



**Building connections and advocating for  
policies that protect our natural world for  
all people, forever.**

[oregonlandtrusts.org](http://oregonlandtrusts.org)

# 370,677 TOTAL ACRES PROTECTED IN OREGON

That's about **528** land acquisition projects over time

**23**

New land  
acquisition projects  
in 2021

That covers  
**32,800** acres!

**32**

Member  
Organizations

**304**

Oregon  
Employees

**252**

Board  
Members in  
Oregon

**4,486**

Active Oregon  
volunteers

**38**

Places dogs  
are welcome

**5**

Places that  
are ADA  
accessible

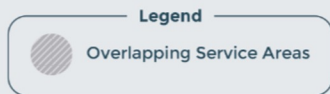
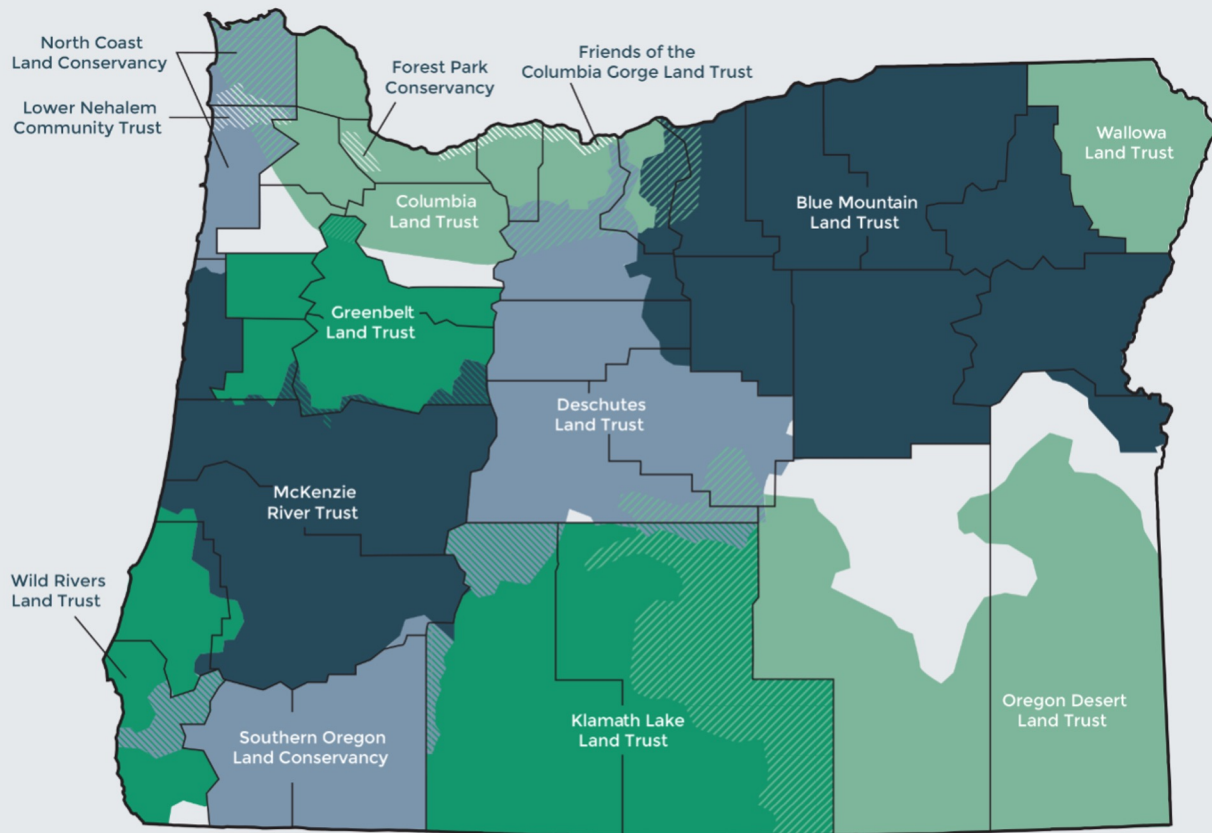
**86**

Places open  
to the public

That covers  
**94,434** acres!

