

EJC Annual Report 2024



FEBRUARY 18

Oregon State Marine Board
PO Box 14145
435 Commercial St. NE, Ste 400
Salem, OR 97301



Agency Overview, Mission and Structure

Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) was created in 1959 in response to the growing popularity of recreational boating and the federal Boating Safety Act of 1958. OSMB has one office, located in Salem and no satellite, regional, or district offices. OSMB does not own or operate any boating access sites or real property. The agency has 42.5 staff and a biannual budget of approximately \$39.2million. OSMB does not receive any general fund revenue.

OSMB has a long-standing tradition of serving Oregon Boaters. The agency is a resource for local governments, non-governmental organizations and private entities that provide services to recreational boaters. OSMB 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 must continue to adapt to climate and technological changes that impact boaters.

Agency Mission “Serving Oregon’s recreational boating public through education, enforcement, access and environmental stewardship for a safe and enjoyable experience”

Agency Vision “Boaters benefit as the Marine Board navigates change and growth of waterway use.”

State Marine 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
Craig Withee	Vice Chair
Steve Lambert	Member
Dax Messett	Member
Jorge Guzman	Member

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

Environmental Justice Staff

Tony Marin	Environmental Justice Liaison
Janine Belleque	Tribal Liaison

Agency Budget and Revenue Sources

The budget for the 2023-2025 biennium projects total revenues of \$32.4 million (state) and \$6.9 million (federal funds).

Revenues

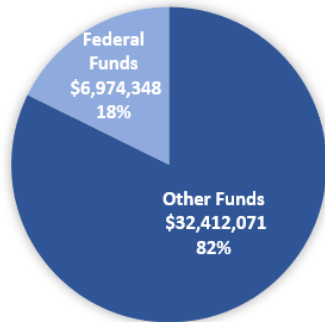
The Agency does not receive general funds. The Agency is funded by boaters through:

- Motorized boat title and registration fees
- Waterway Access permits
- Guides and Outfitters registration fees
- Mandatory Education registration fees
- Floating homes and houseboat title and registration fees
- Towed Watersport education endorsements

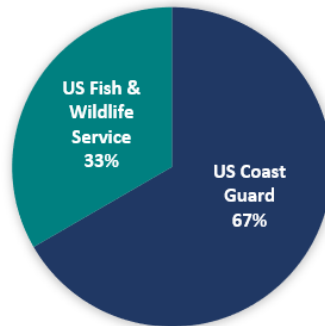
Federal funding primarily comes from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. Coast Guard through the following programs:

- Clean Vessel Act
- Boating Infrastructure Grant Program
- Recreational Boating Safety Act

