



State Board of Agriculture Meeting Agenda

DATE	LOCATION	START TIME	END TIME
September 3, 2025	State Board of Agriculture meeting (See below for details)	5:00 PM	6:30 PM
September 4, 2025	State Board of Agriculture meeting (See below for details)	8:30 AM	5:00 PM
September 5, 2025	State Board of Agriculture meeting (See below for details)	8:30 AM	1:00 PM

FACILITATOR	CONTACT EMAIL/Website	CONTACT PHONE
Board Coordinator	BoardAgriculture@oda.oregon.gov https://oda.direct/BoardAgriculture	503.986.4552

SCHEDULE

Wednesday, September 3, 2025			
ITEM	TIME	AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER
1	5:00 PM	Welcome and Board of Agriculture meeting call to order <ul style="list-style-type: none">Roll call/Introductions	Elin Miller , Chair State Board of Agriculture
2	5:15 PM (75 min)	Local Industry Panels <ul style="list-style-type: none">Elected Officials<ul style="list-style-type: none">Kelley Minty, Chair, Klamath County Board of CommissionersLocal Producers<ul style="list-style-type: none">Dave Henslee	
	6:30 PM (90 min)	Informal Reception <i>The public is invited to join the Board of Agriculture members and ODA staff for a reception. Light appetizers will be served.</i> Location: Running Y Resort Juniper Hall 5500 Running Y Road Klamath Falls, OR 97061	

Contact Board Coordinator for information regarding this agenda or to request ADA accommodations
48 hours advance notice please (503.986.4552)

Agenda subject to change

Thursday, September 4, 2025

ITEM	TIME	AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER
3	8:30 AM (40 min)	Welcome and Board of Agriculture meeting call to order <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roll call/Introductions • Approval of minutes • Director's report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ODA Strategic Plan Progress Report ○ ODA Division Updates ○ Rulemaking 	Elin Miller , Chair State Board of Agriculture Lisa Charpilloz Hanson ODA Director
4	9:10 AM (30 min)	ODA's Budget and Legislative Update	Jonathan Sandau , ODA Deputy Director Lindsay Eng , ODA Deputy Director Adam Crawford , ODA Chief Operating Officer
5	9:40 AM (40 min)	Local Food Network <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Klamath Grown ○ Healthy Klamath ○ Klamath County School District ○ Watershed Row ○ Local Producers 	Amy Gilroy , ODA Farm to School Program Manager Delaney Ryde , Klamath Grown Food Hub Susan Topham , Flying T Ranch Jennifer Detwiler , Klamath County School District
	10:20 AM (10 min)	Break	
6	10:30 AM (30 min)	Klamath Basin Restoration	Larry Nicholson , Executive Director, Upper Klamath Basin Agricultural Collaborative
7	11:00 AM (30 min)	Klamath Irrigation Project	Gene Souza , Executive Director, Klamath Irrigation District Elizabeth Nielson , Executive Director, Klamath Water Users
8	11:30 AM (20 min)	Public Comment (See below for instructions)	
	11:50 AM (60 min)	Lunch break <i>Lunch provided for Board of Ag members</i>	
9	12:40 PM	Site Visits – Board members and staff only	
	6:30 PM	Board Dinner for <i>Board members and ODA staff will gather for dinner. No Board business scheduled during dinner.</i>	

Contact Board Coordinator for information regarding this agenda or to request ADA accommodations.
48 hours advance notice please (503.986.4552)

Agenda subject to change

August 25, 2025
Page 2 of 4

Friday, September 5, 2025

ITEM	TIME	AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER
	8:30 AM (5 min)	Welcome and Board of Agriculture meeting call to order <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roll Call/Introductions 	Elin Miller , Chair State Board of Agriculture
10	8:35 AM (60 min)	SB 777 – Wolf Depredation Compensation Program - Implementation	Jonathan Sandau , Deputy Director, Oregon Department of Agriculture Sunny Summers , Policy Advisor, Oregon Department of Agriculture
11	9:35 AM (15 min)	Public Comment (See below for instructions)	
	9:50 AM (10 min)	Break	
12	10:00 AM (60 min)	Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area (LUBGWMA) Rules	Eric Orem , Board of Agriculture Isaak Stapleton , Division Director, Oregon Department of Agriculture Renee Moulun , Oregon Department of Agriculture
13	11:00 AM (30 min)	Board Resolutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 319 – Climate Change Resolution • 2026 Board Resolution Preview 	
14	11:30 AM (20 min)	Public Comment (See below for instructions)	
15	11:50 AM (45 min)	Board Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OWEB report • Newsletter topics • 2026 Meeting Dates/Location • Election of officers 	Elin Miller , Chair State Board of Agriculture

Next meeting: December 3-5, 2025 | Hood River, OR

Public Comment

Written comments

All written comments received by the deadline will be posted on the ODA website and will be provided to the Board in advance of the meeting. Submit your written comments online at <https://oda.direct/BoardAgriculture> or by email to: BoardAgriculture@ODA.oregon.gov by **5:00 pm on Tuesday, August 26, 2025**.

Contact Board Coordinator for information regarding this agenda or to request ADA accommodations.
48 hours advance notice please (503.986.4552)

Agenda subject to change

August 25, 2025
Page 3 of 4

Verbal comments – Remote

Verbal comments are limited to three minutes and will be heard in the public comment period on Thursday, September 4, 2025, and on September, June 5, 2025. To provide verbal comment remotely, you must email:

BoardAgriculture@ODA.oregon.gov by **5:00 pm on Tuesday, August 26, 2025**, and provide the following information:

- Date you plan to provide verbal comments (September 4 or September 5 at 9:35 am or 11:15 am)
- Your first and last name
- The topic of your comment
- The telephone number you will be using when calling the meeting

Verbal comments – In-person

To provide verbal comments in-person you must sign-up, prior to the comment period on the agenda, at the meeting and provide your name and organization. If you have written material as part of your public comment, please provide the board assistant with 20 copies prior to your testimony. Comment time is limited to three minutes per person.

See below for meeting location and call-in details.

Meeting Details

Oregon State Board of Agriculture Quarterly Meeting

In-person	Remote
Running Y Resort Spruce Ridge Room 5500 Running Y Rd. Klamath Falls, OR 97601 541-850-5500 Pre-meeting materials available at: https://oda.direct/BoardAgriculture	Microsoft Teams Need help? Join the meeting now Meeting ID: 219 205 066 945 Passcode: eHVpB5 Dial in by phone +1 503-446-4951,,287258006# United States, Portland Find a local number Phone conference ID: 287 258 006#

Contact Board Coordinator for information regarding this agenda or to request ADA accommodations.
48 hours advance notice please (503.986.4552)

Agenda subject to change

STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

Member List by Term Expiration

Term Expires

10/28/2028
2nd term
Position #3
Producer
Elin Miller, Chair
Roseburg, OR
Phone: 415.613.5251
elin@elinmiller.com

12/2/2025
1st term
Position #10
Producer
Eric Orem, Vice-Chair
Heppner, OR
Phone: 541.256.0246
eboremfarms@hotmail.com

10/28/2028
2nd term
Position #7
Producer
Josh Zielinski
Salem, OR
Phone: 503.339.4062
josh.zielinski@gmail.com

12/2/2025
1st term
Position #5
Producer
Miguel Lopez
Carlton, OR
Phone: 503.437.0118
lopez.mikey@gmail.com

10/31/2026
partial
Position #2
Producer
Ty Kliewer
Klamath Falls, OR
Phone: 541.891.2528
kliewertb@gmail.com

10/31/2026
partial
Position #6
Producer
Ellie Norris
Roseburg, OR
Phone: 503.799.6114
ellie@norrisblueberryfarms.com

9/17/2027
1st term
Position #11
Producer
Chad Allen
Tillamook, OR
Phone: 503-801-1097
chadvictor76@gmail.com

12/19/2028
1st term
Position #8
Public Member
Kirk Maag
Portland, OR 97209
Phone: 541.881.9613
kirk.maag@gmail.com

03/31/2029
1st term
Position #4
Public Member
Mike Dill
Philomath, OR
Phone: 541.602.5338
mdill@organicgrown.com

Ex-officio voting member:

SWCC
Position #9
Barbara Boyer
McMinnville, OR
Phone: 503.472.5974
gourmethay@onlinemac.com

Ex-officio non-voting members:

Staci Simonich, Dean College of Agricultural Sciences
Director of Oregon Agricultural Experiment Stations
Oregon State University
430 Strand Agriculture Hall
170 SW Waldo Place #430
Corvallis OR 97331
Phone: 541.737.2331
staci.simonich@oregonstate.edu

Lisa Charpillouz Hanson, Director
Oregon Department of Agriculture
635 Capitol Street NE
Salem OR 97301-2532
Phone: 503.986.4552
FAX: 503.986.4750
lisa.charpillouz.hanson@oda.oregon.gov

MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture
From: Board Coordinator
Subject: Agenda Item number 02 *Industry Panel – Legislative priorities and updates*

I. Introduction

Local leaders and industry partners are invited to share about issues impacting their communities. Invited to participate include county commissioners, meat grant recipients, and local producers.

Confirmed participants:

- Kelley Minty, Chair, Klamath County Board of Commissioners
- Dave Henslee, Cattle Producer

Invited participants:

- Andy Nichols, Klamath County Commissioner
- Derrick DeGroot, Klamath County Commissioner
- Marc Staunton, Klamath Producer
- Mark Trotman, Klamath Producer
- Mat Trotman, Klamath Producer
- Chris McKoen, Cattle Buyer
- Luther Horsley, Farmer/Rancher
- Jacob McCarty, Macy's Flying Service/Cattle Producer
- Corey Thompson, Basin Fertilizer & Chemical

II. Background

This is an opportunity to hear from organizations to learn about current issues, and concerns. These reports may identify future topics the Board would like to learn more about.



Oregon State Board of Agriculture Minutes

DATE	LOCATION	START TIME	END TIME
06/4-6/2025	La Grande, OR and virtual	5:00 pm	12:00 PM
FACILITATOR	CONTACT EMAIL	CONTACT PHONE	
Sherry Kudna	BoardAgriculture@ODA.oregon.gov	503.986.4552	

Meeting Recording:

June 4 - Meeting recording Part 1 – <https://youtu.be/prEiT8jYeWk>

June 5 – Meeting recording Part 2 – <https://youtu.be/cLU3sVrpDy0>

June 6 – Meeting recording Part 3 – https://youtu.be/Pi_qbb2dDJQ

Wednesday, June 4, 2025

Agenda Item 01 – Welcome and Introductions

Chair Elin Miller called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. Introductions of board members followed.

- Board members present: Elin Miller, Chad Allen, Eric Orem, Kirk Maag, Josh Zielinski, Mike Dill, Miguel Lopez, Barbara Boyer, Lisa Charpiloz Hanson
- Board members remote: OSU Dean Staci Simonich
- Board members absent: Ellie Norris, Ty Kliwer
- Others present in-person/remote: Wade Bingaman, Paul Anderes, Jane Seavert, Suzanna Moore, Jonathan Sandau, Lindsay Eng, Adam Crawford, Chris Benneman, Andrea Cantu-Schomus, Rusty Rock, Christina Whitman, Shiloh Simrell, Bill Merrigan, Karla Valness, Sherry Kudna, Three Rivers Audio Visual.

Agenda Item 02 – Industry Panel –

The board heard from Union and Baker County Commissioners on the state of agriculture and community needs in northeastern Oregon.

The Commissioners emphasized that rural communities often feel excluded from state-level decision-making and called for stronger, more transparent state-local collaboration. Key priorities highlighted included wolf management funding, science-based water regulation, workforce development, expanded housing options, and reliable childcare infrastructure.

The meeting recessed at 6:30 pm until Thursday, June 5, 2025.

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Agenda Item 03 – Welcome and Introductions

Chair Elin Miller called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. Introductions of board members followed.

