



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.

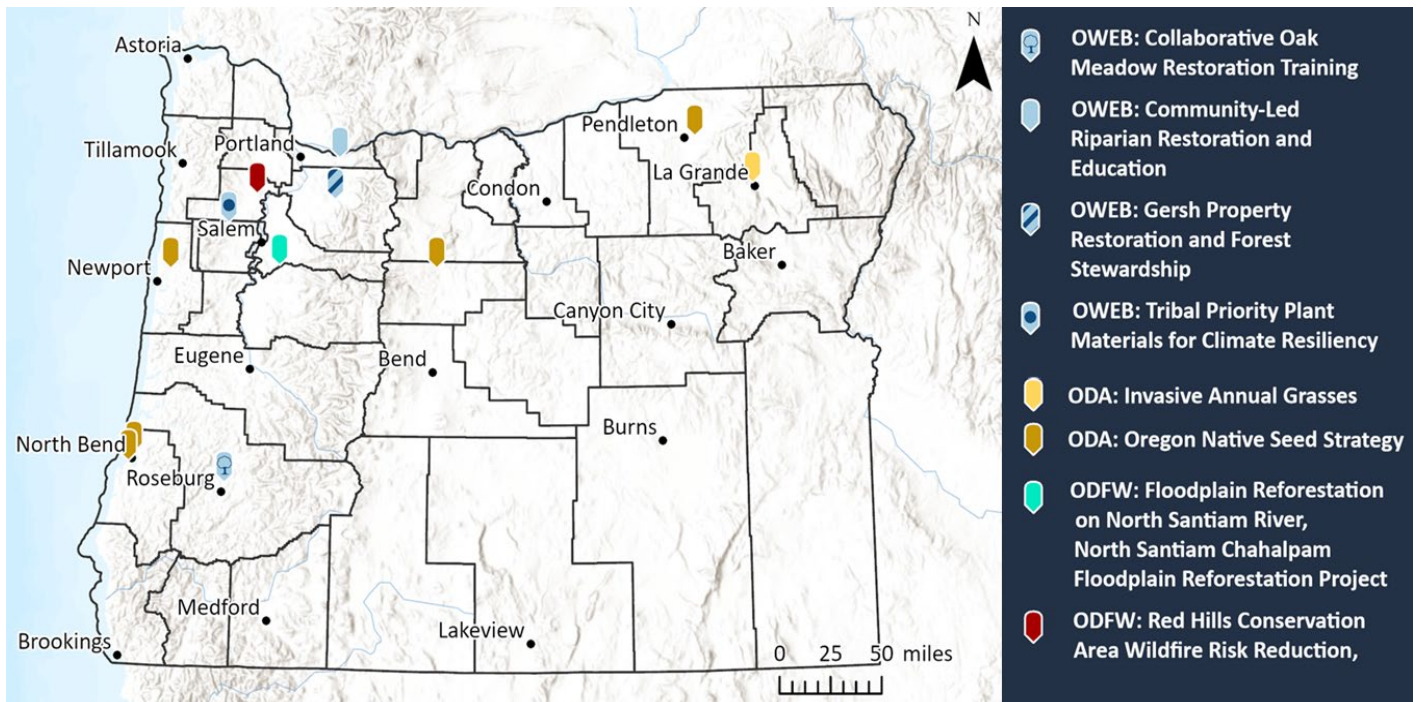




Photo above: Clear Lake Watershed, the City of Reedsport's sole source of drinking water. Credit: Trout Mountain Forestry.

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.