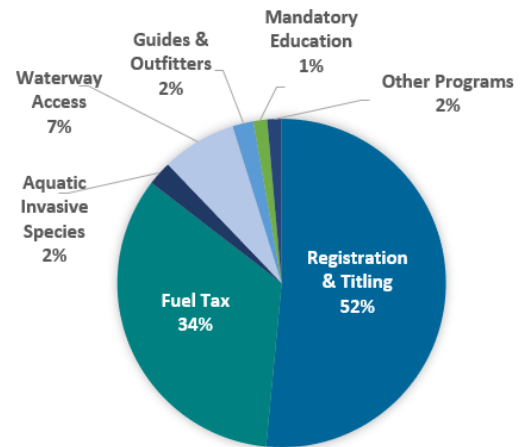
REVENUE BY FUND



SOURCE OF FEDERAL FUNDS



SOURCE OF OTHER FUNDS

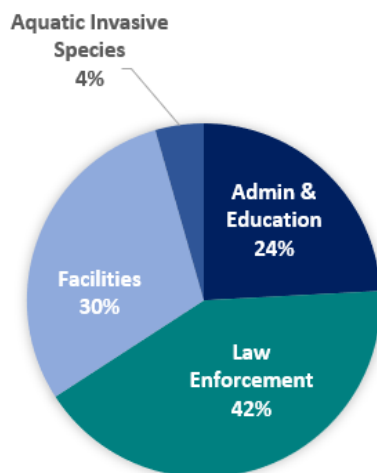


Expenditures

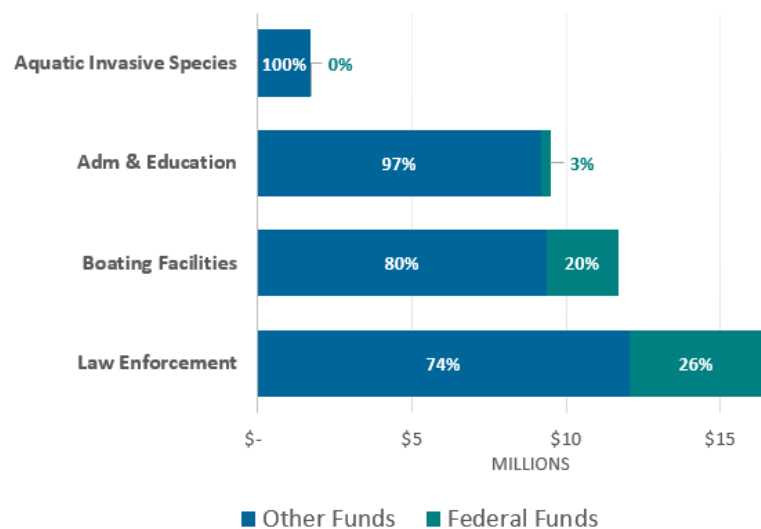
There are four agency programs receiving the majority of revenue; returned to boaters for services.

- Marine law enforcement (on-water enforcement, training and equipment)
- Boating facilities (grants for boating access and education both motorized and nonmotorized access)
- Administration and education (agency operations and boating safety)
- Aquatic Invasive Species (prevention, education and inspection stations)

ALLOCATION BY PROGRAM



DISTRIBUTION BY FUND TYPE



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

Environmental Justice Highlights

1. Address Environmental Justice Issues

Environmental Justice Consideration Process:

- a. Does the agency have a defined process for incorporating environmental justice factors into agency operations and decision making?

OSMB is committed to providing programs and services that acknowledge and value the diversity of our customers and communities. OSMB is a small agency with a focus on recreational boating, safety, access and environment and does not have a definitive process for incorporating environmental justice factors into all agency operations. Instead, individual sections and programs have incorporated environmental justice factors into their operations and decision-making.

As an example, OSMB does not own or operate any boating access facilities statewide. However, we make grant funding decisions to renovate, expand, repair and develop boating access facilities. We have grant ranking criteria to help guide decisions for grant approvals. Questions and criteria include land use planning, public engagement and engagement with underserved communities, Tribal government communication and status of local, state and federal permitting.

b. How does your agency keep track of environmental justice issues that have been identified?

OSMB does not have a centralized system that tracks all environmental justice issues that have been identified. Environmental justice issues are monitored and addressed around individual processes and programs.

Environmental Justice Community Considerations:

a. How does your agency define environmental justice communities?

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, 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.

b. What tools does your agency use to identify and prioritize environmental justice communities?

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

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.

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

2. Public Participation and Meaningful Involvement

Public Engagement Policy and Processes:

- a. Does your agency have a public engagement policy or process for promoting community participation in agency decision making processes?

OSMB considers public participation opportunities in decision making. The diversity of issues that OSMB is involved in, along with differences in scale such as statewide, regional, local requires utilization of a variety of processes to promote and encourage community participation. OSMB has utilized routine items such as press releases, agency website and social media, interested parties list serve, direct email and cross promotion with agency partners on their platforms. Additionally, OSMB has held onsite meetings at waterways where we set up a tent and talk with people, attend outreach events such as Tualatin River Discovery Days, Toledo Wooden Boat Show, Umatilla Landing Days, Central Oregon Latino Fest, Oregon Outdoor Recreation Trails Summit etc.