**40**

Places with  
public trails



#### REGIONAL WORK

Blue Mountain Land Trust  
 Columbia Land Trust  
 Deschutes Land Trust  
 Friends of the Columbia Gorge Land Trust  
 Forest Park Conservancy  
 Greenbelt Land Trust  
 Klamath Lake Land Trust  
 Lower Nehalem Community Trust  
 McKenzie River Trust  
 North Coast Land Conservancy  
 Oregon Desert Land Trust  
 Southern Oregon Land Conservancy  
 Wallowa Land Trust  
 Wild Rivers Land Trust

#### STATEWIDE WORK

Center for Natural Lands Management  
 Ducks Unlimited  
 Pacific Forest Trust  
 The Conservation Fund  
 The Nature Conservancy in Oregon  
 The Trust for Public Land  
 The Wetlands Conservancy  
 Western Rivers Conservancy

#### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Black Oregon Land Trust  
 Cerro Gordo Land Conservancy  
 Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District  
 East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District  
 Helvetia Community Association  
 Northwest Rangeland Trust  
 Oregon Agricultural Trust  
 Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District  
 View the Future  
 Yamhill Soil and Water Conservation District



# EASEMENTS 101



## What is a Conservation Easement?

- A voluntary real estate contract
- Between a landowner and land trust or government agency
- Permanently limits use of the land
- To protect specific conservation values, including agriculture.

Disclaimer: This information is for education purposes only. It may not apply directly to your circumstances. For all conservation easement projects, OAT strongly recommends that landowners secure your own legal advice. We are not able to provide you with legal advice.

## How Does a Conservation Easement Work?

Land ownership comes with many property rights

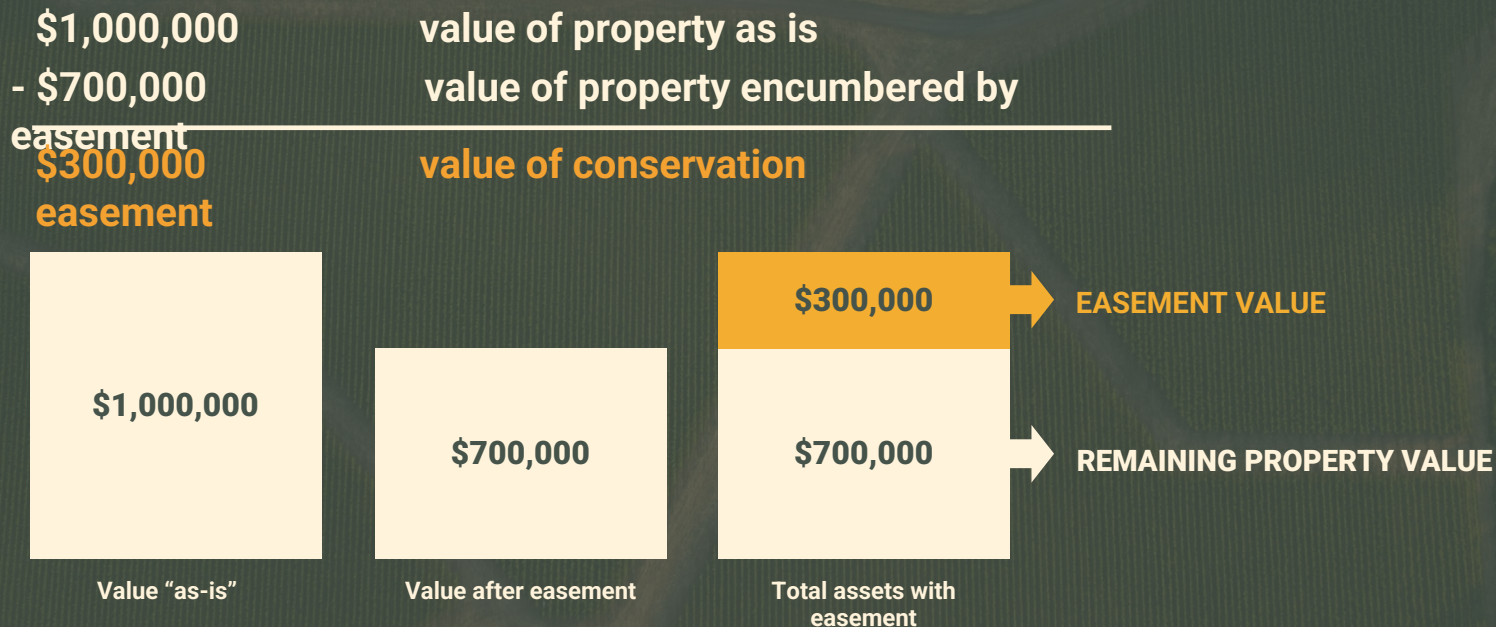
In a conservation easement, a landowner voluntarily sells or donates certain rights.