- Board members present: Elin Miller, Chad Allen, Eric Orem, Kirk Maag, Josh Zielinski, Mike Dill, Miguel Lopez, Barbara Boyer, Lisa Charpiloz Hanson
- Board members remote: OSU Dean Staci Simonich
- Board members absent: Ellie Norris, Ty Kliewer
- Others present in-person/remote: Hilary Doulos, Jim Webster, Whitney Rohner, Courtney Crowell, Troy Abercombie, Mark Porter, Jonathan Sandau, Lindsay Eng, Adam Crawford, Chris Benneman, Andrea Cantu-Schomus, Rusty Rock, Karla Valness, Sherry Kudna, Three Rivers Audio Visual.

Approval of minutes

Draft minutes from the March 12-14, 2025, board meeting was presented for review and approval.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Barbara Boyer to approve the March 2025 minutes as presented. Second by Miguel Lopez. Motion passed unanimously by: Elin Miller, Chad Allen, Eric Orem, Kirk Maag, Josh Zielinski, Mike Dill, Miguel Lopez, Barbara Boyer

Director's report

Director Lisa Charpiloz Hanson highlighted work done by the Oregon Department of Agriculture since the March meeting.

- ODA participated in the Oregon FFA State Convention with a staffed booth that engaged students and joined the supporters' dinner, where the Director gave a welcome. The opening session, marked by strong student energy and activities, was a highlight of the event.
- ODA has established quarterly check-ins with agricultural, organic, and conservation groups and is aligning with OWEB to streamline collaboration on shared issues.
- Amid federal trade uncertainty and tariff impacts, Governor Kotek convened a roundtable with agriculture, fisheries, and food industry leaders, where the oversupply crisis in Oregon's pink shrimp industry was highlighted. Coordinated advocacy—including a gubernatorial letter to USDA and direct delivery to Secretary Rollins—resulted in a \$16 million Section 32 purchase of pink shrimp, providing critical relief to coastal communities and marking a significant win for Oregon agriculture and fisheries.
- While in Washington, D.C., the Director joined a roundtable convened by Secretary Rollins on small farm issues, where she had the opportunity to represent Oregon agriculture, highlight the importance and challenges of family farms, and ensure Oregon's voice was included alongside largely East Coast and Midwest perspectives.
- ODA presented a request to the Capital Construction Committee, seeking \$15 million in bonding for a unified computer system to integrate all agency programs, a first-of-its-kind bonding request, though not in the base budget, remains a top priority with strong optimism moving forward.
- ODA recently appointed a large slate of new commodity commissioners but continues to face recruitment challenges, encouraging broader participation to build future agricultural leadership.
- ODA participated in NASDA's "A Taste of the States" at the National Restaurant Association's show in Chicago, achieving strong success in promoting small companies and planning future domestic trade show opportunities.
- Governor Kotek will lead a trade mission to Japan and South Korea in October as ODA continues prioritizing international relationships while also focusing on local market opportunities amid global uncertainty.

- Two Oregon agricultural entities, Shaniko Wool and the Oregon Seed Council, were honored for their global contributions to sports, including providing wool for Olympic uniforms and turf for prestigious soccer fields by the Oregon Counselor Corps at the Global Trade Gala.
- The agency confirmed \$2.25 million in funding for the next round of specialty crop grants, slightly more than in previous years.
- During a visit to Ontario, the Director toured the Durkee fire burn area, noting grass regrowth, sagebrush recovery, and ongoing challenges with noxious weeds. She met with onion industry leaders, including Grant Kitamura of Murakami Produce, to discuss ownership transitions and industry updates, followed by a no-host dinner with 14–16 producers and ranchers to address legislative challenges and express appreciation for their support. At Ontario High School, she observed the new Career Technical Education (CTE) curriculum, developed in partnership with ODA and the Department of Education, which equips students with USDA produce safety certification, enabling graduates to enter the workforce directly as auditors. This program demonstrates strong local leadership and highlights the value of expanding career-focused agricultural education and FFA leadership pathways.

Resource:

- ODA Strategic Plan quarterly update
- ODA Division Area Reports
- Oregon Agency Expectations
- Pink Shrimp Purchase
- ODA Agricultural Water Quality Management Area Plan Biennial Reviews

Agenda Item 04 – ODA Budget and Legislative Update

Jonathan Sandau, Deputy Director, ODA; Lindsay Eng, Deputy Director, ODA; and Adam Crawford, Chief Operating Officer, ODA provided a comprehensive update on 2025 legislative and budget developments as the session nears its June 29 adjournment deadline, noting that activity is expected to continue through the final days. The agency’s core budget bills have cleared the Ways and Means Committee and await floor action, alongside three fee bills covering pesticide registration, food safety licenses, and weights and measures. A fourth measure, developed with cattlemen and Senator Nash, incorporates livestock identification brand fees into the agency’s budget package. Three ODA-sponsored policy bills were also reviewed: poultry inspection authority, now law, aligning with federal standards; fertilizer label enforcement updates, also signed; and pending legislation granting civil penalty authority under animal health statutes, designed to provide alternatives to criminal enforcement.

In addition, the agency is tracking several significant measures, including Senate Bill 777 on wolf depredation compensation (passed and sent to the governor), House Bill 2548 on the Agricultural Labor Standards Board (still in Rules with no work session), and Senate Bill 1154, the governor’s major groundwater package, scheduled for hearing next week and considered the last major natural resources policy initiative of the session. Many remaining policy and funding bills will be resolved in June as part of end-of-session negotiated packages.

The co-chairs’ recommended budget aligns 98–99% with the governor’s proposed budget. Predator control funding has been restored, while minor reductions were made in farm mediation and an unfilled microbiologist position. Funding for wolf compensation under SB 777 should be included in the session-ending omnibus “Christmas tree” bill, a common appropriations practice.

At the federal level, ODA, working with NASDA and USDA, secured an additional \$16 million in FSIS's federal budget to ensure USDA continues covering 50% of state meat inspection costs. Reported progress on RFSI grants, with over \$3 million in infrastructure projects now cleared for environmental and cultural review and ready for implementation.

Agenda Item 05 – Working Lands in Oregon

The session featured presentations from Troy Abercrombie, Program Manager for ODA's Native Plant Conservation and Noxious Weed Control Programs; Mark Porter, ODA's Rangeland Stewardship Specialist; and Hilary Dillos and Katie Salter of ODFW's Natural Working Lands team.

Together, they highlighted agency collaboration, the history of rangeland conservation in Oregon, and recent progress supported through House Bill 3409 and the Natural Working Lands Fund.

Speakers emphasized the scale and importance of Oregon's rangelands, which cover nearly one-third of the state and directly support the billion-dollar beef industry, as well as wildlife habitat and ecosystem services. Abercrombie described how invasive annual grasses such as cheatgrass and Medusahead are driving habitat loss, reducing forage quality, and fueling more intense wildfires across the Great Basin, with over one million acres of perennial grassland lost annually. Porter underscored the ecological and economic costs of both invasive grasses and juniper encroachment, noting how juniper consumes scarce water resources, fragments habitat, and diminishes forage production. Both presenters stressed that early intervention and coordinated management yield the strongest results, citing successful collaborative projects with ODA, ODFW, NRCS, conservation districts, and local landowners.

Dillos and Salter shared how ODFW is working alongside partners to deploy new tools and practices, such as virtual fencing, targeted juniper removal, and grazing strategies that reduce invasive spread while improving habitat conditions. Funding from HB 3409 has already allowed ODA to expand staffing capacity with a new rangeland health specialist, with a second position planned, strengthening statewide support for landowners and conservation initiatives.

The panel concluded by urging greater recognition of rangelands as essential to Oregon's agricultural, ecological, and cultural identity.

Resource:

- Working Lands in Oregon Presentation

Agenda Item 06 – Public Comment

Two written public comments were received by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission and OrCan. The comments were distributed to the Board in their meeting packets and posted on-line on the Board of Agriculture website. The Board received no request from the public to make verbal comments at the meeting.

The board welcomed Courtney Crowell, Regional Solutions Coordinator for Eastern Oregon and Natural Resource Advisor. Ms. Crowell thanked members for meeting in eastern Oregon and recognized their service, emphasizing the Governor's priorities of transparency, customer service, and collaboration. She praised ODA's strong teamwork and efficiency, which she said makes her role as policy advisor and board appointment coordinator significantly easier.

Highlighting the Governor's commitment to the Lower Umatilla Basin (LUBGWMA), she noted progress driven by close interagency collaboration with ODA, WRD, DEQ, and OHA.

In response to questions on board support, Ms. Crowell stressed the importance of early, proactive communication, urging members to share both challenges and success stories—such as Oregon agriculture’s presence at national trade events—to strengthen alignment with the Governor’s Office.

Agenda Item 07 – Site Visits

A site visit of Arrow Leaf Farms, Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center, and the Eastern Oregon Livestock Show was provided for board members and ODA staff.

The meeting recessed at 5:00 pm until Friday, June 6, 2025

Friday, June 6, 2025

Agenda Item 00 – Welcome and Introductions

Chair Elin Miller called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. Introductions of board members followed.

- Board members present: Elin Miller, Chad Allen, Eric Orem, Kirk Maag, Mike Dill, Miguel Lopez, Barbara Boyer, Lisa Charpillouz Hanson
- Board members remote: OSU Dean Staci Simonich, Josh Zielinski
- Board members absent: Ellie Norris, Ty Kliwer
- Others present in-person/remote: Penny Diebel, Amy Carpenter, Sydney Peck, Gracie Dudek, Emma Ricker, Mary Grace, Ashton Helms, Jonathan Sandau, Lindsay Eng, Adam Crawford Chris Benneman, Andrea Cantu-Schomus, Rusty Rock, Penny Diebel, Misty Buckley, Sydney Peck, Sunny Summers, Sandi Hiatt, Sophie Els, Eric Quaempts, Karla Valness, Sherry Kudna, Three Rivers Audio Visual.

Agenda Item 08 – OSU Update

Dean Staci Simonich acknowledged a busy graduation season in Corvallis, noting that many students who missed traditional ceremonies during COVID are now seeking multiple celebrations, and the institution is committed to supporting them. Upcoming events include OSU and EOU graduations next weekend and a series of summer field days.

On funding, statewide Public Services (agricultural research extension and the Forest Research Lab) are slated for a 7% increase—below the 9.8% CSL need but sufficient to backfill vacancies, though not new programs. OSU colleges, including Agriculture and Forestry, face a 6.5% cut in education and general funds over two years, prompting difficult program and staffing decisions.

The Agricultural Experiment Station in Union was highlighted as Oregon’s first and a vital hub for student experiential learning in rangeland sciences, attracting students locally, nationally, and internationally. Despite its value, the EOU agricultural program continues to operate at a \$200,000 annual deficit tied to enrollment trends, though leadership remains committed to maintaining a presence in Eastern Oregon.

Agenda Item 9 – OSU’s Ag & Natural Resource Program at Eastern Oregon University

Penny Diebel, Director, the Eastern Oregon Agricultural and Natural Resource Program, a partnership between Oregon State University (OSU) and Eastern Oregon University (EOU), provides students with the opportunity to earn an OSU degree in agriculture while studying in a smaller, community-focused setting. This unique model combines the academic rigor of OSU with the affordability of EOU, as students taking in-person classes at Eastern pay EOU’s lower tuition rates.

Students consistently highlight three program strengths: affordability, applied learning, and community. Smaller class sizes and faculty mentorship create a supportive environment, while extensive fieldwork, internships, and research connect classroom concepts to real-world agriculture. From irrigation management and hay production to livestock care, GIS mapping, and virtual fencing research, students gain the technical expertise and hands-on experience needed to succeed in diverse agricultural careers.

The program's impact is best seen through its students. Gracie Dudek, graduating with a degree in Agricultural Science and Animal Science minor, found both financial relief and mentorship after transferring from OSU's main campus. She is continuing to graduate school to become an agricultural educator and FFA advisor. Amy Carpenter, a sophomore from southern Oregon, is double majoring in Agricultural Science and Agricultural Entrepreneurship. Raised on a beef operation, she has broadened her knowledge into crop production and gained business skills to one day run her family's ranch. Ashton Helms, also a sophomore, aspires to become an animal nutritionist. Through hands-on work at the Intermountain Livestock Exchange, she has deepened her knowledge of livestock systems while valuing the program's tight-knit community. Emma Ricker, a Union native, is graduating with extensive research and production experience from the Union Experiment Station, preparing her to expand her family's cattle and hay operation.

