

OREGON EJC ANNUAL REPORT

OREGON STATE MARINE BOARD

2025

DATE: Jan 16, 2026

PRESENTED BY: Tony Marin



02. AGENCY INTRODUCTION

Agency Leadership

Larry Warren	Agency Director
Andrew Popp	Registration Program Manager
Brian Paulsen	Boating Safety Manager & State Boating Law Administrator
Alan Hanson	Policy and Environmental Program Manager
Christy Cornish	Business Services Manager
Janine Belleque	Boating Facilities Program Manager & Tribal Liaison

Governing Board

OSMB's five-member policy Board is appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The Board appoints the agency Director. The Board is comprised of members of the boating public who volunteer their time and expertise. These individual Members represent different geographic regions of the state and different boating activities. Our Board members are also boaters. They own and use motorized and nonmotorized boats. Many own more than one type of boat. The agency holds four quarterly meetings per year.

- Laura Jackson Chair
- Steve Lambert Vice Chair
- Dax Messett Member
- Fiona Wylde Member
- Jeff Cunningham Member

Environmental Justice Personnel

Tony Marin	Environmental Justice Liaison
Janine Belleque	Tribal Liaison

Agency Sections and Programs

Director's office: reports to Board and Governor's office, administration, business services, public information, and information technology

Registration: issue certificates of number and titles for recreational boats, registers floating homes, houseboats and boat houses and trains bonded agents to register boats and issue temporary permits.

Boating Safety: contract with Oregon State Police and 31 counties for on-water patrol, marine enforcement, investigations, waterway markers, boating safety education. Provide training for marine patrol officers. Implement mandatory boater education program, train instructors and provide educational materials. Registers outfitter/guides and license ocean charter boats and register boat rental businesses.

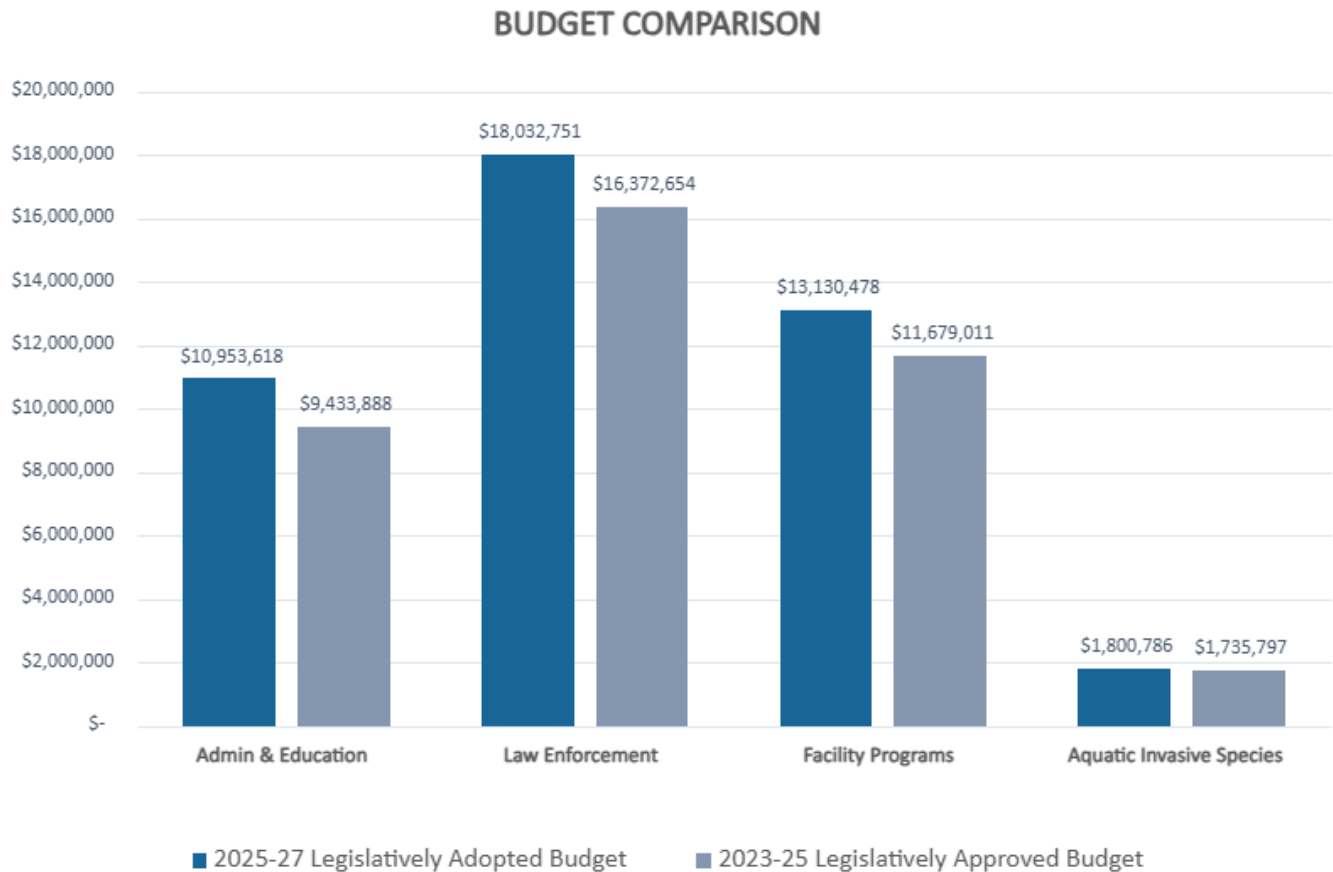
Policy and Environment: develop and modify rules related to boating safety, enforcement, access and recreational environment. Administer aquatic invasive species prevention program, fund border inspection stations, inspectors, and decontamination equipment. Implement the abandoned/derelict vessel program. Certify marinas with "Clean Marina Designation" and offers voluntary Clean Boater program.

