



EJC ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Oregon State
Marine Board

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AGENCY INTRODUCTION

Agency Mission Statement

Serving Oregon's recreational boating public through education, enforcement, access, and environmental stewardship for a safe and enjoyable experience.

The Marine Board has a long-standing tradition of serving Oregon Boaters. The agency is a resource for local governments, non-profits, and private entities that provide services to recreational boaters. The agency was established in 1959 and has led recreational boating through significant changes to boating and natural resource policies over the last sixty years. As the agency looks at the next decade of continued service, it is imperative that it continues to adapt to the changes facing boaters.

The Marine Board is listed as a natural resource agency per HB 4077. It will continue to realize its purpose as it looks to achieve environmental justice for all communities.

Agency Leadership

Larry Warren	Agency Director
Andrew Popp	Registration Section Program Manager
Brian Paulsen	Boating Safety Manager, State Boating Law Administrator
Janine Belleque	Boating Facilities Manager
Christy Cornish	Business Services Manager
VACANT	Policy & Environmental Program Manager

Marine Board Members (5 Members)

Laura Jackson	Chair
Val Early	Co-Chair
Craig Withee	Member
Jorge Guzman	Member
VACANT POSITION	Member

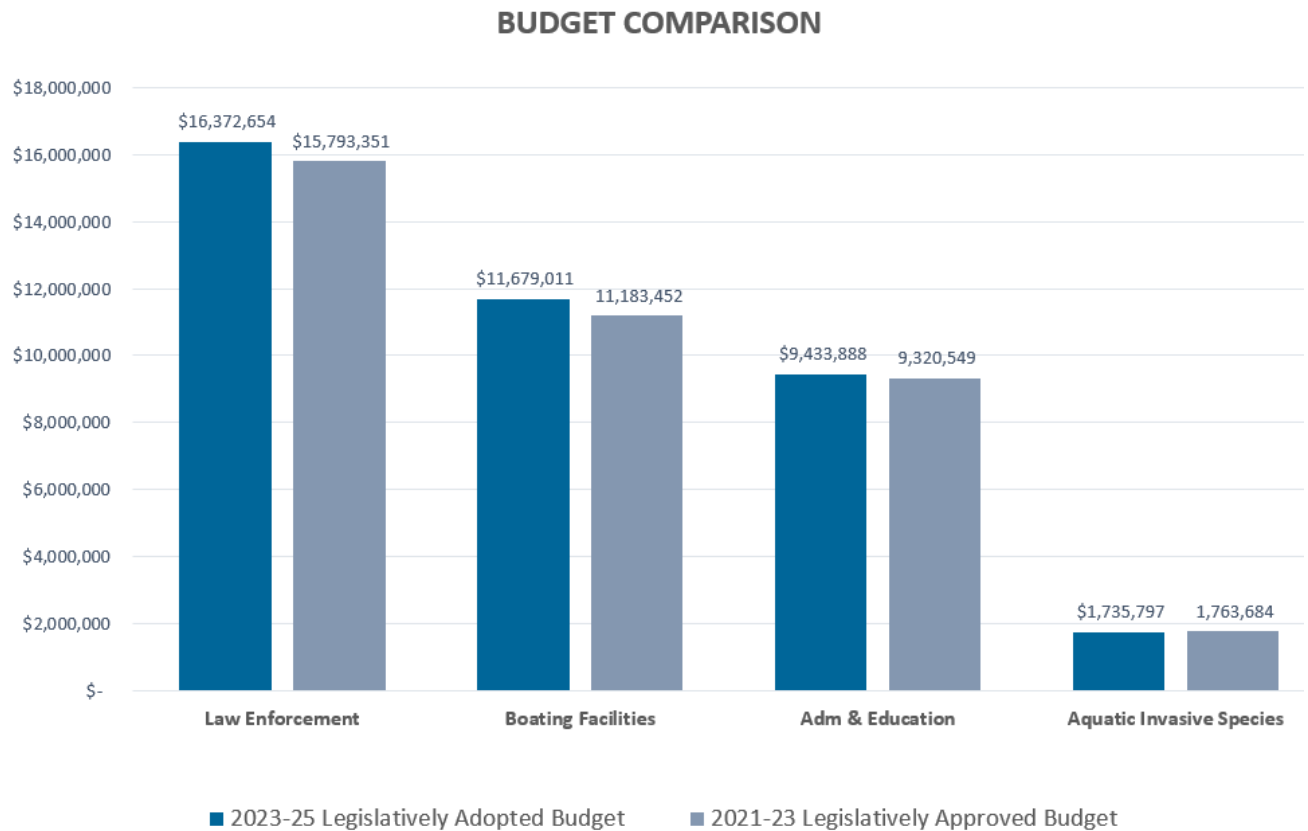
Environmental Justice Personnel

Tony Marin --- Environmental Justice Liaison

Janine Belleque --- Tribal Liaison

Agency Budget and Revenue Sources

For the 2023-25 biennium, the agency is forecasting an increase of 5% and 4.5% in revenues and expenditures, respectively (compared to the 2021-23 Legislative Adopted Budget).



Revenues

The Marine Board does not receive state general funds or lottery dollars. The agency is funded by boaters through:

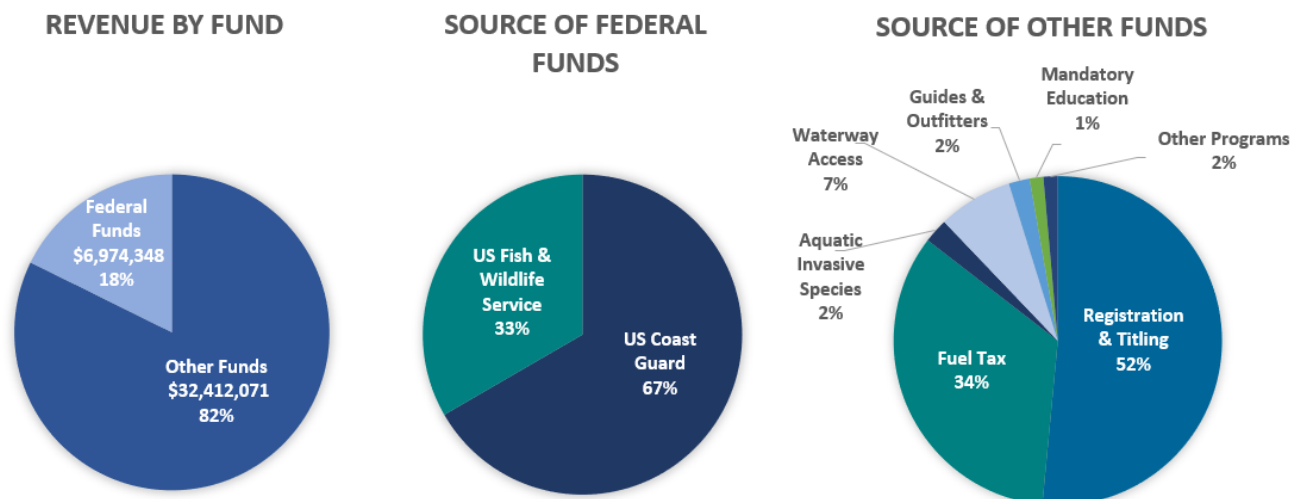
- Motorized boat title and registration fees
- Waterway Access permits
- Guides & Outfitters registration fees
- Mandatory Education registration fees
- Floating Homes & Houseboats title and registration fees
- Towed Watersports Endorsements

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 2023-25 projects total revenues of \$32.4 million (state) and \$6.9 million (federal funds).



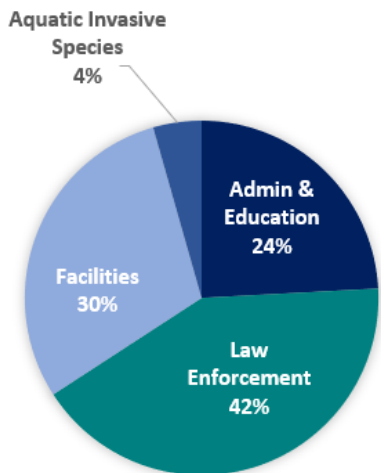
Expenditures

There are four agency sections receiving the bulk of revenue; returned to boaters for services:

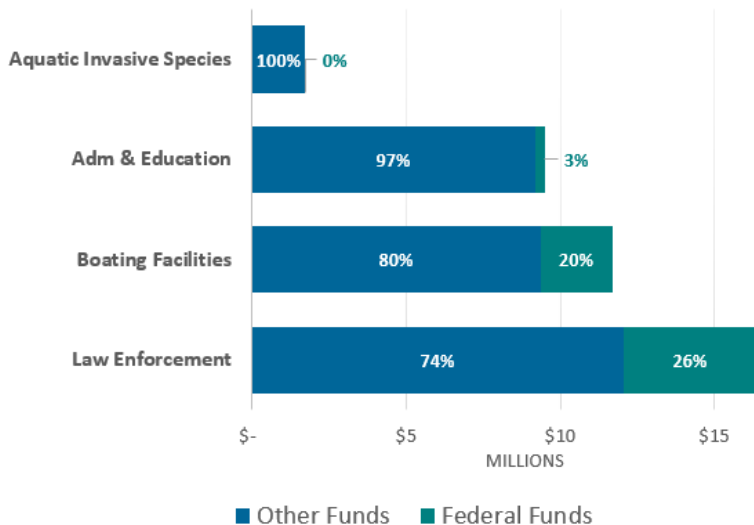
- Marine Law Enforcement (on-water enforcement, training, equipment)
- Boating Facilities (grants for boating access & education)
- Administration and Education (agency operations & boating safety)
- Aquatic Invasive Species (prevention, education & inspection stations)

For the biennium 2023-25, the agency is budgeting \$39.2 million in expenditures.

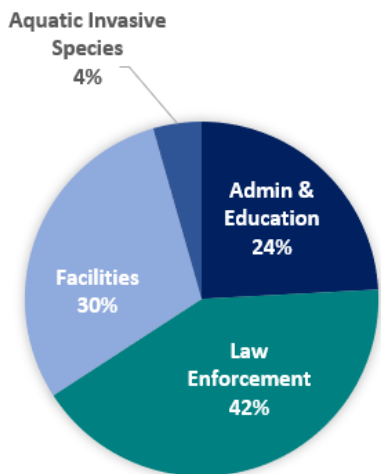
ALLOCATION BY PROGRAM



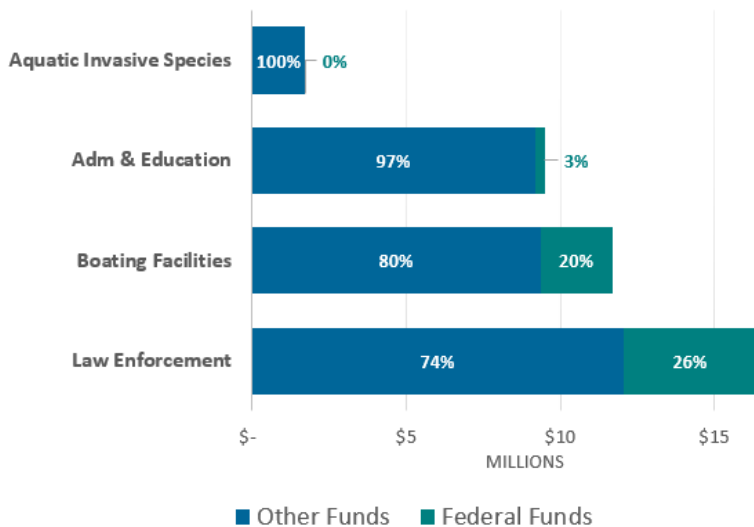
DISTRIBUTION BY FUND TYPE



ALLOCATION BY PROGRAM



DISTRIBUTION BY FUND TYPE



Waterway Access Permit Revenue -Returned to Boaters

Waterway Access Permit revenue goes back out to eligible applicants in the form of Waterway Access Grants (WAG).

Eligible grant applicants include:

- Cities,
- Counties,
- Ports,

- Park districts,
- State and federal agencies, and
- Tribal governments

Grant dollars can be used to:

- buy property,
- develop, construct, renovate, and improve nonmotorized recreational boating access
- promote boating safety education and buy equipment for boating programs in underserved communities.

WAG can assist governmental entities with these types of access improvements on Oregon's waterways:

- Carry-down access
- Nonmotorized launching ramps
- Low freeboard docks
- Single car parking
- Sanitation
- Boat-in camping
- Storage racks
- Changing and rinsing stations
- Property acquisition
- Portable toilet dump stations

The revenue collected from Waterway Access Permits from July 2021 - June 2023 was \$1,868,182. The agency awarded \$914,489 in Waterway Access Grants out of the \$1.5 million grant dollars available.

