BOAT MANAGEMENT

Seek sustainable funding for the ADV program to ensure this critical work continues without drawing on school resources.

9

CLIMATE CHANGE RESILIENCY

Investigate ways to improve resiliency of Oregon's wetlands, waterways, and the territorial sea.

Overlooking Oregon and the Columbia River from Dog Mountain Trail in Carson, WA

APPENDIX A: ARM Program Data FY25

The Department reports information to the legislature annually as required by Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) for removal-fill program activities (ORS 196.855 and ORS 196.910) and the Oregon Removal-Fill Mitigation Fund (ORS 196.910).

The number of removal-fill permit decisions, notice responses, and permit renewals the Department makes demonstrates workload and identifies where there may need to be changes, such as if a high number of denials are issued. Table 1 shows permits, notices, and permit renewals made in FY25, including in [Essential Salmonid Habitat](#) (ESH)-designated waterways. One individual permit application that requested a permit waiver was not approved because the project exceeded 50 cubic yards fill in a wetland. The applicant submitted a revised application.

Table 1: New Permit Decisions in FY25

PERMIT TYPE	NON-ESH APPROVED	ESH APPROVED	NON-ESH RENEWED	ESH RENEWED	REQUEST NOT APPROVED
Individual Permit	70	40	148	108	1
General Authorization Notices	19	29	Not renewable	Not renewable	0
General Permit	20	12	45	16	0
Emergency Permit	7	10	Not renewable	Not renewable	0
Voluntary Restoration Notices	36	30	Not applicable	Not applicable	0
Total	152	121	193	124	1

* The Department also made 55 decisions that no state permit was required for the activity described in an application. The Department received 262 new permit applications and notices in FY25. Some are still being reviewed and therefore are not reflected in Table 1.

The volume of fill and removal authorized in FY25 by authorization type is shown in Table 2, as well as the portion of this in Essential Salmonid Habitat (ESH)-designated waterways. The volume of material, shown in cubic yards, affects the fee charged for some types of permits.

Table 2: Volume of Removal and Fill Authorized (Cubic Yards)

PERMIT TYPE	NON-ESH REMOVAL VOLUME	ESH REMOVAL VOLUME	NON-ESH FILL VOLUME	ESH FILL VOLUME	WETLAND REMOVAL VOLUME	WETLAND FILL VOLUME
Individual Permit	15,086,298	1,192,149	3,873,413	1,222,664	13,012,319	1,075,406
General Authorization Notices	14,178	976	11,682	1,185	6,421	6,139
General Permit	28,752	22,245	30,474	17,051	13,934	23,159
Emergency Permit	278	348	897	1,304	0	0
Total	15,129,506	1,215,718	3,916,466	1,242,203	13,032,674	1,104,704

Oregon's wetland conservation goal is to maintain a stable resource base of wetlands. The Department reports wetland area gains and losses by permit type to see whether no net loss was achieved. While wetland losses are compensated for in each removal-fill authorization, gains from mitigation banks and other Department-funded mitigation projects are recorded in the fiscal year they are approved, rather than when the mitigation credits they generate are purchased. Gains from wetland restoration and creation are included, but not enhancement or preservation of existing wetlands. Table 3 shows there was a loss of over 43 acres of wetland from permits and enforcements in FY25 though the majority of those losses were offset by prior mitigation actions.

Table 3: Acreage of Wetland Gains and Losses

PERMIT TYPE	WETLAND ACRES GAINED	WETLAND ACRES LOST	NET WETLAND ACRES
Individual Permit	12.15	54.09	-41.94
General Authorization Notices	1	0	1
General Permit	0	1.68	-1.68
Emergency Permit	0	0	0
Mitigation Bank	0	0	0
Enforcement	0.13	1.13	-1
Total	13.28	56.9	-43.62

The Department monitored 114 of the 491 permits that closed in FY24 to determine compliance with permit conditions. Monitoring helps identify potential issues with specific permit types that may warrant procedural changes or additional guidance. Table 4 shows that 78% of the permits monitored were compliant. While all emergency permits were monitored, only half were compliant.