Facilities: administers several grant programs to fund recreational boating access improvements, renovations and maintenance such as boat ramps, docks, parking, sanitation, pumpout and dump stations for motorized and nonmotorized boating access. Additionally, administers a grant program for nonmotorized boating safety, education and increased opportunities for underserved communities to experience kayaking, canoeing, rafting and standup paddle.

Agency Budget

2025-27 Legislatively Adopted Budget

For the 2025-27 biennium, the agency forecasts an increase of 5% and 12% in revenues and expenditures, respectively (compared to the 2023-25 Legislative Adopted Budget).



Revenues

The Marine Board does not receive state general funds, lottery dollars, or facility parking/launch fees.

The agency is funded primarily through fees paid by boaters through:

- Motorized boat title and registration fees
- Waterway Access permits

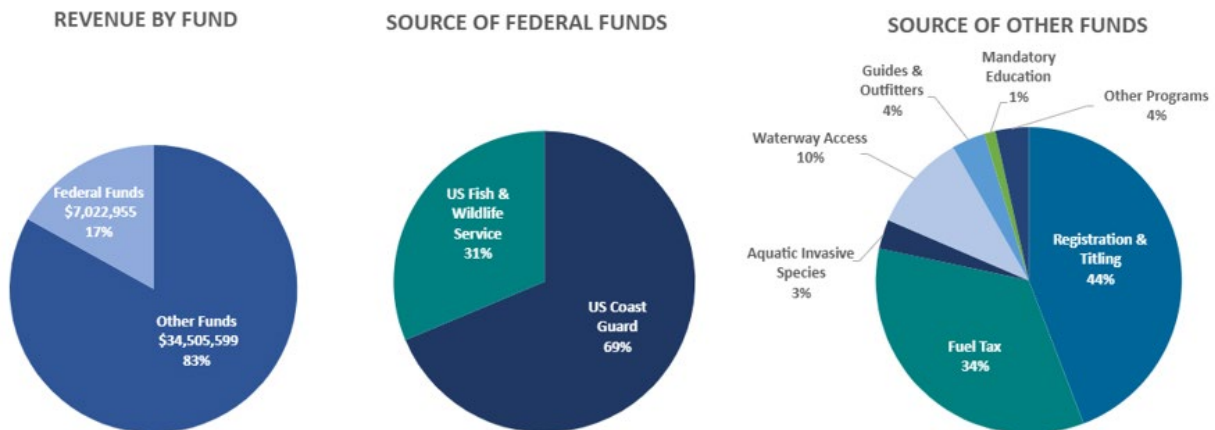
- Guides & Outfitters registration fees
- Mandatory Education registration fees
- Floating Homes & Houseboats title and registration fees
- Towed Watersports Endorsements

Federal funding also comes from the US Coast Guard. The funding amount depends on the number of registered motorboats and sailboats over 12 feet in length.