# Appraisal Valuation “Before & After” Analysis

— Both for purchases and donations





## Common Scenarios

1. Succession: Cash and/or Donation
2. Reduce Property Value to Ag Value
3. Expand the operation - often with 1031 exchange
4. Business flexibility with tax deduction

# Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program

2024 Funding Request

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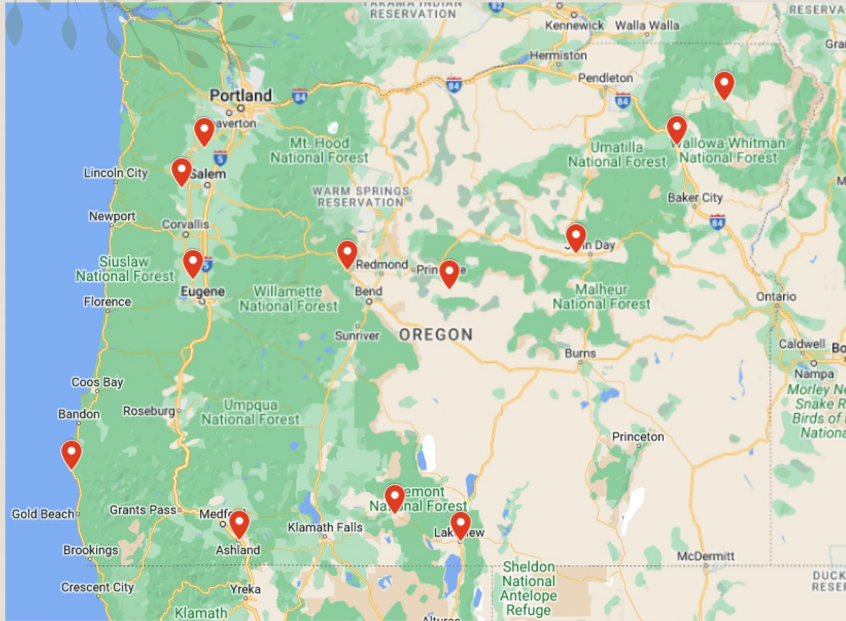


# OAHP Timeline

2017-2019	2022 Short Session	2023 -2025	2023 Legislative Session	2024 Short Session
2017: Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program Signed into Law	<p>Oregon Legislature Funds OAHP at \$5M</p> <p>Leverages \$6.7M immediately in federal investment</p>	OWEB Budget includes \$10.8M OAHP Funding Request	<p>April 2023: OWEB distributes first grants; protects 12,480 acres</p> <p>July 2023: OAHP <u>NOT FUNDED</u> in Oregon Legislature</p>	Funding Request: \$10.8M for OAHP grants & administration



# 2024 OAHP Project Pipeline & Demand



2024 Project Locations

- **14** potential projects from **6** land trusts in Oregon (3 in Lake County)
- Protecting **9** ranches, **4** farms & **1** orchard
- Total of **18,977** acres protected
- Fulfilling **\$11.6-11.8M** in OAHP funding requests
- **Variety of ag production:** Wool/lamb, grass-fed beef, pork, wheat and grass seed, barley, organic vegetables, and hazelnuts

# Leveraging Federal Dollars

\$5M Investment in 2022 Leveraged:

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**\$6.7M**

From the Natural Resources Conservation Service  
(compared with \$500K)

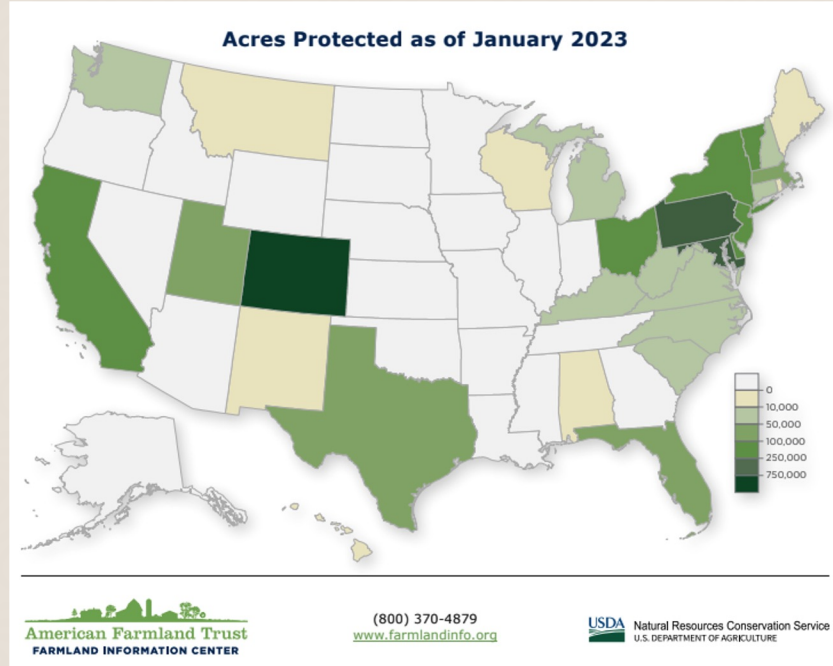
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5 Projects for 2024 have ALREADY SECURED