Agency Programs

The major programs are the ones listed below:

1. Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program
2. Clean Marina Program
3. Abandoned/Derelict Vessel Program
4. Clean Boater Program
5. Clean Vessel Act Program
6. Boating Safety Advocate Program

“The Marine Board does not receive state general funds or lottery dollars. The agency is funded by boaters through: ...”

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE HIGHLIGHTS

Highlighted key environmental justice projects in 2023.

- Boating Safety Advocate Program- deliver boating and water safety education that resonates with the youth in underserved communities, and new boaters. This program allows our small boating agency to reach a wider demographic of people and meet them where they are. It allows the agency to reach more rural communities by having dedicated staff go to these locations and hold small educational events for youth.
- In 2023 the Oregon State Marine Board set up an online survey requesting that boaters notify the agency about the places that they boat. The surveys' main goal was to find out about facilities that needed improvements and if there are any places which boaters wanted a facility at. The marine board had the survey on the OSMB website, and strongly advertised the survey at community events and meetings, and on social media outlets. All in all, the agency attended 27 different events. Over 1000 surveys completed. The information and suggestions will be taken into consideration when grant applications are submitted.

ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE ISSUES (ORS 182.550 SECTION 1);

Environmental Justice Consideration Process

The agency does not have a defined process for incorporating environmental justice factors into the agency operations and decision making. That's not to say that it does not consider environmental justice factors, simply that it does not have a defined process. Being that the agency is small, when an issue is identified, leadership will bring it to the attention of their section and identify the issues and causes. One example being the Water Way Access Program. In developing a plan for the future of the program OSMB is developing the plan in partnership with underrepresented communities, Tribal Governments and non-profit organizations serving diverse boaters.

The agency does not own any of the facilities. But as the steward of the money given to it, the Marine Board does have criteria to help guide it in its decision for grants. An example being when applying for a grant, an applicant is asked "If project location is on the Willamette River, identify how it meets Goal 15 Willamette River Greenway. Goal 15 is not a requirement set by OSMB, but by counties for projects or facilities planned on the Willamette River. The goal is to set aside land next to the Willamette River for parks, and public access to the water. The agency can easily look back at records to view which grants met Goal 15. Many counties have established or designated locations that meet Goal 15.

As part of the grant application the Marine Board also asks applicants to:

"Describe what opportunities have been provided to involve the public and underserved communities in decisions resulting in this proposed project."

"Describe how environmental and racial justice were considered for this project."

Environmental Justice Community Considerations

Environmental Justice communities for the agency mean the communities that have not had equal opportunity to get out on the water for lack of mobility, money, or simply access.

The Marine board conducts surveys, has meetings, and has face to face conversations with boaters and communities and uses these tools to identify and prioritize environmental justice communities.

In the year 2023, the Marine Board conducted 27 town meetings, attended many community events and festivals to talk to the local boaters and ask that they take the Marine Boards online survey. The survey asks that they identify facilities they believed needed improvements, and to identify anywhere they believed needed a new facility and what they thought those needs were. This survey will now help guide the Marine Board on future developments and possible grants.

Apart from that the Marine Board also asks boaters to tell the agency where they do most of their boating and what kind of boating. This helps identify the needs and type of improvements to a facility. High use indicates a need for expansion, and type of use identifies amenities or layout of the facility.

The Marine Board also attends the Boat show, and Sportsman's Show, where anyone interested in the agency can ask questions, voice grievances and learn more about what the agency does and is doing for boaters.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND 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

- The agency's public engagement process for promoting community participation in agency decision-making processes is as follows:

During the design process of a facility, a few concepts are drawn up. Many things are considered when designing a facility. Such things might include layout, size, and amenities. Some things that can restrict a design is the existing topography, river flow, and wetlands. Usually, three or four concepts are developed to be presented in a community meeting.

The agency always presents the concepts to interested parties and the communities that would be affected by the development or improvement of a facility. The Marine Board helps facility or landowners to announce the possible future development of a facility. This is done through the OSMB website, social media, radio, and local community announcements. It is at these community meetings that people can voice opinions, concerns, or ideas on the concepts. A few such meetings are held to develop a final design that the community can be happy about. These presentations break down the technical terms and regulations behind the design into more easily understood terms and reasonings.