Other federal dollars include:

- US Department of the Interior (Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act) Clean Vessel Act
- Boating Infrastructure grant funds from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- Every four years, the agency surveys motorized boaters on their gasoline consumption. The Oregon Department of Transportation transfers fuel tax dollars back to the agency.

The budget for the biennium 2025–27 projects total revenues of \$34.5 million (state) and \$7 million (federal funds).

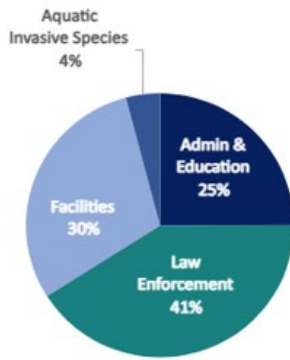


Expenditures

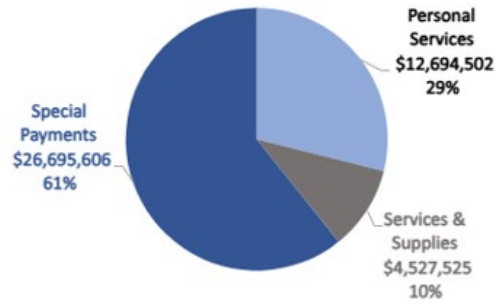
Four agency sections are receiving the bulk of revenue, returned to boaters for services:

- Marine Law Enforcement (on-water enforcement, training, equipment)
- Boating Facilities (grants for boating access & education)
- Administration and Education (agency operations & boating safety)
- Aquatic Invasive Species (prevention, education & inspection stations)

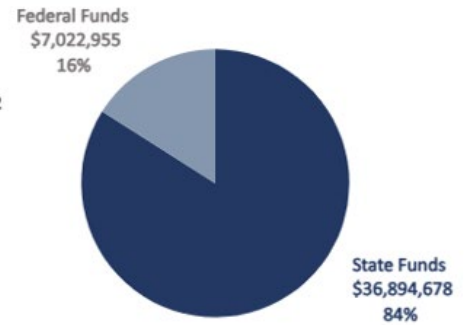
ALLOCATION BY PROGRAM



EXPENDITURES BY GROUP

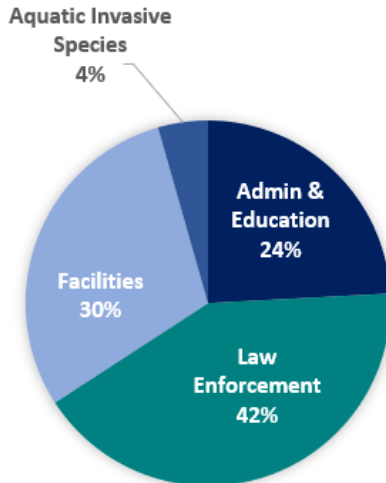


EXPENDITURES BY SOURCE

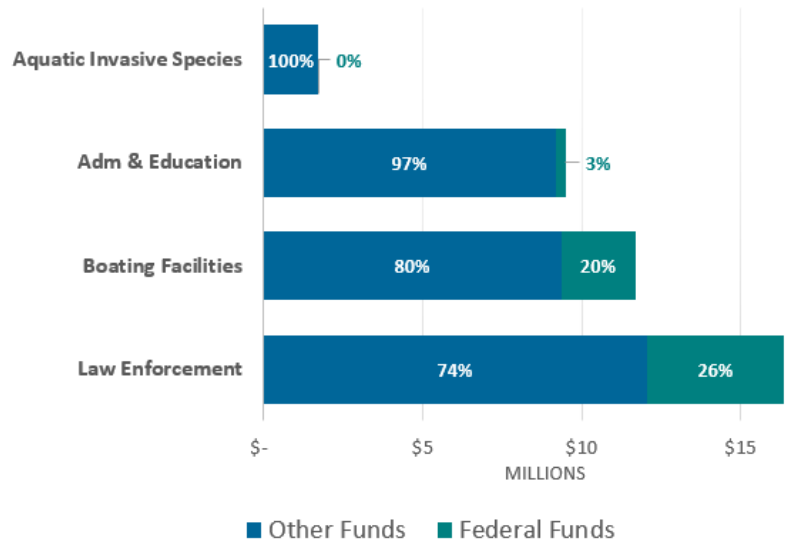


For the biennium 2025-27, the agency is budgeting \$43.9 million in expenditures.

ALLOCATION BY PROGRAM



DISTRIBUTION BY FUND TYPE



03. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE BETTER (ORS 182.5)

Vulnerable Populations



Image credit: OSMB

Identification criteria and process.