**\$7.2M from NRCS**



# 2024 Funding Request



**\$10.8 M**

**OAHP Grants & administration**

***Oregon is lagging behind other states protecting working lands!***





# OAHP 2023 Impact

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- **7** conservation easement grants
- **2** conservation management plan grants
- Protecting **12,480** total acres
- Variety of landscapes & ag production



# OAHP Grant Recipient

Rainshadow Organics  
*Sisters, OR*

Partner: Deschutes Land Trust

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*"We got our NRCS funding and we needed to come up with our match. And the OAHP is THE state match. Most states have something like this and Oregon needs more of it to protect more agricultural land!"*



- Sarahlee Lawrence, Rainshadow Organics



## **OAHP Grant Recipient**

**Aspen Valley Ranch**  
*Post, OR*

Partner: Deschutes Land Trust

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*Excellent sage grouse habitat that protects an important wildlife corridor for pronghorn antelope, Rocky Mountain elk, and mule deer.*

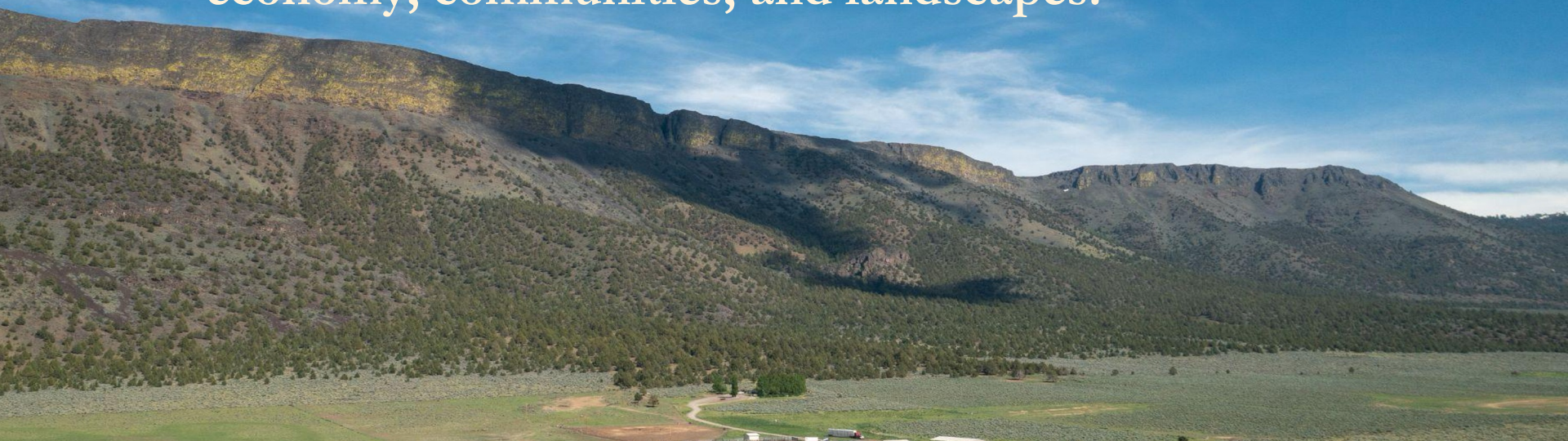






# Mission

OAT partners with farmers and ranchers to protect agricultural lands for the benefit of Oregon's economy, communities, and landscapes.





## THE CHALLENGE



OREGON  
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**25%**

Oregon land in  
farms & ranches



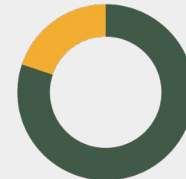
**64%**

will change hands  
in 20 years



**60**

average age of  
farmers & ranchers



**81%**

of farmers & ranchers  
have no succession plan



# What We Do

## AG LAND PROTECTION

Our primary tool is a working land easement — a voluntary agreement where the landowner sells or donates their development rights to keep their land available for agriculture forever.

## TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

In addition to holding working land easements, OAT helps other organizations do the same by providing education and assistance.

## EDUCATION

We educate farmers and ranchers, attorneys and appraisers, the general public, and decision-makers about farmland loss, easements, and succession.

## ADVOCACY

We advocate alongside state and national partners for funding to protect agricultural land.





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# Where We Work

1

## North Coast

Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook, Lincoln

2

## Mid-Columbia

Hood River, Wasco, Sherman

3

## Mid/South Willamette

Clackamas, Marion, Polk, Linn, Benton, Lane

4

## Southeast Oregon

Malheur, Harney, Lake

1

2

3

4



## 2023 Successes

- This year we have protected over 27,000 acres of agricultural land, representing 8% of the total protected land base in Oregon.
- We have 41 additional land protection projects in the works that would protect almost 170,000 acres!
- We educated over 1,000 farmers, ranchers, and service providers on farm succession planning and working land easements



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**FOR AG.  
FOREVER.**

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