Together, these stories illustrate how the OSU–EOU partnership expands access to higher education, strengthens Oregon's agricultural workforce, and prepares the next generation of leaders in farming, ranching, and agribusiness. Students leave with both academic credentials and practical skills, ready to contribute to the vitality of rural communities across the state.

Resource:

- EOU Agriculture Entrepreneurship Program Overview
- EOU Agriculture Entrepreneurship Program Handouts

Agenda Item 10 – Public Comment

The Board received no requests from the public to make verbal comments at the meeting.

Agenda Item 11 – Confederated Tribe of the Umatilla Indian Reservation – Natural Resources Program

The Umatilla Tribes ground their natural resource management in the concept of First Foods—water, salmon, deer, roots, and berries—honored through traditional serving orders that reflect both ecological interdependence and cultural teachings of reciprocity. These foods are central to ceremonies and sovereignty, reinforcing the responsibility to protect them for future generations.

The Tribes' River and Upland Visions translate these cultural values into applied management. River restoration focuses on hydrology, connectivity, and fish habitat, with major projects such as Meacham Creek and Birch Creek demonstrating success in improving water quality and salmon recovery. Upland work includes forest thinning, prescribed fire, beetle response, and climate-related monitoring of huckleberries and pollinators, combining science with traditional ecological knowledge.

Collaboration is a key strategy, including conservation easements, integrated water rights settlements, and partnerships with state and federal agencies. By aligning cultural priorities with ecological science, the Umatilla Tribes seek to restore resilience to rivers and landscapes, ensure access to First Foods, and strengthen both community health and regional sustainability.

Agenda Item 13 – Board Business

DRAFT – June 2025

OWEB Report

The OWEB meeting on April 22–23 in Independence focused heavily on grant approvals, including funding for water acquisition, land projects, drinking water, and source protection, while Specialty Crop Block Grants and RFSI projects are advancing under compressed timelines. A significant discussion centered on the Willamette Confluence Project’s unprecedented request to be released from its conservation easement, with the Department of Justice expected to provide guidance since no conclusion was reached. Concerns were raised through numerous public comments about Bureau of Land Management funding delays, which have left small watershed councils at risk of bankruptcy after completing work without reimbursement. Geoff Huntington from the Governor’s Office presented on current priorities, and while ODA funding remains stable for now, uncertainties about the next fiscal year and the limitations of the outdated 2018 Farm Bill were emphasized. Updates on both the conservation easement request and federal funding issues are expected at the next meeting.

Action Items – March 2025 Meeting

The Board received copies of letters sent to DLCD and the Governor per discussions at the March 2025 Meeting.

Resources:

- Letter to DLCD commenting on proposed solar siting rules.
- Letter to Governor with concerns on HB 2548 (2025 Legislative Session)

Resolutions

Following the release of resolutions for public comment beginning in December, the board considered feedback received during two subsequent meetings. Only two resolutions generated public input, with one receiving extensive comments on March 19 and the others drawing little or no feedback.

MOTION:

A motion was made by Eric Orem to approve resolutions 107, 307, 309, 317, & 318 as written. Second by Miguel Lopez. The motion was approved by: Elin Miller, Chad Allen, Eric Orem, Kirk Maag, Mike Dill, Miguel Lopez, Barbara Boyer, Josh Zielinski.

Resolution 319, which received detailed written feedback including proposed revisions, was deferred for further review. Staff, in coordination with board member Kirk Maag, will evaluate the submitted comments and prepare a revised draft. This draft will be circulated for additional public comment and returned to the board for consideration at its September meeting

Newsletter Topics

Topics were identified for the upcoming Board of Agriculture Newsletter.

- Taste of the States Chicago Trade Show – Staff
- USDA Pink Shrimp Purchase – Staff
- Eastern Oregon Livestock Show – Chad Allen
- LUBGWAMA – Eric Orem
- OSU/EOU – Miguel Lopez

The newsletter will begin with a short summary of board meeting highlights before moving into greater depth on the individual topics described above. Staff will circulate notes and coordinate assignments to ensure progress toward a complete draft.

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 pm

Next meeting: September 3-5, 2025
In-person – Klamath Falls, OR | Virtual option will be available.

*Agenda Item number 03 – ODA Director’s Report
State Board of Agriculture meeting, September 3-5, 2025*

MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture
From: Board Coordinator
Subject: Agenda Item number 03 – ODA Director’s Report

I. Introduction

Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) Director Lisa Charpillouz Hanson will give a quarterly update on issues, successes and activities from the ODA. Included with her report will be a quarterly update on the ODA’s Strategic Plan and ODA’s Division Area Updates.

II. Background

ODA Strategic Plan

A quarterly update through August 2025 is attached.

ODA Division Updates

See attached quarterly updates from each ODA Division.

Agency Rulemaking

A verbal update will be provided at the meeting.

Oregon Department of Agriculture Program Reports
Prepared for: State Board of Agriculture
Meeting date: September 3-5, 2025

Food Safety and Animal Health & ID Division

Rusty Rock, Division Director, rusty.rock@oda.oregon.gov 503-508-2262

Food Safety General Update

- Food Safety program staff continue to reduce the inspection backlog. Inspections are considered overdue if they are more than 90 days past due. The backlog has dropped from a peak of 4,943 in July 2021 to 1,733.

Retail and Manufactured Foods

- The ongoing uncertainty at the FDA is not expected to affect the safety of the food supply. The Food Safety program maintains a robust regulatory environment overseeing the manufacturing and distribution of food products. The work is not dependent on federal partners. ODA enjoys a cooperative relationship with local county health departments and federal partners at the FDA and USDA. For context, Food Safety staff conducted over 6,300 regulatory inspections in 2024. In comparison, FDA conducted an estimated 100 inspections in Oregon, with a vast majority being duplicated by ODA staff.
- ODA has completed all FDA 2024-2025 contract work, which included 110 GMP, 42 PC, 9 acidified food and 9 seafood HACCP inspection.
- For the 2025-26 contract year, ODA's FDA contract will include:
 - 105 Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) inspections,
 - 42 full-scope Preventative Controls (PC) inspections,
 - 8 acidified food inspections, and
 - 10 seafood HACCP inspections.

Shellfish and Crab Program

- A new proposed oyster lease application in South Slough (Coos County) is progressing. This proposed lease is a small 2.5-acre intensive aquaculture operation utilizing baskets strung on lines suspended in the water. ODA Food Safety is coordinating the state approval process and is working closely with other natural resources agencies such as ODFW and DSL. The applicant is also working with US Army Corps of Engineers to obtain Federal approval.
- ODA Food Safety has been working closely with council at the Department of Justice (DOJ) to furnish documents pertaining to two lawsuits against a private seafood corporation. One is related to shellfish aquaculture operations in Tillamook Bay; the other is related to the commercial Dungeness crab fishery in the state.

Dairy Program

- Statewide Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza; ODA Milk Sampling and Surveillance
 - Samples are submitted weekly from dairy processors to the Oregon Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at Oregon State University.
 - Using an ODA-provided disposable pipette, aliquot off 2-5mL from existing Pasteurized Milk Ordinance (PMO) Appendix N sample into an ODA-provided container.
 - Able to test approximately 80% of Oregon's fluid milk producers.
 - There have been no Positive raw milk sample results for HPAI out of hundreds tested.
- To date, Oregon has no confirmed cases of H5N1 in cattle.

State Meat Inspection (SMI)

- The SMI program continues to demonstrate significant success in providing education and outreach to local producers.

- New facilities that have joined the SMI program: Buermann Ranch Meats in Lakeview and Lake County Meats, in Burns. In addition, the Meating Place Processing in Hillsboro expanded their processing facility and is operating under the SMI inspection program.
- The number of upcoming facilities anticipated to join the SMI Program could be up to three by early Spring 2026.
- At current staffing levels, the addition of new facilities to the SMI program including the projected ones in 2026 may reduce the program's capacity to provide education and outreach to prospective local producers.

Animal Health

- There are still no indications of High Path Avian Influenza (HPAI) positive dairy cattle in Oregon. The nation's supply of pasteurized milk continues to be safe as the HPAI virus is deactivated through processing temperatures. Oregon's limited raw milk market further reduces the risk of transmission through unpasteurized milk.
- The state veterinarian's office supported ODFW and OSP in recent actions related to the West Coast Game Park Safari and a criminal investigation. ODA's role was limited to providing technical expertise on animal handling and transportation.

Lab Services

- The program had a critical retirement last quarter and is in the midst of hiring a replacement Quality Assurance Officer.
- The ODA lab has developed the required method and protocols to be able to test oysters for the naturally occurring bacterium *Vibrio parahaemolyticus*. *Vibrio* is the most common cause of oyster illness in the US and is most prevalent in summer months. The method developed by the lab would enable an Oregon growing area closed because of repeated *Vibrio* illnesses, or an outbreak, to be reopened based on criteria established by the FDA. The ODA lab would become the only lab on the west coast with this capability and will provide a much sought after testing option for the equivalent shellfish programs in both California and Washington
- The lab is currently working through the seasonal backlog in the chemistry area and working with program management teams to determine the prioritization of backlogged samples.
- The Cannabis Reference Lab (CRL) has received and installed all purchased equipment and staff have received training. Work continues to develop and validate methods for residual solvents, metals, pesticides and potency (including the newer identified cannabinoids).

Agriculture Services Division

Casey Prentiss, Division Director, casey.prentiss@oda.oregon.gov 541-212-3361

The Agriculture Services Division was established to bring ODA's field service programs together at the urging of industry across the state. This structure supports greater collaboration among existing programs, improving efficiency and customer service, and creates positions that can work across program and division lines. As of October 1, the following programs are part of Agriculture Services Division: Certification, Livestock Identification, Plant Health, Produce Safety, Seed Regulatory, Shipping Point Inspection, Smoke Management, the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, and Weights and Measures.

- **Shipping Point Inspection**
 - 2025 crop is early – most commodities are reporting that they are 14-17 days early.
 - Cherries are about done; blueberries are in progress. The Hops season is anticipated to start in late August.
 - Labor is a significant issue for both the industry as well as the agency.
- **Oregon Agricultural Worker Housing Grant Program**
 - The first 75% of all grant dollars have been awarded.
 - The program is starting to review reports from grantees on their projects. Projects are expected to finish by the close of the calendar year.
- **Field Burning/Smoke Management**
 - The 2025 Field Burning Season is underway. Twenty-six growers registered 12,423 acres. This is an increase from 2024 (11,800 acres) but less than the 15,000 acres allowable in the program. Allocation will be 100%.
 - The season began July 7th. To date we have burned 10,473 acres and growers have baled 1,912 acres. There are 59 registered acres remaining to be baled or burned.

- **Livestock Identification Program**

- The new District 3 Supervisor Livestock Brand Inspector was hired and started in their position in July. We are currently recruiting for other Livestock Brand Inspector positions throughout the state.
- Senate Bill 1019 (2025) directs the ODA to increase brand inspection fees. The program filed temporary rules in July (www.oda.direct/rulemaking) to increase the per-head fee for cattle to \$1.75.

- **Seed Regulatory Program**

- The program is currently investigating multiple claims under the Slow Pay No Pay Law. Slow Pay No Pay refers to a set of statutes that were implemented to prevent "slow payment" or "non-payment" to grass seed growers by seed dealers for their crops. It puts in place a set of minimum contract standards, deadlines for seed payments, and a process for the department to investigate claims and make determinations about payment.
- The department has issued eight notices of payment demand to date.
- The program hosted the Association of American Seed Control Officials (AASCO) in Corvallis, OR in July. A group of 30 folks representing 18 different states met to discuss issues related to seed labeling, sampling, testing, and to get a behind the scenes view of grass seed production in the Willamette Valley. Members of the Oregon grass seed industry – growers, seed dealers, seed analysts, cleaners, and researchers from OSU and USDA ARS gave tours and presentations to the group.