Targeted Audiences

- Has the agency performed a stakeholder analysis to determine the stakeholder groups impacted by agency decisions?

No definitive analysis is conducted to determine those affected by the agency's decision making, as the same groups tend to be impacted in the construction of facilities. The agency has community outreach sessions to speak to interested groups and individuals of the communities. As mentioned, continuous meetings are held before construction is ever begun. The Marine Board does studies such as hydrology, geotechnical reports, and soil analysis. The agency has made it a practice to contact Tribes and notify them of an interest to have construction. Usually, a few tribes show interest and ask to be included in the process which can mean notifying them of construction and archeological findings, or even the

tribes requiring an onsite archeological specialist that ensures artifacts are preserved.

- Partners
 - State and Federal natural resource agencies
 - Oregon's nine federally recognized Tribal Governments
 - Public boating facility providers
 - Community organizations that serve underrepresented communities
 - County Sheriff Offices and the Oregon State Police
 - Oregon Ports Association
 - SOLVE Adopt-A-River Program
 - Non-profit organizations interested in providing boating and water safety education or on-water opportunities.
 - Boat builders and dealers
 - Many others that have land and water jurisdiction

AGENCY ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IMPACTS (ORS 182.550 SECTION 3)

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?

There is no definitive way of measuring the impact of the agency's decision on environmental justice in communities. Estimates of the number of boaters, the types, and what season are done prior to a facility being improved or constructed, and estimates could be made after, but no true measure is possible as that requires counting the number of users for the facility. Some facilities require parking permits to be paid for and sometimes users do not pay. Enforcing the payments can't always be done as it would require law enforcement personnel that is not always available. Impacts of agency decisions can somewhat be measured and estimated by the increase in the number of vehicles seen parked at facilities, and by the number of boaters out on the water.

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?

EJ is built into the Marine Boards strategic plan by including goals and recognizing challenges for the coming years. One specific goal being...

“Ensuring boating is viable and public access is available in the future”. This is possible by doing two things:”

1. Gain understanding and raise awareness of policy trends from federal, state, local and tribal governments, and partners.
 - a. Invite partner agencies to give agency program managers an overview of environmental issues tangential to boating.
 - b. Tribal Liaison role overview at an agency all-staff meeting.
2. Develop plans for the future of the Waterway Access Program.
 - a. 2023 staff will work with the Board and stakeholders to develop a plan for the future of the Waterway Access Program. This plan will be completed by February 2024.
 - b. Ensure the plan is developed in partnership with underrepresented communities, Tribal Governments and non-profit organizations serving diverse boaters.

Ensuring boating is viable and public access is available in the future. This is possible by doing two things:

What does your agency need to further develop and implement environmental justice policies at the agency?

The Marine Board has leadership that is consistently looking to further develop and implement environmental justice policies. The staff looks to them for guidance and the staff is encouraged to consider EJ when designing facilities and when considering the theme or message it wants to convey to the public. Videos and essays on the effects of overfishing, unintended effects of construction and things of the sort are regularly recommended by staff and leadership. Training on what environmental justice is and how it can be accomplished can help the agency ensure environmental justice when it comes to decisions.

AGENCY ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE MAPPING TOOL INVOLVEMENT (ORS 182.550 SECTION 5)

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?

The Marine Board has reported and given information that might possibly be relevant to the tool. Such things as boating regulations, clean marinas, and boating access sites.

AGENCY ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COUNCIL ENGAGEMENT 2024

How would your agency like to engage with the EJC in 2024?

The Marine Board would like to continue to maintain the current amount of contact with the EJC in 2024. Should the EJC have any questions or suggestions as to how the Marine Board can improve on EJ issues, we are more than happy to answer and discuss all matters and issues.

AGENCY ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COUNCIL LEGISLATION CITATIONS

Please share agency impacted legislation from the last legislative session where Environmental Justice Council or Environmental Justice Task Force engagement is cited in the legislation.

No legislation from the last legislative session impacts the agency's legislation.

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?

No legislation from the last legislative session impacts the agency's legislation.

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

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.

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.