OSMB conducts public meetings and hearings for rulemaking, quarterly Board meetings have opportunities for public comment and the public is welcome to view the meeting online or attend in person. We also host meetings across the state for statewide topics such as budget, strategic planning, needs assessments etc.

We also coordinate with grant or potential grant recipients to host public comment opportunities for improving or developing boating access. Depending upon the complexity of the site improvement or development this is often more than one meeting with online meeting and survey opportunities. Surveys are typically in English and Spanish.

- b. Describe the current level and quality of public participation?

OSMB is constantly looking for ways to expand outreach and opportunities for communities and interested parties to participate. Participation varies depending upon topic, issue, level of impact to members of the public. As an example, a recent rulemaking process had a couple hundred comments, however there were numerous form letters that said they support or didn't support proposed language with no additional information. In contrast we received six very meaningful comments on a proposed grant application that described the need and impact on a personal basis.

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- c. Does the agency follow up with individuals and communities after decisions are made?

OSMB informs the public after decisions are made. Board decisions are posted on the agency website, sent out as a press release and posted on social media. Agency decisions on plans, grants or other items are communicated with participating parties, interest groups via email, website updates, follow-up meetings or personal communications.

Target Audiences:

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

OSMB has not conducted an analysis to determine what groups are impacted by agency decisions.

- b. With which stakeholders does your agency engage?

OSMB engages with hundreds of diverse communities across the state on a wide breadth of topics.

- Oregon's nine federal recognized Tribal Governments
- City, County, Port, Park and Recreation Districts, State and Federal boating access providers
- County Sheriff offices and State Police
- Boat builders and dealers
- Boat rental companies and organizations
- Fishing and Boating clubs and organizations
- Environmental interests
- School Districts interested in boating and water safety
- Travel destination management organizations
- State, Federal and Local permitting authorities
- Non-profit organizations interested in providing boating, water safety, education and on-water opportunities
- Accessibility organizations and advocates
- Watershed Councils
- Many other local and regional organizations, clubs, associations, businesses and public

- c. What is the extent of meaningful engagement?

The information above identifies the extent of meaningful engagement since it depends upon the topic, issue, program and or/process described. OSMB is constantly looking for ways to expand outreach and opportunities for all communities to participate. Public involvement does influence OSMB decision making and concerns of all participants involved are considered.

3. Agency Environmental Justice Impacts

- a. Does your agency measure the impacts of agency decisions on environmental justice in Oregon communities? Why or why not?

OSMB does not have a comprehensive agency-wide metric tracking the impact of agency 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 condition and management, weather, fishing, crabbing and clamming season and condition, boating access site maintenance and development, upland or nearby amenities to name a few.

4. Agency Environmental Justice Progress

- a. How is Environmental Justice built into agency strategic plans, policies and/or legislation?

Environmental Justice is incorporated into many OSMB plans, policies and programs. The strategies and focus areas in the OSMB Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Action Plan (2023) 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.

OSMB's Strategic Plan is being updated and includes environmental justice considerations and increasing engagement with underserved communities as underlying factors for new and updated goals.

- b. How is the agency hoping to improve integrating environmental justice considerations in short term and long-term operations?

OSMB is working to improve staff understanding and application of environmental justice considerations into programs and processes. OSMB's Strategic Plan is being updated and includes environmental justice considerations and increasing engagement with underserved communities as underlying factors for new and updated goals.

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

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.

5. Agency Environmental Justice Mapping Tool Involvement

- a. How is the agency participating in the development of the environmental justice mapping tool?

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.

6. Agency Environmental Council Engagement 2025

- a. How would the agency like to engage with Environmental Justice Council in 2025?

OSMB will continue to act as a liaison to the Environmental Justice Council. 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.

7. Agency Environmental Justice Council Legislation Citations

- a. Please share agency impacted legislation where Environmental Justice Council or Environmental Justice Task Force engagement is cited in legislation.

None

8. Agency Meaningful Engagement Relation Legislation

- a. Please share agency impacted legislation that includes language regarding meaningful engagement.

None