- **Plant Health**

- The field inspection season is in progress. Working with inspectors from other Agriculture Services Division programs around the state, Plant Health staff inspect seed crops for pests and diseases. These inspections help seed companies meet phytosanitary requirements so they can export the seed around the world. To date 2025, we have 18,656 acres for inspection. This includes 2,648 acres of garlic that are inspected for white rot. There were also 2,200 acres of canola seed this year in Eastern Oregon – this is a newer crop for the program. We have completed 10,858 acres to far with about 8,000 left to complete.
- The Plant Health lab has had their busiest spring in several years as seed companies are trying to take advantage of any opportunity to export their seed. Plant Health provides phytosanitary inspections and testing to assist seed companies in meeting export requirements. May and June were unexpectedly the busiest months so far in 2025 and May was the biggest month since February 2023 for the program.

Natural Resource Division

Isaak Stapleton, Division Director, isaak.stapleton@oda.oregon.gov 503-931-5608

The following updates are organized by operating process in our process management system and cover all Natural Resource Division (NRD) programs. In addition to the updates below, we are in various stages of recruitment for positions across the division. We have also been able to fill several open recruitments and are continuing the process of onboarding new staff.

- **Fostering collaboration**

Pesticides Program:

- During the Spring of 2025, to help increase awareness around pesticide regulations the program connected with some additional partners to increase its outreach. The Pesticides Program partnered with Oregon Landscaper Contractors Board (LCB) and provided a guest article titled "Pesticide Use Reminders for Landscapers" in which LCB published in their Spring 2025 newsletter: <https://www.oregon.gov/lcb/Documents/Newsletter.pdf>. The Program also collaborated with Oregon's Construction Contractors Board (CCB) to produce a similar article targeted to construction workers in their Spring newsletter (in English and Spanish): <https://www.oregon.gov/ccb/Documents/HR%20policies%20and%20onboarding%20documents%20for%20Workday/Education%20News%20and%20Newsletters/Contractor%20Toolbox/Spring%20newsletter%202025.pdf>

Ag Water Quality Program (AgWQ):

- The Ag Water Quality Program has hired and onboarded a Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area/Integrated Water Resources Strategy Lead. Nick Sirovatka brings significant experience to this role.
- Strategic Plan – The Ag Water Quality Program Strategic Plan and 2025-2026 fiscal year operating plan is finalized. The Strategic Plan will guide the development of Annual Operating Plan's for the years 2025 to 2029. It defines priority work, staffing resources and needs, and milestones for 2025 (year 1), 2027 (year 3), and 2029 (year 5) for the WQ Program's 10 Initiatives. Each of the WQ Program's Initiatives and milestones align with ODA's Strategic Goals of Organizational Excellence, Modernization, and Customer-Focused Service. The Strategic Plan provided a framework for completion of the Water Quality Program's 2025-2026 FYOP. The FYOP lays out all priority work for this year.
- Digitized Reporting – The AgWQ HUB for development of the 2025-2027 biennium for SWCD Scopes of Work and reporting of work is live. Staff are inputting data for the last three biennia. This will allow for automated reporting for biennial reports and TMDL Implementation Plan reports.
- Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Implementation Plans – Water Quality program staff are coordinating with DEQ for the Powder River, Willamette Basin, Coos/Coquille area, Umpqua, Rogue, and John Day basins for upcoming TMDL processes. Water Quality Program staff are in the process of developing the draft Powder Basin and Willamette TMDL Implementation Plans.
- Partner Coordination – The Water Quality Program Lead team met Oregon DEQs Lead team to coordinate regarding TMDL and Area Plan implementation. The Water Quality Program Lead team met with NRCS Lead team to coordinate implementation and align priorities where possible.
- Soil and Water Conservation District program – AgWQ and SWCD staff continue to work with SWCDs to ensure Boards and staff have necessary trainings and ensure tasks within the scopes of work are completed.

• **Permits, Registrations, and Notifications**

Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO):

- The CAFO program is currently working on renewal of the general National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, it is anticipated that a new general NPDES permit will be available for public comment later this month.
- The general Water Pollution Control Facilities (WPCF) permit is set to expire September 30th, 2025. A new permit will not be available prior to the expiration, and it will therefore be administratively extended. Permittees were required to submit renewal forms by August 1st, 2025 to remain on the administratively extended permit until a new permit can be issued. As of August 21, 92/139 WPCF permit renewals had been received.

Agricultural Drainage Channel Maintenance (ADCM):

- No new notices were submitted for the ADCM program. It has been five years since the ADCM program rules were adopted and a five-year review of the rules was completed.

- **Providing Compliance and Technical Assistance**

Ag Water Quality Program:

- March 20, 2025, April 23, 2025, May 22, 2025, June 26, 2025, and July 24, 2025, a rules advisory committee has met for development of rules for irrigated ag in the Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area. This committee will meet through September and then the AgWQ Program will complete the public portion of the rules making process.
- In September 2024 DEQ, OWRD, OHA, and ODA worked to develop a nitrate reduction plan to address nitrate pollution in the Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area (LUBGWMA). This plan has specific short to long term actions that prioritize clean drinking water and mitigation of additional nitrate pollution to groundwater. A quarterly report of progress related to implementation of the Nitrate Reduction Plan was completed in July of 2025. A copy of the nitrate reduction plan can be found here <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/wg/documents/gwp-oregonnitratereductionplan-2024.pdf>
- The Ag Water Quality Program works with the SWCDs to provide technical assistance to landowners. Each SWCD (45) has a Scope of Work that outlines work that they will do to help implement the Ag Water Quality Program as a Local Management Agency. Quarterly, Ag Water Quality Program staff review a quarterly report from the SWCDs showing the work that was completed as the Local Management Agency for the Ag Water Quality Program.
- Since 2014, the Ag Water Quality Program has initiated 52 Strategic Implementation Areas (SIA). Through the SIA process, over 1,750,000 acres and over 8,000 stream miles have been evaluated. The Ag Water Quality Program has reached out to over 8,000 landowners to inform them of the Ag Water Quality Program, Water Quality Rules, and work with the landowners to address any water quality concerns that were observed during evaluations in the SIAs. As part of the Willamette Mercury TMDL the WQ Program has developed a different form of a SIA that is called focused ag solutions. For these areas, there will be 4 years of education and outreach with compliance work afterwards. There are focused ag solutions areas starting in 2024 (Polk), 2025 (Yamhill), and 2025 (Washington).

Pesticide Program:

- Children are more sensitive than adults to the potential toxic effects of pesticides. To protect our children, Oregon law requires extra precautions and restrictions when pesticides are used on a school campus. In recent years, non-compliance rates have been high in our school Integrated Pest Management (IPM) focused inspections, when compared to other types of inspections that we conduct. To help address the non-compliance the Pesticides Program has had an increased emphasis on compliance assistance and increasing partnerships.

As of August 2025, ODA investigative/enforcement staff presented on the school IPM law at the ten separate 2025 OSU School IPM Coordinator Training around the state. Nine of these trainings occurred in June through August. In addition, the Team continues to work on a special project, as time allows, creating “school IPM law modules” (basically short ~5-10 minutes, narrated PowerPoints focused on the law requirements). Due to workload in other areas has caused the project to be temporarily paused, but the team is hoping to continue production of additional modules. These modules are posted on YouTube for school IPM coordinators and other school staff. The goal is to provide short, recorded free trainings so they will be able to access them all year round (e.g., refresher or say new staff start/onboarding). The Team is also working to have the videos available in Spanish. Four modules have been published to date in both English and Spanish. The modules may be viewed at: <https://oda.fyi/IPMSchoolsPlaylist> Lastly, the team is also looking at distributing outreach to School Governing Bodies in the near future on the new requirements listed in HB 2684 (2025 Legislative Session):

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2025R1/Measures/Overview/HB2684>

- Pesticides program staff continue to answer technical assistance questions from the public on licensing requirements, label interpretations, school IPM law, and other pesticide related questions via phone and email. During the Spring months, the program conducted in-person presentations. More specifically between April through June of 2025, staff conducted presentations at six separate events to around 345 people. Common topics that were presented on in the quarter included the Worker Protection Standard (WPS), school IPM and EPA’s ESA Strategies/ Bulletins Live.

- Pesticides program staff continue to look for additional opportunities to provide compliance assistance and outreach in other forms that are in addition to presentations. Most recently a pesticide bulletin focused on construction workers who utilize pesticides was both published and posted on the program's website (in English and Spanish) and sent via email to subscribers of the pesticide GovDelivery email group. Another recent publication includes outreach on the licensing requirements when drones are utilized:
<https://www.oregon.gov/oda/Documents/Publications/PesticidesPARC/Drones-Pesticide-Licensing.pdf> (currently being translated into Spanish). For more information of recent newsletters, bulletins and advisories see:
<https://www.oregon.gov/oda/pesticides/pages/pesticides-current-issues.aspx>

- **Conducting Inspections, Investigations & Enforcement**

- Pesticides Program*

- The Pesticides Enforcement Program continues to follow-up on misuse complaints to investigate possible violations of the state's Pesticide Control Act. The number of complaints typically increase in the spring and the program shifts to conducting more complaint investigations. The program's compliance monitoring continues, but the numbers decrease in the spring and summer due to the increased number of complaints. Compliance monitoring activities include marketplace inspections of retailers and distributors (ensuring products are registered for sale or distribution in Oregon, labeled properly, and not being offered for sale in leaking/broken packages), record inspections of pesticide applicators and pesticide dealers (e.g. ensuring complete records, products used properly, and correct licensing for activity), and school IPM inspections to ensure compliance with Oregon's school IPM law. During this time of year, the program's Citizen Advocate work also increases. In addition to fulfilling public records requests, ODA's Citizen Advocate helps citizens answer questions about the investigation process and assists them in locating resources that may be outside of the scope of the Pesticide Enforcement Program.

Ag Water Quality Program:

- The Ag Water Quality Program conducts investigations based on complaints, agency notification, and observations of concerns to address potential violations of the Agricultural Water Quality Rules. From January 1, 2025, to August 1, 2025, there have been 38 investigations opened; 4 of these were either ODA observation or ODA SIA, 17 were public written complaint, and 17 were referral from other agencies. This included 66 compliance actions (13 in compliance, 7 fix-it letters, 35 water quality advisories, 9 notices of noncompliance, and 1 settlement agreement).

- **Providing Customer Support and Resolving Inquiries**

Pesticides Program:

- The Pesticides Program continues to work on increasing the number of outreach materials and application forms available in Spanish and is also undergoing an internal review of existing materials to help prioritize timely reviews and translations into the future since the team has increased in the number of bilingual staff within the program during the past year.
- The Oregon Addendum to the core pesticide manual is now available in Spanish on the pesticide licensing website.
- When sulfur dioxide is used to sanitize wine barrels and corks it is classified as a pesticide. In 2024, the registration for the only sulfur dioxide product available in Oregon, Airgas Sulfur Dioxide (EPA Registration Number 89867-2), was cancelled. Currently, there is no sulfur dioxide product registered in Oregon that is intended for sanitizing barrels or corks. ODA is aware of the issue and is exploring options. The ODA pesticides team is working on putting together resources for industry and reaching out to registrants to look for alternative products.

Ag Water Quality and CAFO Program

- Both the AgWQ and CAFO programs continue to receive and respond to inquiries from the Environmental Protection Agency and the media regarding work completed in support of the Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area (LUBGWMA). The multi-agency team that developed the LUBGWMA Nitrate Reduction Plan continues to provide quarterly reports to EPA and the LUBGMWA advisory committee on progress. The AgWQ program is working in collaboration with local the Umatilla and Morrow Soil and Water Conservation Districts to ensure consistent tracking and reporting of actions completed in support of the 2020 LUBGWMA Action Plan.

Plant Protection & Conservation Division

Chris Benemann, Division Director, chris.benemann@oda.oregon.gov 503-986-4636

- **HEMP**

- **New Hires:** A new Hemp Inspector/Case Reviewer (NRS3) will start in September. The position will cover Central Oregon and assist monitoring licensees and processing violations. The program is in process of beginning recruitment for a NRS2 level position that will specialize in testing and monitor compliance of vendor licenses.