OSMB has not defined environmental justice communities although sections and programs have similar descriptions of underserved and underrepresented communities. These communities include but are not limited to race, ethnicity,

Meaningful Involvement Processes

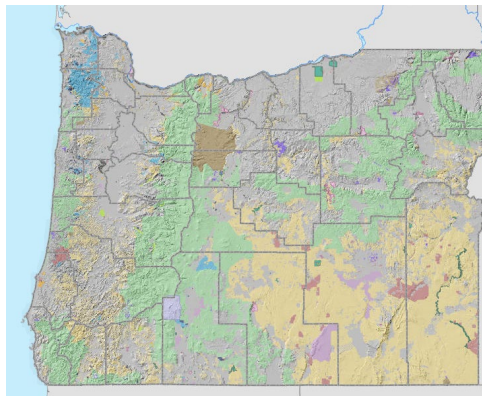


Image credit: OSMB

Identify processes to facilitate meaningful involvement in agency decision making.

OSMB has prioritized meaningful consultation and communication with Oregon's nine federally recognized Tribal Governments. Oregon's Tribal Governments are the first boaters since time immemorial. OSMB consults prior to making grant funding recommendations for

Opportunities



Image credit: OSMB

What opportunities exist to improve?

OSMB works with community organizations such as Willamette Riverkeepers, Tualatin Riverkeepers, Columbia Slough Watershed Council, Empowering Access, and others to identify

color, disability, gender, age, sexual orientation, nation of origin, primary language other than English, geographic location, economic, religion or physical fitness. Additionally, this includes communities with limited access to a waterway because there is a lack of public access to the water

physical improvements to ensure Oregon's Tribal Governments are neutral or supportive of improving or developing public boating access. The agency also consults on rulemaking for boating operations and safety.

additional communities and organizations.

OSMB uses spatial online tools to identify environmental justice communities and overlays them with boating access sites and boated waterways. Tools include Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool, and ODOT's Climate Hazard Risk Map and Statewide Equity Layer.

04. ENVIRONMENTAL & HEALTH BURDENS

Scoped Environmental & Health Burden Types (ORS 182.535)

What types of burdens are scoped for your agency from a regulatory or grant making perspective?

Regulatory

As state and federal agencies responsible for setting standards and administering permits needed to build or maintain boating facilities adapt to changes in the environment, costs and complexity of facility projects increase. The increased complexity of the permits comes as an increase in species and environmental

protections but at the cost of time and money. Facility owners are hiring professional wetland scientists and environmental scientists to write up their permit applications.

Grant

Along with the increase in regulations comes a significant increase to the cost of permits. As an example, fees from DSL will go up in accordance with the “Removal-Fill Fee Five-year Schedule (2026–2030)”. The schedule shows the different fees for different “tiers”. A boat ramp construction project will have a base fee of \$2,100, and tier 5 fee of \$21,000, for 2026, and will go up to \$2,892 and \$30,617 for 2030, respectively. In all tiers, the change over the 5-years is about 45%, or about 8.6% per year. For reference, in 2025 the fees from DSL were a base fee of \$2,100 and a tier 3 (highest tier) fee of \$3,500 for a similar project. While this hinders construction of boating facilities, this is a much-needed update to DSL’s permit fees. Currently, permit fees only cover 20% of the costs to process permits. The new schedule allows the agency to cover 80%. Other permit agencies are also raising their fees. DEQ, DLCDD and local land use permit fees have increased and will likely increase in the coming years.

Highlights & Areas of Concern

Inflation has greatly impacted the cost of construction and manufacturing. Where in 2019 a single dock cost just over \$16,000, in 2025 the same dock is almost \$35,000. The increased cost leads to less available funding for facilities, and less facility owners applying, or needing to wait until they have the required 25% matching funds, where needing to wait, will cost owners more due to inflation.

There are still many pressure treated wooden docks in Oregon. Those docks are reaching their end of life. If these docks are not replaced soon, the weakened docks could end up damaged and sunk, polluting the waters in which they’re in. The higher costs of manufacturing have greatly slowed the switch from pressure treated wooden docks to aluminum docks. This is especially concerning for docks at facilities in more rural coastal areas that see more wear and damage from use and saltwater effects.