Table 4: Permit Compliance

PERMIT TYPE	NUMBER MONITORED	COMPLIANT	NON-COMPLIANT
Individual Permit	52	40	12
General Authorization Notices	26	26	0
General Permit	17	15	2
Emergency Permit	19	11	8
Total	114	92	22

Permits that have a site restoration requirement, such as replanting vegetation, or that have completed a compensatory mitigation site, are monitored for success by the permit applicant. Monitoring duration varies but is for a minimum of five years for compensatory mitigation. Table 5 shows 599 permits with monitoring requirements in FY25. The Department closed 33 permits in FY25.

Table 5: Permits With Monitoring

WATERWAY TYPE	NUMBER OF PERMITS WITH MONITORING REQUIREMENTS	OPENED FY25	CLOSED FY25
Wetland	264	16	17
Stream	335	36	16
Total	599	52	33

Violations of the Removal-Fill Law occur when the conditions of a permit are not met, or when there is unauthorized removal-fill activity (without a required permit). The Department monitors permits to ensure compliance with required conditions. Generally, the Department works with permittees to resolve permit non-compliance. When necessary, the Department also uses enforcement actions to deter and correct these violations using fair, transparent, and consistent methods to achieve compliance and program integrity. Table 6 shows compliance checks and enforcement activities that occurred in FY25, including in Essential Salmonid Habitat (ESH)-designated waterways. Compliance checks, enforcement, civil penalties, and final orders do not necessarily occur in the same year. For example, civil penalties may be collected for enforcements opened in prior years. Enforcement actions usually involve negotiations so the amount of civil penalties initially assessed may be higher or lower than the amount collected.

Table 6: Compliance and Enforcement

	NUMBER OF COMPLIANCE CHECKS	ENFORCEMENT FILES OPENED	ENFORCEMENT FILES CLOSED	CIVIL PENALTIES ASSESSED	CIVIL PENALTIES COLLECTED	FINAL ORDERS
Permit Violation, non-ESH waters	63	1	1	\$4,000	\$2,000	1
Unauthorized Removal -Fill, non-ESH waters	89	27	38	\$166,909	\$144,312	9
Permit Violation, ESH waters	66	1	2	\$0	\$0	0
Unauthorized Removal -Fill, ESH waters	89	24	24	\$6,500	\$6,500	4

All counties and cities are required to notify the Department of certain development activities proposed in wetlands or waters that are mapped on the Statewide Wetlands Inventory. Local governments provide information through an online submittal form, and the Department must provide a written response within 30 days to the applicant and local government as to whether the proposed action is likely to require a removal-fill permit and/or a more precise wetland boundary location, known as wetland delineation. Table 7 shows that staff responded to nearly 84% of notices within 30 days or less.

Table 7: Wetland Land Use Notice Response Time

RESPONSE TIME	RESPONSES
30 Days or Less	727
More than 30 Days	140
Total	867

Mitigation banks represent an important efficiency for both the Department and for permit applicants. Mitigation banks can provide greater ecological benefits and are more efficient for Department staff to manage than smaller mitigation sites. The economy of scale with larger mitigation projects adds to the profit margin for the bank sponsor's business venture and allows lower per-credit pricing. A [mitigation banks map](#) is available to the public to identify potential options in their area of interest. Table 8 shows location and cumulative sales and balances of the 21 wetland mitigation banks that were active in FY25.