- **IPPM**

- **Vine mealybug (VMB):** After three years high density-trapping efforts, the project was concluded as of June 30, 2025. VMB remains a quarantine pest Oregon's Grape Pests and Diseases quarantine. ODA is notifying those property owners who have had three sequential years of negative trapping data. Properties that have not received notification will remain under quarantine unless they are able to trap into the future and prove pest free status.
- The **Japanese Beetle Program (JB)** is entering its final stages. Funding for the JB Program was not included in the agency's 2025-27 budget. Without additional funding, program activities will not continue in 2026. The 2025 season included granular insecticide treatment of properties with known JB infestation as of 2024, along with a standard compliment of traps across the state, focused heavily on the Portland Metro area where delimitation traps were in place to monitor the small residual population. Emergency funding provided by the Oregon Invasive Species Council and Oregon Association of Nurseries will be used to support the program through mid-September. Local municipalities, industry and the public will be responsible for managing JB, if found on their property.
- **Mediterranean Oak Borer (MOB):** 2025 marks the second and final year of trapping efforts focused on MOB. High density trapping around Salem, Portland, Wilsonville, and Woodburn confirm well-established populations of MOB, with more recent movement of the pest into Oregon City, Newberg, and West Salem. Detection traps in other regions of central and southwest Oregon indicate that the pest is not yet located south of Salem, but data is still forthcoming.

- **Spotted Lanternfly:** In May the ODA was alerted to an iNaturalist post of an immature SLF at Colonel Summers Park in Portland. The ODA, IPPM program, USDA APHIS PPQ, and Washington State Department of Agriculture conducted visual surveys, set monitoring traps, and engaged with nearby residents in the days after the initial report. After seven visual survey days in May, June, and July no subsequent sightings or specimen have been made, leading us to believe that there is not a persistent population in Portland at this time. More data is needed to confirm this.
- **NATIVE PLANT**
 - Work continues on the NWL-funded Seed Strategy implementation project.
 - New partnership with Center for Plant Conservation is yielding positive conservation outcomes for additional species.
 - Work continues on energy development projects.
 - Conservation and Mitigation Standards submitted for legal review.
 - Multiple research projects upcoming.
 - Increase in requests for technical assistance.
 - Announced 2025 Native Plant Symposium.
- **NOXIOUS WEEDS**
 - Hired Northeast Oregon weeds specialist
 - Field work continues statewide
 - State Fair outreach event planning
 - Drafting official recommendations to Oregon State Weed Board (October)
 - High priority A-list weed response in SE Oregon: *Palmer amaranth* (A-list 2024)
 - Collaborative effort with local/county partners
- **NURSERY**
 - ***Phytophthora ramorum* Program:** Survey and mitigation activities continue at several nurseries. Fall surveys will begin in late September. USDA-APHIS PPQ funding for the *P. ramorum* program was reduced by \$100k, resulting in some cutbacks to program activities, such as outreach. Monitoring and testing of positive nurseries that do not ship out of Oregon, will not be covered by federal funds.
 - **New Hires:** We have begun the hiring process for an Online and Retail Store Compliance inspection (NRS1). This is a 1-year limited duration position funded by USDA APHIS PPQ.
 - **Spring/Summer export shipping season:** 995 phytosanitary certificates issued from April through June 2025; a decrease from the 1,590 certificates issued last year over the same period.
 - Open recruitment for **Nursery Advisory Committee:** We are in the process of reconstituting the Nursery Advisory Committee. The committee will advise and consult with the program on a range of issues affecting the nursery industry, such as Japanese Beetle response, program finances, potential fee increases, and other emerging concerns. The application process is open until August 31, 2025.
- **Oregon Invasive Species Council (OISC)**
 - **Summer Meeting (July 2025):** Highlighted the critical work being done along the mid-Willamette River to prevent and manage invasive aquatic plants and other priority weed species and identify future challenges. The meeting included a tour showcasing three Oregon Lottery-funded grant projects, giving participants a firsthand look at key projects and partnerships along the Willamette River, tackling aquatic weeds and the negative impacts weeds can have on water quality and water users, from irrigators to recreators. This event will spotlight the work being done along the mid-Willamette by Benton County Soil and Water Conservation District, Yamhill County Soil and Water Conservation District, Willamette Riverkeeper, and ODA's Noxious Weed Control Program. Learn more at the [field tour information page](#). The Council held a business meeting after the field tour.
 - Recruitment for new OISC Coordinator is on-going. The OISC is working through DAS procurement to recruit for a Coordinator under a new contract. This enables the contract to be renewed for up to 10-years and allows for additional funds, over \$250,000, to be added to the contract. Under ODA's procurement system, the contract could only be renewed up to three years and had a cap of \$250,000.
 - The 2024 OISC Annual Report is near completion. You may view the report online [here](#).

Agricultural Economic and Trade Development

- **Farm to School Activities**

- The [NW Rocky Mountain Regional Food Business Center](#) (the Center) awarded Business Builder grants to 8 farms and businesses in Oregon in the form of funds for equipment purchases, commercial kitchen expansion, scaling production, and product development.
- Under the Center, Oregon has made a scholarship program available for farms and food businesses needing technical assistance to support the development of their businesses. The USDA Regional Food Business Centers Program has been terminated by the federal administration and will close all programming September 15, 2025.
- The Oregon Crunch-At-Once is Oregon's celebration of National Farm to School Month in October. This year's event on October 23. The [Oregon Crunch-At-Once](#) is a synchronized moment when students across Oregon bite into locally grown apples, carrots, or other crunchy produce all at the same time. ODA will run an ad campaign to promote the event across the state.

- **Local, National and International Activities**

- Led Western US trade mission to Japan. The products represented by the 14 companies, including two from Oregon, were mostly beverage companies with some specialty food. With this strong theme of beverages, we were able to attract many wine, craft beer and other beverage importers. We arranged B2B meetings in Japan's two major metropolitan areas and had group meetings Sapporo. The delegation with the original importer/distributor of Oregon craft beer, who still represents many Oregon craft beer and ciders.
- Led a Northwest berry trade mission to Korea, focused on market access for IQF raspberries and blackberries. This trade mission led by ODA Deputy Director Lindsay Eng included three berry processing companies, Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission (ORBC) and the Washington Red Raspberry Commission. Following the advice received in Korea, ODA has written letters to the Korean Ambassador in Washington DC and USTR. Also, supporting ORBC in providing educational sessions to Korean Honorary Consuls, Consul General, Consul and buyer delegation from Korea in late August and early September.
- The ODA Economic Development Team is working on a regional project with partners at the Puget Sound Food Hub. The project will be a distribution led concept to get more food and beverage businesses in Seattle retail outlets. There will be more information to come in the December Update.
- The UK and EU are currently in trade talks that may be a good outlook for seafood from Oregon. Specifically, Oregon Pink Shrimp has been elevated to the top of the list to be included in these trade conversations. The ODA Economic Development Team has been instrumental in working closely with the USTR to ensure seafood is a part of the negotiations.

- **Grant Programs**

- **Organic Cost Share Reimbursement Program**

- National funding for OCCSP was provided in the "One Big Beautiful Bill" at a level of \$8 million annually through 2031. USDA is currently working on opening the program and the ODA does not have an opening date but anticipates one soon. Please check back throughout the summer or click on the link below to be signed up for emails about program updates. Updated 7/22/2025. Subscribe: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/ORODA/subscriber/new>

- **Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) Grant Program**

- Seven of eight Infrastructure Projects were approved. Waiting on THPO approval for the final Infrastructure Subgrantee. \$1,327,384.56 disbursed between the 7 Infrastructure Projects
- Started the process of closing out some of the Equipment-Only Projects 3 of 17 Equipment-Only projects have received their site visit and submitted their final performance report. These three Equipment-Only projects totaled \$115,628.47 in disbursements throughout the grant.

Specialty Crop Block Grant Program

- The FY2025 grant state plan is under review at the USDA and we should have approval for the new grants soon.

- **Commodity Commission Oversight Program**

- New administrators selected. As discussed in the previous update, ten commodity commissions have selected new administrators this summer. Sweet Cherry, Processed Vegetable and Strawberry Commissions selected independent contractors with previous commission experience. The Hazelnut Industry office is in the process of hiring an administrator, this should be wrapped up by the end of August. The Hop, Blueberry, Ryegrass, Fine Fescue, Tall Fescue, Clover and Mint Commission all selected Bryant Christie Inc. (BCI). BCI is opening a Salem office, led by former Hop Commission administrator Michelle Palacios. Michelle will be managing these commissions, along with approximately five to six staff members.
- Commissioner recruiting. The second round of recruiting is underway; we are looking to fill 15 positions on 10 commissions. If there are positions that remain open after the end of August, we will look to recruit and appoint commissioners as qualified individuals express interest. For more details, visit: [ODA Commodity Commissions Webpage](#).
- Commissions training. The oversight program has started planning the next training meeting, aka “round-up”, for commissions. A date in October is being solidified, with plans to have trainings on public meetings law updates, marketing, contacting and a review of required reporting information.

Agenda Item number 04 – ODA’s Budget & Legislative Update
State Board of Agriculture meeting, September 3-5, 2025

MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture
From: Board Coordinator
Subject: Agenda Item number 04 – ODA’s Budget & Legislative Update

I. Introduction

The 2025 Legislative Session adjourned on June 27, 2025. Enclosed is the final report summarizing ODA’s 2025–27 budget and legislative measures affecting the agency. Agency leadership will provide further details at the upcoming meeting.

OUR MISSION IN MOTION

ODA's 2025 Legislative Session Report

Marking the conclusion of the 2025 legislative session, the final policy and budget bills were signed into law in early August. For ODA, this session is defined by both challenge and opportunity, and I am proud of what we accomplished together for the people of Oregon. Guided by our shared vision of “a resilient tomorrow for generations to come,” we navigated a complex legislative landscape to achieve outcomes that will strengthen our agency from the ground up.

This session, our strategic planning and persistent hard work translated into tangible success. The Legislature's landmark investment in **Project OneODA** is a direct affirmation of our collective voice. This funding represents our commitment to providing modern technology and infrastructure to the staff at ODA and the Oregonians that they serve.

In a tight fiscal environment, we worked closely with legislators to secure the tools necessary to manage our budget for the 2025-27 biennium. A series of bills providing fee authority for our core regulatory programs gives us the flexibility needed to manage operational costs.

As an agency, we are entrusted with the resources and responsibilities to build a stronger, more resilient ODA and community in Oregon. This report aims to go beyond the headlines and connect the decisions made at the State Capitol to the daily responsibilities of our staff; the successes detailed here were built on the foundation of their dedication and expertise.

With gratitude,



Lisa Charpillouz Hanson
Director



OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE

2025 SESSION IN REVIEW

Seizing Opportunity, Ensuring Stability

The outcomes of this session can be understood through three core themes:

1 Strategic Modernization:

ODA's achievement in securing nearly \$9.4M for **Project OneODA** will launch a comprehensive overhaul of our agency's technological infrastructure, workflows, and processes.

2 Fiscal Stability:

Lawmakers recognized the critical nature of our regulatory programs by passing a suite of bills that provide fee authority necessary for the 2025-27 biennium, creating a more stable funding environment.

3 Enhanced Capabilities:

Beyond funding, the Legislature granted ODA a set of more precise and powerful tools. From new civil penalty authority to updating program models, these changes reflect a high degree of trust in agency expertise and allow us to more efficiently carry out our agency mission.

The 83rd Oregon Legislative Assembly began on January 21, 2025 and concluded its work on June 27, 2025.

One of ODA's primary goals in this biennium is **modernization**, and the legislature has provided our agency with the necessary tools and trust to accomplish this objective.

This report details the outcomes of the legislative session, not solely as a list of legislative actions, but as a narrative of our agency's progress. It is designed to connect the results of the 2025 session to the on-the-ground work performed in all of ODA's programs.

2025-27 BUDGET

The 2025-27 Legislatively Adopted Budget is more than a financial document; it reflects ODA's strategic priorities and opportunities, as well as the difficult legislative decisions needed to balance the state's budget.

For the 2025-27 biennium, the Legislature approved a total budget for ODA of **\$187M**, supporting 493 positions and 395.85 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) staff. This budget is built from four (4) distinct funding sources, each with a specific purpose:

General Fund - Taxpayer dollars allocated for a wide range of state services.