Interagency Collaboration

The Marine Board collaborates with the Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife and the State Department of Agriculture as part of its aquatic invasive species program in operating check stations to decontaminate or recommend decontamination of any recreational or commercial watercraft. OSMB and ODFW also collaborate in messaging for AIS prevention and AIS funding and hold education and safety presentations. OSMB also works with the center for Lakes and Reservoirs at Portland State University.



Images credit: ODFW

The Marine Board and the Department of State Lands collaborate in coordination for the removal and disposal of derelict vessels. DSL takes on much of the burden being that it has the larger funds and staff and takes on the removal of larger vessels. OSMB deals with boats that pose immediate environmental risk or create a navigational hazard to recreational boaters.

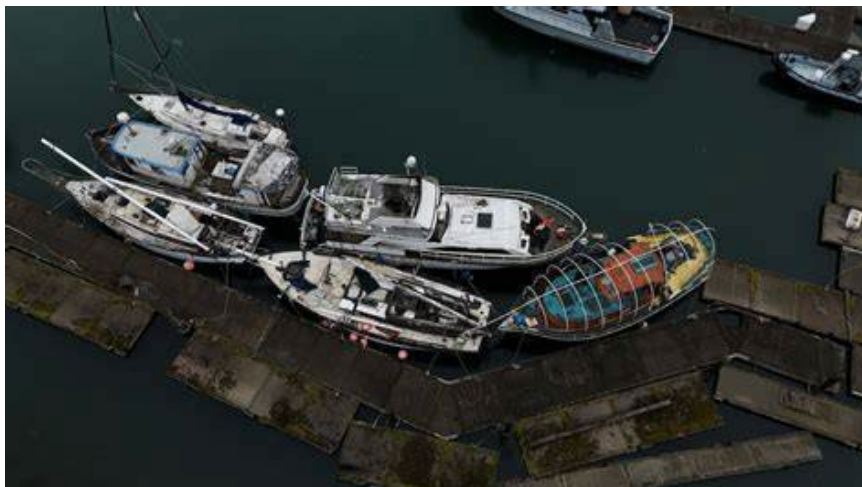


Image credit: Noah Thomas / OPB

Related Fact Sheets

Grant History Dashboard (map) link. Reflects the cost increase on facilities and facility updates.

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/Ocfb5eae438e4d9887ee80cb7de6b70c/>

Oregon's Removal-Fill Program Fees: 2026-2030

https://www.oregon.gov/dsl/wetlands-waters/Documents/RemovalFillFees_FiveYearSchedule.pdf

05. ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PROGRAM

Description (ORS 182.535 & ORS 182.550)

Describe agency programs for EJ.

OSMB does not have specific programs for EJ. But EJ is incorporated into many OSMB plans, policies and programs. It has always made environmental stewardship a part of its mission. The strategies and focus areas in the OSMB Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Action Plan overlap with environmental justice issues and working with environmental justice communities. The Plan strives to incorporate diversity, equity and inclusion into all aspects of the agency's programs and services to better serve Oregon's diverse population

Performance

How is performance evaluated?

OSMB does not have a comprehensive agency-wide metric for gauging its performance or impact of decisions on environmental justice in Oregon communities. Recreational boaters travel across the state to access different waterbodies and engage in different on-water activities. Numerous factors impact where boaters recreate such as water conditions and management, weather, fishing, crabbing and clamming season and condition, boating access site maintenance and development, upland or nearby amenities to name a few.

Environmental Justice Consideration Triggers

What triggers EJ consideration?

Environmental Justice consideration is triggered when an owner of a public recreational boating facility, a person, or a regulatory agency voice concerns. For a proposed boating facility, this could be in a pre-development meeting prior to any concepts being drawn up, in a concept discussion, or during a permit review. The proposed concept is then changed to address the concerns or need. An example would be erosion protection along a riverbank.

It is often the case that structures on or in the water are considered a health and safety hazard only once it is obvious that they are old and dilapidated. This is why OSMB conducts routine surveys of facilities. In doing so OSMB can prompt the owner on maintenance and replacement of structures before they become a hazard to the waters.

Environmental Justice Mapping Tool Involvement

OSMB has provided information that might be relevant to the tool such as boating regulations, boated waterways, boating access site, clean marina, and life jacket loaner station locations layers.

06. STRATEGIC PLANNING

Environmental Justice Integration

How is EJ integrated into the existing strategic plan?