Table 8: Approved Mitigation Banks

MITIGATION BANK	COUNTY	TOTAL POSSIBLE CREDITS	CREDITS RELEASED	TOTAL CREDITS SOLD (END OF FY25)	CREDITS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE	TOTAL CREDITS REMAINING
Amazon Prairie	Lane	92.81	25.46	11.19	14.27	82.21
Butler	Washington	45.6	38.08	38.05	0.03	7.55
Claremont	Clatsop	11.62	11.61	6.82	4.78	4.78
Dairy Creek	Washington	87.56	18.22	4.94	13.28	82.62
Garret Creek	Clackamas	15.49	13.29	12.69	0.6	2.19
Marion	Marion	45.42	45.42	44.14	1.29	1.29
Mary's River	Benton	71.4	57.12	56.9	0.2	14.5
Mid-Valley phase 2	Benton	21.52	21.07	21.06	0.007	0.46
Muddy Creek	Benton	59.1	53.2	53	0.2	6.1
Mud Slough phase 4	Polk	42.58	42.58	39.38	3.2	3.2
Oak Creek	Linn	38.98	22.59	22.58	0.005	16.39
ODOT Bobcat Marsh	Washington	5.26	5.26	4.79	0.46	0.46
ODOT Crooked River	Crook	5.32	4.79	2.67	2.12	2.65
ODOT Greenhill	Lane	8.11	4.87	1.14	3.73	6.97
ODOT Lost River	Klamath	13.44	10.73	4.3	6.42	9.13
ODOT Vernal Pool	Jackson	20.95	18.09	11.34	6.74	9.6
Rogue Valley	Jackson	24.7	24.7	19.76	4.94	4.94
South Santiam	Linn	50.49	40.45	40.44	0.008	10.05
Tualatin Valley	Washington	31.13	31.13	31.06	0.07	0.07
Wilbur Estuary	Lane	44.12	33.09	11.84	21.24	32.27
Yoncalla Creek	Douglas	26.49	9.26	6.178	3.08	20.31
Total		762.09			86.67	317.74

Purchasing mitigation credits directly from the Department of State Lands is one mitigation option. DSL deposits credit payments to the Removal-Fill Mitigation Fund, which provides grants for mitigation projects that replace the resources lost. The Department offers two types of mitigation credits: payment in-lieu credits and in-lieu fee credits. Payment in-lieu credits satisfy state mitigation requirements and are available for all areas of the state. In-lieu fee credits satisfy both state and federal mitigation requirements and are available only in areas of the state approved by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). Table 9 shows activities and credits sold through these programs in FY25.

Table 9: Mitigation Credits Sold by DSL

PAYMENT IN-LIEU (PIL) AND IN-LIEU FEE (ILF) CREDIT INFORMATION	
Number of Permits using the PIL Program	27
PIL \$ Totals	\$408,007.37
PIL Credits Sold	4.437
Number of Permits using the ILF Program	3
ILF \$ Totals	\$27,409.33
ILF Credits Sold	0.23
Mitigation Fund Deposits \$ Total	\$435,416.70
Total Mitigation Credits Sold	4.667