Lottery Funds - Dedicated funds, primarily for programs related to water quality and natural resource protection.

Other Funds - Revenue generated by the agency itself through fees, licences, and charges for services. This is ODA's largest funding source, directly supporting the work of our regulatory programs.

Federal Funds - Grants and agreements with federal partners like the USDA and FDA to carry out specific programs and initiatives.

ODA 2025-27 Legislatively Adopted Budget Summary

	2023-25 Legislatively Adopted Budget	2025-27 Current Service Level	2025-27 Legislatively Adopted Budget
General Fund	\$57,988,648	\$40,620,844	\$43,042,447
General Fund Debt Svc	-	-	\$1,563,352
Lottery Funds	\$9,323,768	\$9,924,467	\$10,014,286
Project OneODA - Pkg 120	-	-	\$9,435,000
Other Funds	\$97,593,748	\$99,227,688	\$99,203,854
Federal Funds	\$24,616,353	\$19,220,464	\$23,782,039
Total Funds	\$189,522,517	\$168,993,463	\$187,040,978
Positions	523	507	493
Full-Time Equiv (FTE)	402.26	391.09	395.85

The Legislature balances the state budget, which involves difficult decisions having meaningful impacts. The 2025-27 budget includes several critical investments that will directly enhance our ability to serve the people of Oregon. It also underscores the critical importance of ODA’s fee-funded programs, with “Other Funds” being our largest single revenue source.

Key Highlights in the Coming Biennium

MODERNIZATION

The centerpiece of the 2025-27 budget is **Project OneODA**, a transformative investment that will modernize the agency’s information technology infrastructure from the ground up. Staff feedback on technological challenges was heard and acted upon at the highest levels, and the resulting project is the single most important action we are taking to address the goals mapped out in our Strategic Plan. **Project One ODA** will be funded through a combination of General Fund and bonds, and will enable better collaboration across programs while also improving public service delivery.

TARGETED PROGRAM INVESTMENTS

Beyond the headline investment in technology, the budget includes key enhancements for specific programs. Our Wolf Depredation Compensation & Financial Assistance Grant Program will receive a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$1M, and our Pesticide Certification & Training (C&T) program will be able to increase capacity through a nearly \$900K infusion in Other Funds that will add three positions critical to implementing our EPA-approved plan.

REDUCTIONS & REALIGNMENTS

To secure the above investments while operating within a challenging fiscal environment, the budget also includes a few reductions that are part of a broader strategy to prioritize our most critical needs. Among the reductions are the legislature’s elimination of funding for our Japanese Beetle Eradication program, the elimination of two vacant positions, and a reduction in services and supplies for the farm mediation program.

Policy in Action: New Tools to Protect, Promote, & Prosper

The 2025 legislative session was not just about funding; it was about refining and strengthening the ability to carry out our mission. The Legislature granted ODA a suite of more precise authorities through a number of bills that passed; in doing so, the Legislature is not just telling ODA *what* to do, but is providing more sophisticated tools for *how* to do this work.



Food Safety & Animal Health



Pesticides, Feeds, & Fertilizers



Agriculture Industry



Agency Governance & Operations

HB 2805: Permanent Authority for Food Safety License Fees [effective: 1/1/26]

For our Food Safety Program staff, this provides funding predictability by making ODA's authority to annually increase fees permanent.

HB 3604: Rules for Entities Taking Possession of a Cat [effective: 9/26/25]

Provides legal clarity by establishing protections for animal rescue entities (AREs) who take in stray cats, and details how licensed entities should administer surrendered cats.

HB 2809: Increasing the Pesticide Registration Fee Cap [effective: 9/26/25; fees 1/1/26]

This law increases the statutory maximum for pesticide registration fees as a cap managed over time, giving our Pesticides Program financial flexibility for the future.

HB 2684: School Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Requirements [effective: 1/1/26]

Requires that school IPM plans be reviewed at least once every 5 years and available to the public, assisting our staff involved in compliance & outreach.

HB 2806: Fee Authority for Weights & Measures Fees [effective: 1/1/26]

Gives authority to annually increase license fees for commercial weighing & measuring instruments, to address rising costs and provide financial stability to the program.

SB 162: Hemp Program Inspection Authority [effective: 6/9/25]

Protects consumers and closes a gap in oversight for our Hemp Program inspectors, giving unambiguous authority to inspect all hemp material on-site (not just growing plants).

SB 809: Clarifying Poultry in the State Meat Inspection Program [effective: 1/1/26]

Resolves any ambiguity and solidifies authority for our inspectors, by explicitly including poultry products under the state meat inspection program.

SB 832: Expanding Civil Penalty Authority [effective: 1/1/26]

Provides a new enforcement tool to our Animal Health & Feeds Program staff, by granting authority to impose civil penalties for violations of law related to animal diseases & commercial animal feeds.

SB 360: Pesticide Licensing Exemption for Battery-Powered Devices [effective: 9/26/25]

Modernizes the law and streamlines regulation for low-risk application methods by creating a narrow exemption for certain qualifying employees.

SB 833: Label Requirements for Soil-Enhancing Products [effective: 1/1/26]

Updates registration and labeling guidance for the industry, ensuring clarity and accuracy in the marketplace.

SB 1019: Modernizing the Brands Program [effective: 6/26/25]

Increases fees for brand registration & renewal, and livestock identification inspection services. Includes additional updates to modernize the program.

SB 777: Modifying the Wolf Depredation Grant Program [effective: 1/1/26]

Modifies the methodology used to award grants, carefully balancing compensation for losses with proactive conflict prevention.

HB 3569: Inviting Legislators to Rules Advisory Committees (RACs) [effective: 9/26/25]

Requires state agencies to invite legislators to participate as non-voting members at certain RACs.

MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture
From: Board Coordinator
Subject: Agenda Item number 05 – Local Food Network

I. Introduction

The Board will receive a presentation on the region's local food networks and the Farm to School Program.

II. Background

Klamath Grown Food Hub

Presentation by Delaney Ryde, Program Coordinator, Klamath Grown Food Hub

Website: <https://klamathgrown.org/>

Klamath Grown is a network of ranchers, farmers, and local food producers working together to connect with eaters, educators, and community partners in the Klamath Basin. They offer local food programming in the region and operate a food hub that aggregates and distributes locally produced food to retail and wholesale consumers through the **Klamath Grown Online Market**.

Delaney serves as Program Coordinator at the Klamath Grown Food Hub helping with events and outreach and is also the regional point of contact for local school food procurement through the Oregon Farm to School Network.

Klamath County School District

Presentation by Jennifer Detwiler, Nutrition Services Supervisor, Klamath County School District

The **Farm to School Program** supports local producers by featuring menu spotlights throughout the school year, highlighting items such as locally raised beef and lamb, as well as squash, potatoes, and more. In addition, the **Klamath County School District** has issued a local beef solicitation to establish ongoing sourcing, further strengthening connections with and supporting the region's ranching community.

Flying T Ranch

Susan Topham, Owner

Flying T Salers Ranch is located near Sprague River, Oregon. They provide local, grass-fed, **USDA certified beef** to the Klamath Basin. They're also one of the largest and longest established Salers breeders in the United States. They sell to retail customers and schools in the area.

Sweet Union Farm

Katie Swanson, Owner

Sweet Union Farm is a small, diversified vegetable farm just outside the city boundary in Klamath Falls, Oregon. Since 2016, they've grown food for the community on just under an acre. They sell their products at the **Klamath Falls Farmers Market** and **Klamath Grown Online Market**, and you can find their food being served at local restaurants and schools in the area.

Katie was one of the founding members of Klamath Falls Online Marketplace which has evolved into Klamath Grown today.

Sky Lakes Medical Center

Tonia Henderson, RD, CDCES, Director of Food, Nutrition and Diabetes at Sky Lakes Medical Center
<https://www.skylakes.org/>

Sky Lakes Medical Center is a community-owned, internationally accredited acute-care hospital located in Klamath Falls, the only hospital in a 10,000-square-mile area. Inside of the main Medical Center is Sky Lakes Bistro and Grille, with a diverse weekly menu of hot entrees including daily salad specials and cold meal options. The dining area also functions as a grocery for basic staple items like fresh fruit and local products sourced from the area. Sky Lakes is a regular customer of **Klamath Grown Online Market** and has also been a partner pick-up site for their summer Harvest Box program.

MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture
From: Board Coordinator
Subject: Agenda Item number 06 – Klamath Basin Restoration

I. Introduction

The Board will receive a presentation on the restoration of the upper Klamath basin from Larry Nicholson, Executive Director of the Upper Klamath Basin Agricultural Cooperative (UKBAC).

II. Background

The Upper Klamath Basin (UKB) has long lacked unified representation in water management, leaving agricultural producers at a disadvantage while other regions of the Klamath River system have organized voices. To fill this gap, the UKBAC was formed to give landowners and producers a collective platform to protect their livelihoods and strengthen the Basin's resiliency.

UKBAC works at the intersection of agriculture and conservation, recognizing that healthy ranches mean healthier ecosystems. The UKBAC connects producers with resources, partners, and funding to design and advance projects that mitigate drought and climate impacts, reduce erosion, and sustain both working lands and waterways. By amplifying the ideas of local landowners and supporting collaborative solutions, UKBAC is ensuring agriculture not only survives but thrives in the UKB's changing reality.

Agenda Item number 07 – Klamath Irrigation Project
State Board of Agriculture meeting, September 3-5, 2025

MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture
From: Board Coordinator
Subject: Agenda Item number 07 – Klamath Irrigation Project

I. Introduction

The Board will receive a presentation on the Klamath Irrigation Project from Gene Souza, Executive Director, Klamath Irrigation District and Elizabeth Nielsen, Executive Director, Klamath Water Users.

Oregon State Board of Agriculture – Agenda Item 08

Thursday, September 4, 2025 – Public Comments – verbal testimony sign-up

Speaker	Name	Topic	Date Received	Virtual
1	Name P:			
2				
3				
4				
5				

As of 08/27/2025

Oregon State Board of Agriculture
September 2025

Written Public Comments

Item	Name	Topic	Date Received
Item 01	Andrea Kreiner OR Assn of Conservation Districts	Land Use and Water Coordinator Position	08/13/2025
Item 02	Dani Lightle Oregonians for Food and Shelter	LUBGWMA Rulemaking	08/26/2025
Item 03	Sophie Els Oregon Climate & Agriculture Network	Resolution 319: Climate Change Policy Considerations	08/26/2025
Item 04	Justin Green Water for Eastern Oregon	LUBGWMA Rules	08/26/2025
Item 05			
Item 06			
Item 07			
Item 08			
Item 09			
Item 10			
Item 11			
Item 12			
Item 13			

Monday, August 25, 2025 at 09:10:45 Pacific Daylight Time

Subject: Board of ag comments
Date: Wednesday, August 13, 2025 at 11:59:21 AM Pacific Daylight Time
From: oregon-gov-web-services@egov.com
To: BOARDAGRICULTURE Oda * ODA
Attachments: formsubmission.csv

You don't often get email from oregon-gov-web-services@egov.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Topic you are commenting on	Land Use and Water Coordinator Position
First name	Andrea
Last name	Kreiner
Email address	andrea.kreiner@pacd.org
Comments	see attachment

Uploaded Files:

- [Bd of Ag re- LUPCoordinator 9-25.pdf](#)

Submission Date: 08/13/2025 01:59 PM CST

Submission ID: f90894ee-a060-40d8-abac-f2086cfefd2f

Record ID: 13422



August 14, 2025

To: Oregon Board of Agriculture
Re: Land Use and Planning Coordinator Position at ODA

Dear Chair Miller and members of the Board of Agriculture

We thank the Board for this opportunity to provide comments on the need for filling the Land Use and Water Planning Coordinator position at the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA).

The Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD) represents Oregon's 45 Soil and Water Conservation Districts, special districts governed by elected boards. The Districts protect and enhance soil quality, water quality and quantity, and habitat by supporting voluntary conservation in partnership with private landowners and managers as well as federal, state, and nonprofit partners.