The Marine Board's mission is "Serving Oregon's recreational boating public through education, enforcement, access, and environmental stewardship for a safe and enjoyable experience". The agency has a culture of inclusivity as a reflex, not as an initiative. This value of *Diversity and Inclusion* leads in all future planning and

solutions. OSMB operates all over the state of Oregon. It conducts outreach in rural coastal towns as much as it does in eastern Oregon and the Willamette Valley. It seeks and welcomes input and discussion from all boaters. One way OSMB does this is by conducting a survey every 3 years. In the survey OSMB asks boaters several questions regarding boating such as where, with what and how often. It also asks boaters' opinions as to where they'd like to see water access improvements made. The data is closely evaluated and used to directly inform the Board and agency leaders on how to best serve boaters.

Strategic Plan Process & Updates

What is the agency's strategic planning process and how often is it updated?

The strategic plan was developed with input from the Marine Board, agency staff, interested parties, non-profits, boating communities, local government entities and other state agencies. This was accomplished through public listening sessions, direct requests for feedback, surveys and internal staff workshops. Development of the plan included alignment with the Governor's Office priorities for the agency. The agency utilized information provided by the Governor's Policy Advisor on priorities and values in developing the plan. Additionally, the Governor's Policy Advisor was provided with an opportunity to provide direct feedback on the plan. The agency strategic plan is not a static document. It is regularly maintained and updated with input from the same entities that participated in the original development along with adapting for new state priorities and interested parties.

Strategic Plan Availability

Where is the strategic plan available for public consumption. Provide link.

An overview of the Marine Boards Strategic plan can be viewed online at <https://www.oregon.gov/OSMB/info/Pages/Strategic-Plan.aspx>, the link to the full Strategic Plan is located under "Resources" just to the right of the "Overview".

07. LEGISLATION

Environmental Justice Council or Environmental Justice Task Force Citations

HB 4077 (2022), SCR 17 (2021), and SB 420 (2007) applies to all agencies. This section could be a list.

Other legislation applies to OWEB, ODOE, OPUC, DLCD, DEQ, & OHA for previous sessions. Work with agency legislative coordinators to identify legislation from 2025 session.

- [House Bill 4077 \(2022\)](#)
- [Senate Bill 420 \(2007\)](#)
- [Senate Concurrent Resolution 17 \(2021\)](#)

Agency Status

Provide status for any EJTF/EJC legislation that applies to your agency by bill number. Also identify any consultation requests related to legislation that was requested in 2025.

For the 2026 short legislative session the agency can't bring ideas to this session, thus OSMB's time is spent providing information on any bills related to the agency. It has been in some news outlets that at least one lawmaker is planning to run a bill that would change the Waterway Access Program, so it's anticipated that it will be discussed during session. The agency doesn't take positions on bills, at least very often, and serves the role of informing about the impacts of proposed legislation so that legislators can make policy decisions.

No legislation has been presented or identified that applies to or affects the Marine Board.

Oregon Legislative Information System (OLIS) Information

Provide OLIS references to all legislation applicable for your agency.

None. As stated, no official bills have been released that affect OSMB.

08. LOOKING AHEAD

Potential Environmental Justice Council Consultation Requests

Identify potential agency initiated EJC consultation requests for 2026.

OSMB does not foresee any potential consultation needed from the EJC but will continue to act as a liaison. An OSMB representative will participate in Council and liaison meetings, provide requested input and annual reports and utilize the resources that are produced by the Council.

Agency Barriers & Opportunities

Identify agency resources, training, collaboration, etc. that could bolster future EJ implementation.

OSMB is working to improve staff understanding and application of environmental justice considerations into programs and processes. Educational references and tools are needed to improve staff understanding and consideration of environmental justice issues and communities in planning processes, program implementation and outreach efforts.

Agency collaboration with regulatory agencies to establish what the regulatory agencies require for permitting in their new updated applications. The discussion and collaboration could be to create a checklist of the things required for the specific construction projects that OSMB funds through grants. This checklist could be published and used as reference for when discussing a project with grant applicants and what their permit requirements are and to establish a reasonable and realistic timeline.

09. 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 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.

Environmental Burdens

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.

10. APPENDIX

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

Legislation establishing 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.

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

Legislation establishing 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.

[Senate Concurrent Resolution 17 \(2021\)](#)

Resolution requiring natural resources agencies to ensure meaningful involvement for people impacted by agency decision making and that agencies develop guidance for consideration of environmental justice.

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

Resolution requiring natural resources agencies to ensure meaningful involvement for people impacted by agency decision making and that agencies develop guidance for consideration of environmental justice.