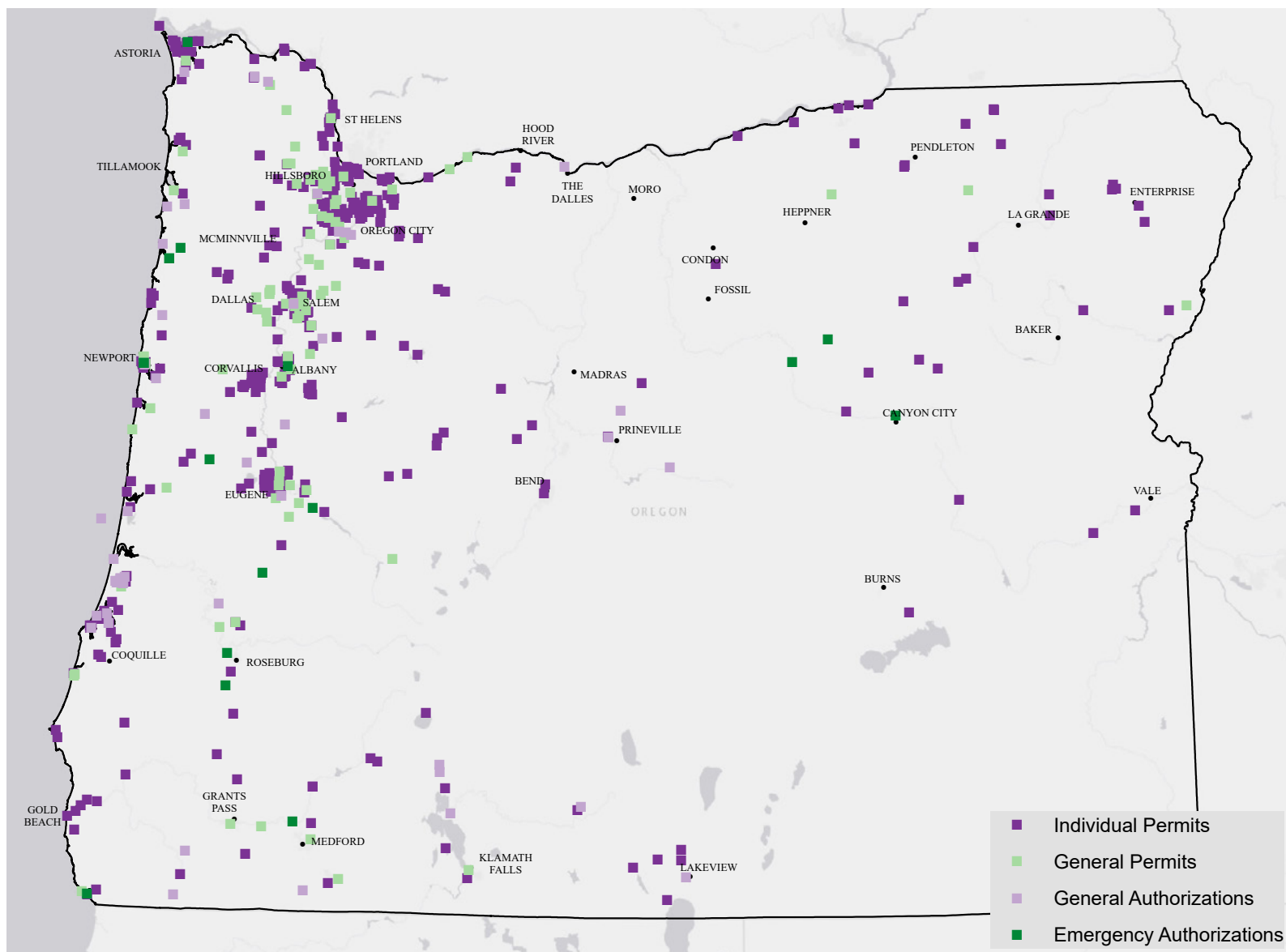
The Department's in-lieu fee program approved by the Corps covers six geographic areas. A set number of credits are pre-approved for sale in each service area, and credits sold must be fulfilled through compensatory mitigation projects through credit releases. Table 10 shows the projects or service areas, how many credits have been released from a project, how many credits have been sold, and the balance. Numbers are cumulative. A negative balance of credits means these credits have not yet been fulfilled through a project or we are waiting on a credit release from the Corps. A mitigation banks map that includes these projects is available to the public.

Table 10: Approved In-Lieu Fee Projects

PROJECT NAME	COUNTY	CREDITS RELEASED	CUMULATIVE CREDITS SOLD	BALANCE OF CREDITS REMAINING
Tamara Quays	Lincoln	2.16	1.81	0.35
Half Mile Lane	Washington	13.24	8.3	4.94
Pixieland	Lincoln	4.02	2.53	1.49
Clear Lake	Clatsop	0	5.65	-5.65
Umpqua Interior Foothills	Douglas	6.97	7.52	-0.55
Kilchis	Tillamook	3.26	2.54	0.73

Figure 1 shows removal-fill permits and authorizations, including renewals, issued across the state in FY25. Concentration in urban areas in the Willamette Valley and on the Coast is the normal pattern.