I am writing on behalf of OACD to request that the ODA seek to fill the Land Use and Water Planning Coordinator position vacated by Jim Johnson upon his retirement.

OACD believes the importance of this role calls for an urgent approach to filling this vacancy, particularly as the State Legislature has been and will continue to be grappling with water policy and land use issues that will have significant impacts on Oregon agriculture.

The ability of ODA to have in-house" and readily available land use expertise and knowledge will serve the Deptmt well as more and more policies and projects encroach on Oregon's agricultural lands. ODA cannot rely on DLCD to represent the needs of the agricultural community as land use and energy policies are developed and implemented. DLCD works in conjunction with ODA on Goal 3 and Goal 4 protections, exchanging data and support. Breaking that team approach will result in lesser protections and greater impacts on the state's agricultural community.

Water rights are the life blood of our irrigated agriculture and ODA's customers need experienced assistance in protection of those rights and the crops produced.

Farmers, ranchers and other agricultural interests look to ODA for professional land use advice. No other agency or staff is adequately providing that. Finally, the data generated by this position is relied upon by national organizations, such as the American Farmland Trust, to enable national collaboration.

It will be important to have someone in this role prior to the start of the next long legislative session.

Therefore, OACD strongly urges ODA to recruit and fill this position, sooner rather than later.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'AK', followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line that extends to the right.

Andrea Kreiner
Executive Director

Tuesday, August 26, 2025 at 15:51:00 Pacific Daylight Time

Subject: Comments for September Board of Ag Meeting
Date: Tuesday, August 26, 2025 at 3:47:59 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: Dani Lightle
To: BOARDAGRICULTURE Oda * ODA
Attachments: image001.jpg, OFS_LUBGWMA Rulemaking_Board of Ag Comments 082625.pdf

You don't often get email from dani@ofsonline.org. [Learn why this is important](#)

Good afternoon,

I would like to submit the attached written comments regarding the LUBGWMA rulemaking for your review prior to the Board of Agriculture meeting in September. I would also like to sign up to give a verbal comment – also on the LUBGWMA rulemaking.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback,

Dani Lightle
Policy and Stewardship Director
Oregonians for Food & Shelter (OFS)

1320 Capitol Street NE Suite B-50
Salem OR 97301
530-727-7447



A non-profit coalition to promote the efficient production of quality food and fiber while protecting human health, personal property and the environment, through the integrated, responsible use of pest management products, soil nutrients and biotechnology.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tami Kerr, Chair
Oregon Dairy Farmers Association
April Snell, Vice-Chair
Oregon Water Resources Congress
Meghan Tuttle, Secretary-Treasurer
Weyerhaeuser Company
Kim Anderson
Oregon State University
Michelle Armstrong
Wilbur-Ellis
Angi Bailey
Oregon Farm Bureau Federation
Seth Barnes
Oregon Forest & Industries Council
Luke Bergey, Past Chair
Miami Corporation
Butch Bernhardt
Western Wood Preservers Institute
Loren Bumgardner
West Coast Beet Seed Company
Megan Chuinard
Oregon Seed Council
Ken Dey
J.R. Simplot Company
John Enright
KWS Seeds
George Gough
Bayer U.S. - Crop Science
Greg Harris
Threemile Canyon Farms
Amanda Hoey
Oregon Wheat Growers League
Bill Hoyt
Oregon Cattlemen's Association
John Jayne
Cascade Timber Consulting
Jill LeVake
Corteva Agriscience
Elin Miller
Umpqua Vineyards
J.P. Mischkot
Glass Tree Care & Spray
Colleen Nihen
Associated Oregon Hazelnut Industries
David Phipps
OR Golf Course Superintendents
Annette Price
Pacific Power
Jerry Risk
Roseburg Forest Products
Ben Sacher
Syngenta
Chris Sexton
Lone Rock Timber Management Co
Alec Shebiel
Umatilla Electric Cooperative
Jeff Smith
Valent USA
Jake Thiemens
Manulife Investment Management
Larry Treleven
Oregon Pest Control Association
Paul Washburn
Western Helicopter Services
Laura Wilkeson
Hampton Lumber
Chuck Wolsborn
Gresham Golf Course

OREGONIANS FOR FOOD & SHELTER

1320 Capitol Street NE • Suite B-50 • Salem, Oregon 97301

ofsonline.org; 503-370-8092

A non-profit coalition to promote the efficient production of quality food and fiber while protecting human health, personal property and the environment, through the integrated, responsible use of pest management products, soil nutrients and biotechnology.

August 26, 2025

Dear Board of Agriculture Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on our concerns about the draft LUBGWMA rules. OFS is a non-profit coalition of over 700 operations and organizations from agriculture, forestry, and other industries that rely on pesticides, fertilizers, and biotechnology to produce food and fiber. Our membership includes Oregon's top commodity groups and timber-related trade organizations, as well as many national trade organizations. One of our primary organizational goals is to advocate for science-based pesticide, fertilizer, and biotechnology regulation.

Serving on the Rulemaking Advisory Committee (RAC) for the Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area has given me the opportunity to engage directly in the development of these draft rules. I greatly appreciate the effort that has gone into this process to date, and the receptiveness of the ODA staff to suggestions, concerns, and revisions. At the same time, my experience serving on the RAC has highlighted several provisions that raise significant concerns. These concerns are not about the goal of the rulemaking, which is important and widely supported, but about whether the approach and metrics chosen will be effective, scientifically sound, and practical for producers to implement. Unless addressed, these issues could undermine both the credibility of the program and its ability to deliver meaningful improvements to water quality.

Primary Concerns¹

Evaluation of Annual Nitrogen Plans (ANP) – Section 603-XX-XX12

This section of the draft rules proposes methods for evaluating whether a producer has “followed” their Annual Nitrogen Plan, but these methods are overly simplistic and do not reflect agronomic realities:

¹These concerns are based on the draft rules as of 8/8/2025, which is the most recent draft available at the time that these written comments are submitted on 8/26/2025.



- **Partial Nitrogen Balance:** This method, which subtracts nitrogen removed in the crop from total nitrogen applied, sets a goal of zero or near zero nitrate remaining (a 100% nitrogen use efficiency). This approach ignores nitrogen that is present in roots, vines, leaves, woody plant material, etc., as well as the delayed availability of nutrients from compost and other organic sources. In practice, this balance is never zero, and treating it as the standard risks unfairly classifying well-managed operations as non-compliant.
- **Post-Harvest Soil Nitrate Testing:** This approach penalizes certain crops, such as potatoes and onions, where nitrogen is naturally released as vines break down after harvest². The presence of nitrate is not a sign of mismanagement, yet under the proposed framework it would be treated as non-compliant.
- **Yield Targets:** Using yield as a compliance measure reduces complex nutrient dynamics to a single outcome. Yields are influenced by factors outside of grower control, including weather, pests, and disease, and tying compliance to yield creates unreasonable expectations.

Collectively, these methods do not provide a fair or scientifically reliable basis for determining compliance. They risk penalizing responsible practices and eroding producer confidence in the program.

Alternative approaches that have been adopted by other states include the A/R ratio (California) and the Vulnerability Matrix (VMX) score (Colorado). The A/R ratio compares the amount of nitrogen applied to a field (A) with the amount of nitrogen removed in the harvested crop (R), and is a measure of nitrogen use efficiency³. Crop specific A/R ranges are used to ensure that appropriate fertilizer rates are being used. The VMX score was developed to provide a tool for landowners to determine the potential risk of groundwater contamination by nitrate that result from field-specific conditions, and provide best management practices (BMPs) to decrease that risk⁴. The VMX has been adopted by the Colorado NRCS as part of their nutrient management planning criteria⁵.

Program Evaluation and Metrics of Success – Sections 603-XX-XX15 and 603-XX-XX16

Equally concerning is the reliance on residual deep soil nitrate levels as a measure of regulatory success. This approach presents several scientific problems:

²Horneck (2013). Potatoes in Rotation When Nitrogen is Under Permit [Abstract]. ASA, CSSA and SSSA International Annual Meetings, Tampa, FL. <https://scisoc.confex.com/scisoc/2013am/meetingapp.cgi/Paper/79515>

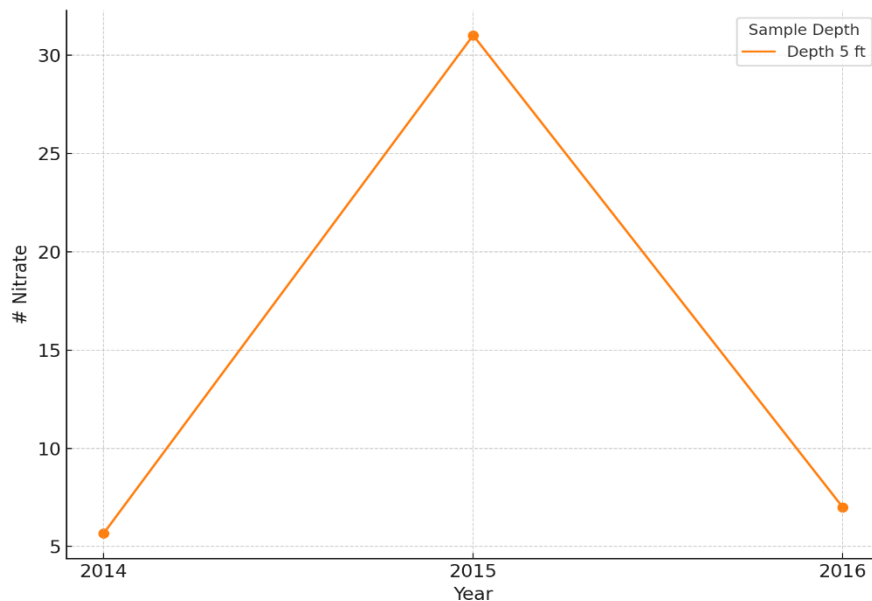
³Formation Environmental (2024). Crop-Specific Multi-Year Acceptable Ranges of Applied Nitrogen Relative to Nitrogen Removed.

⁴Cepelch et al (2004). Vulnerability Assessments of Colorado Ground Water to Nitrate Contamination. Water, Air, and Soil Pollution. 159:373-394.

⁵USDA NRCS (2012). Colorado Nitrogen Leaching Index Risk Assessment, Version 3. State of Colorado Agronomy Technical Note No. 97 (Revised).



- **Seasonal Comparisons:** The rules call for comparing spring pre-plant samples to fall post-harvest samples, but these inherently differ due to soil temperature and leaching from winter rains. A deep soil nitrate sampling pilot study conducted in the Yakima Valley GWMA in 2014-2015 found that there were significant differences in the average soil nitrate levels across the GWMA region fields that were sampled in fall versus the following spring.⁶
- **High Variability:** Residual nitrate levels fluctuate widely within fields, by the crop that is being produced, and whether the field is single cropped or double cropped during that growing season⁶. They are also strongly influenced by conditions producers cannot control, such as drought, heavy rainfall, or crop failure. An ODA funded study in the LUBGWMA from 2014 to 2016 demonstrates the variability within a single field rotated between grain, onions and carrots. This field was managed with high level irrigation and fertilizer BMPs.⁷



- **Lack of Precedent:** No other state nitrate management program uses residual soil nitrate as a regulatory metric. In fact, California's expert panel of agronomists, soil scientists, and hydrogeologists explicitly recommended against it in their Irrigated Lands Program. As they stated in their final report, "The Panel does not include residual nitrogen in its reporting recommendations because it is difficult to quantify and is subject to potentially large short-term fluctuations."⁸

⁶Mendoza (2017). Lower Yakima Valley Deep Soil Sampling Summary Analysis. In Lower Yakima Valley Groundwater Management Program Volume II Appendices, published June 2019.

⁷GSI Water Solutions Inc (2017). Lower Umatilla Basin (LUB) Soil Moisture Monitoring Project. Prepared for the ODA Fertilizer Research Program.

⁸ITRC (2014). Conclusions of the Agricultural Expert Panel: Recommendations to the State Water Resources Control Board pertaining to the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program.