Figure 1



The Department reviews five-year trends on key processes of the Removal-Fill Program to understand when changes or additional resources may be needed.

Table 11 shows the number of wetland notices received from local governments and whether the Department's response time was within the 30-day statutory response time. While the number of notices received has decreased from a high in FY22, the percent of notices with a response within 30 days has been lower the last two years. The Program lost two key staff to retirement last year which decreased capacity. The staff that respond to notices also process determinations and delineations (table 12) so workload is high overall. The average response time for FY21 to FY25 was 24.4 days.

Table 11: Wetland Land Use Notice Response Time

RESPONSE TIME	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25
30 Days or Less	1098	1036	849	704	727
More than 30 Days	82	192	155	157	140
Total	1180	1228	1004	861	867

Table 12 shows the number of jurisdictional determinations and delineation report reviews completed. Staff prioritize wetland delineations because there are fees and statutory deadlines associated with these reviews. Determinations are free and are completed as staff have time. Capacity to respond to determination requests has been low over the past several years.

Table 12: Number Of Wetland Determination and Delineation Reviews

NUMBER OF REVIEWS	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25
Determinations	399	321	242	278	262
Delineations	318	344	360	331	347
Total	657	665	602	609	609

APPENDIX B: 5-YEAR TREND DATA

Table 13 shows the number of removal-fill decisions by permit or authorization type, including renewals (individual permits and general permits only). The data fluctuate but do not show strong trends beyond the relative number of permit type decisions made each year. One exception is a decline in general authorizations in FY25, which may be linked to a new requirement as of July 1, 2024. That requirement mandates either a fish passage plan authorization or a “no jurisdiction” determination from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife for many project types.

Table 13: Removal-fill Permit Decisions

PERMIT TYPE	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25
Individual Permit	377	381	416	339	367
Notices	113	88	94	81	48
General Permit	87	76	98	91	93
Emergency Permit	38	21	14	20	17
Total	615	566	622	531	525

Table 14 shows the number of [waterways authorizations](#) issued. Numbers for special licenses/permits and special use leases are not comparable across all years. These types of authorizations are also used for Oregon-owned uplands, but these were not removed from the waterways data prior to FY22. The data fluctuate but do not show strong trends beyond the relative number of authorizations made each year.

Table 14: Number of Waterway Authorizations

WATERWAY AUTHORIZATION TYPE	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25
Public Facility License	1	0	0	1	0
Waterway Easement	16	15	13	6	8
Registration of Waterway Structures	15	14	18	28	19
Waterway Lease	2	4	4	1	1
Sand & Gravel	2	2	2	1	1
Short Term Access Authorization	42	17	29	35	32
Special Use License/Permit	13	0	0	1	1
Special Use Lease	0	0	0	1	0
Temporary Use Permit	0	0	0	0	0
Total	91	52	66	74	62

Table 15 shows renewals of waterways authorizations by [type](#). The total number of renewals in FY25 is the highest since FY20 and is driven by the high number of registration renewals.

Table 15: Number of Waterway Authorization Renewals

WATERWAY AUTHORIZATION RENEWAL TYPE	FY21	FY22	FY23	FY24	FY25
Public Facility License	2	3	5	3	4
Waterway Easement	2	1	7	0	2
Registration of Waterway Structures	412	478	359	500	623
Waterway Lease	20	10	23	10	0
Sand & Gravel	0	2	2	2	2
Short Term Access Authorization	0	2	0	0	0
Special Use License/Permit	2	0	0	0	0
Special Use Lease	0	0	0	0	0
Temporary Use Permit	0	0	0	0	0
Total	438	496	396	515	631