- **Expert Opposition:** Oregon State University extension publications recommend post-harvest soil nitrate tests as valuable grower tool for improving their management practices, but explicitly warn against using post-harvest soil nitrate tests as a regulatory tool: “Note that the postharvest test is not intended to predict groundwater nitrate concentrations. Recent studies by Washington Department of Ecology have demonstrated that the postharvest soil nitrate test is only a rough indicator of the risk of nitrate leaching.”⁹ The OSU LUBGWMA working group recommends focusing on application and removal of nitrogen using an A/R approach, similar to California (see above)¹⁰. Taken together, soil nitrate tests can be a valuable grower tool, but is not appropriate as a regulatory metric.

Anchoring the program’s success to residual soil nitrate trends risks setting benchmarks that cannot be met, regardless of grower effort, and undermines confidence in the rule’s effectiveness.

Other states have implemented regulatory programs on irrigated agriculture, and while soil testing is routinely included as a component of these programs, it is not used to evaluate program success. The states and programs listed below use the following metrics and/or benchmarks:

State	Name of Regulation	Metrics tracked for programmatic success
California	Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program	A/R ratios; percent of growers meeting A/R ratio targets
Florida	Florida Watershed Restoration Act - Basin Management Action Plans	Basin-wide reduction of applied nitrogen
Minnesota	Groundwater Protection Rule	Percent of grower compliance with BMPs; evaluation and refinement of BMPs
Nebraska	Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Act	Reduction of applied nitrogen fertilizer rates
Nebraska	Nebraska Ground Water Management and Protection Act	Number of irrigation acres in each management phase; management phase defined by groundwater nitrate concentration
North Carolina	Neuse Agricultural Rule	Basin-wide percent reduction of nitrogen loss
Wisconsin	Kewaunee County Land & Water Resource Management Plan	Number acres utilizing BMPs; percent of growers verifying nutrient management plans



Secondary Concerns

In addition to these primary issues, there are several other components that deserve careful attention:

- **Applicability:** ODA has not provided an estimate of how many operations exceed 1,000 irrigated acres or how many acres would fall under the rule's stricter requirements. Without this information, it is difficult to understand the scale of the program. Discussions about extending the rules to smaller operations only heighten this uncertainty.
- **Practicality:** Required timelines for soil sampling and fertilizer application are misaligned with typical crop production in the LUB. The rules list restrictions on when fertilizer can be applied to fields; for larger operations, meeting these requirements could require significant investment in new equipment and labor capacity. Additionally, post-harvest soil sampling timelines are out of sync with when widely-grown crops within the LUB are typically harvested.
- **Costs:** Added costs include laboratory fees, increased recordkeeping, purchasing soil-sampling equipment, and potentially hiring agronomy experts or purchasing new machinery. To meet the current timelines listed in the rules, operations may need to invest in new equipment to comply; these costs can easily run upwards of \$1M.
- **Laboratory Capacity:** Even if producers can absorb the cost, local laboratories may not have the throughput needed to handle the volume of required samples on the schedule outlined in the rules. If labs cannot deliver timely results, compliance becomes unattainable through no fault of producers.
- **Confidentiality:** In a region that is prone to litigation over nitrate issues, maintaining anonymity over post-harvest soil nitrate results is an important consideration for encouraging compliance. Other states have mitigated confidentiality concerns by utilizing a 3rd party to compile and aggregate data that is ultimately submitted to the state.
- **Roll-out period:** The rules currently will apply to the whole LUB as early as the 2026 growing season. A roll-out period over several years will allow for education of producers on the new rules, as well as an opportunity to correct inadvertent problems created by the rules before they impact the entirety of the LUB.

⁹Sullivan et al (2021). Postharvest Soil Nitrate Testing for Manured Grass and Silage Corn (West of the Cascades). Oregon State Extension Publication EM-8832.

¹⁰OSU LUBGWMA Working Group (2025). Comments submitted to Oregon Department of Agriculture.

<https://www.oregon.gov/oda/agriculture/Documents/Rulemaking/20250814%20OSU%20LUBGWMA%20Working%20Group%20Letter.pdf>



The goals of the LUBGWMA rulemaking are important and broadly shared, but the draft rules as written present serious challenges. The evaluation of Annual Nitrogen Plans and the reliance on residual soil nitrate as a success metric are especially problematic, risking both fairness and credibility. Additional concerns about scope, practicality, cost, and laboratory capacity add to the difficulty of implementing the rules as currently drafted. Instead, a regulatory framework that reflects both sound science and on-the-ground realities will be far more effective in achieving the shared goal of protecting groundwater quality while sustaining Oregon's agricultural economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dani Lightle".

Dani Lightle, PhD

Policy and Stewardship Director

Oregonians for Food & Shelter

dani@ofsonline.org

Tuesday, August 26, 2025 at 16:48:14 Pacific Daylight Time

Subject: Board of ag comments
Date: Tuesday, August 26, 2025 at 4:11:36 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: oregon-gov-web-services@egov.com
To: BOARDAGRICULTURE Oda * ODA
Attachments: formsubmission.csv

Topic you are commenting on	Resolution 319: Climate Change Policy Considerations
First name	Sophie
Last name	Els
Email address	sophie@oregonclimateag.org
Comments	Please see the attachment.

Uploaded Files:

- [OrCAN Public Comment _ August 2025 Board of Ag Resolutions.pdf](#)

Submission Date: 08/26/2025 06:11 PM CST

Submission ID: ec61247f-cdc5-4ef2-8073-941fe153eaa7

Record ID: 15798



Oregon Board of Agriculture

August 26, 2025

Chair Miller, Vice-Chair Orem, and Members of the Board of Agriculture:

Please accept the following public comments regarding the Board of Agriculture's [Resolution 319: Climate Change Policy Considerations](#) which is currently under review.

We appreciate the acceptance of several suggested edits/updates from OrCAN's previous comment in June. We think Resolution 319 would better serve ODA, and the agricultural community, if it was updated further to account for changes in the political landscape that have occurred in Oregon since it was originally drafted or last amended, in 2022.

As mentioned in our previous comment, most important of these changes to the political landscape include:

- Failure of HB2020 (2019 Session) and its successor SB 1530 (2020 Short Session)
- Adoption of Oregon DEQ's Climate Protection Program
- The Oregon Climate Action Commission's Natural and Working Lands work
- Passage of Natural Climate Solutions policy in [HB 3409](#) (2023 session)
- Establishment of Natural and Working Lands Fund in [HB 3409](#) (2023 session)
- Establishment of Farmer and Rancher Disaster Resilience Grants [SB 5506](#) (2023)

We've done a comprehensive review of the draft resolution, and found opportunities to improve the current Background and Resolution sections which we have provided on the following pages.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Sophie Els
Policy Associate, Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network

Opportunities to Improve Resolution 319: Climate Change Policy Considerations

The following text in blue is the current language of the resolution, and text in green represents the changes proposed in the August 2025 draft. Our comments are in *italics*.

BACKGROUND SECTION

WHEREAS, policies that regulate greenhouse gas emissions **will** affect the costs of agricultural inputs including fuels, electricity, and fertilizer, impacting the cost of production as well as the cost of moving agriculture and food products to market.

*We again recommend the above statement be amended to say that "emissions **may** affect the costs of agricultural inputs". This statement indicates certainty about impacts of policy on agriculture, when the relationship between policy and impact or benefit to agriculture is not certain.*

WHEREAS, Oregon's agriculture industry is diverse in numerous ways, producing over 250 different commodities in various landscapes and climatic conditions, operating diverse production systems using a variety of inputs, depending on diverse markets both domestically and internationally, and partnering with numerous agriculture and food businesses to produce and process products. This diversity is essential to climate resilience, economic vitality, and food security;

We appreciate the consolidation of previous similar statements as recommended in OrCAN's last comment, as well as the inclusion of the last sentence, recognizing the importance of diversity in building climate resilience.

WHEREAS, the USDA's Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry Partnership Initiative and other voluntary federal programs promote carbon sequestration, sustainable land management, and climate-adaptive practices in partnership with farmers and ranchers; *We appreciate the addition of this statement and the inclusion of "other voluntary federal programs".*

RESOLUTION SECTION

- Balance the need to reduce emissions from intensive and trade exposed industries with the goal of retaining these industries in the state.
- Recognize that if processing or other facilities leave the state because of higher costs due to carbon policy, we have not achieved the goal of reducing carbon and have simply moved emissions to another location while harming our economy and industry.
- Provide compliance assistance, including longer compliance time frames, technical assistance, and low-cost compliance instruments, for energy intensive trade exposed industries that are at risk of loss to overseas or out of state competitors.

As we commented previously, the statements above focus on specific components of policy which were proposed at the time the resolution was originally adopted, and are no longer relevant because of their specificity. If the BoA wants to be prepared for future policy proposals or future legislation, the resolution language should be more general and not specific to legislation that did not pass, or is no longer relevant.

Tuesday, August 26, 2025 at 16:50:04 Pacific Daylight Time

Subject: Board of ag comments
Date: Tuesday, August 26, 2025 at 4:41:11 PM Pacific Daylight Time
From: oregon-gov-web-services@egov.com
To: BOARDAGRICULTURE Oda * ODA
Attachments: formsubmission.csv

Topic you are commenting on	Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area (LUBGWMA) Rules
First name	Justin
Last name	Green
Email address	office@justinbgreen.com
Comments	Please see the attached comment letter.

Uploaded Files:

- [8.26.25 H20EO ODA RAC Comment Letter.pdf](#)

Submission Date: 08/26/2025 06:41 PM CST

Submission ID: 773a3210-3d19-4132-a119-53707c36f167

Record ID: 15813



August 26, 2025

Board Coordinator

Oregon Department of Agriculture – Director's Office

635 Capitol St NE, Salem, OR 97301-2532

Sent via Electronic Mail to: BoardAgriculture@oda.oregon.gov

Re: Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area (LUBGWMA) Rules

Dear Board,

Water for Eastern Oregon (H2OEO) appreciates the opportunity to provide the following comments on the Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area (LUBGWMA) Rules in advance of the Board's September meeting. H2OEO is a non-profit coalition of businesses and community organizations in Morrow and Umatilla counties supporting efforts to provide clean drinking water to every household and resident. H2OEO is committed to supporting long-term efforts to reduce groundwater nitrate concentrations. We drive collaboration among businesses, government, and community organizations, and support the science to mitigate current impacts and restore groundwater.

I would like to first thank ODA staff for their efforts on the rulemaking, especially Sunny Summers, Isaak Stapleton and Renee Moulun. So far, they have provided an excellent public process with clear expectations, strong back and forth, and obvious dedication to the rulemaking. We have seen changes to the draft rules based on comments and it is clear staff are willing to take input and provide feedback.

While there has been strong back and forth, we have considerable concerns regarding the draft rules. We feel the rules have expanded the original scope of the rulemaking, do not reflect a strong understanding of agricultural practices, and impose significant economic impacts on farmers, small and large.



The rulemaking was initially proposed to mandate that farmers develop and adhere to a nutrient management plan that the department can review during the strategic implementation area process. Unfortunately, the rules have expanded to include prohibitions on specific agricultural practices, over-reaching reporting, and imposition of requirements that will not provide meaningful data regarding nutrient management.

Second, we do not feel the rules reflect a strong understanding of agricultural practices. Specifically, the timing of soil samples in the draft rules is not compatible with the typical growing season/harvest timing of crops in the LUB. In addition, the timing of pre-plant fertilizer applications may not be feasible, especially for large operations, without investment in additional equipment.

Finally, the rules, as drafted, impose significant lab costs for soil sampling, labor for additional required soil sampling and additional recordkeeping. Additionally, some operations may need to purchase additional equipment to meet the timelines required by the rules (e.g. 30-day window to apply fertilizers prior to planting) or to pull soil samples from deeper depths. This may include tractors, spreaders, and hydraulic soil samplers, some of which are upwards of a \$1M investment. There is no clear benefit provided for conducting soil samples at the proposed deeper depths.

Addressing groundwater nitrate concentrations and protecting public health requires work from all sectors of the community – including public and private entities, businesses, and the community at large – along with state agencies and local government. Recognizing the importance of each of these sectors and building trust will be essential to groundwater quality in the basin. H2OEO has been engaging in the basin for over three years and will continue to work on groundwater quality.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the draft rules. The rules as currently drafted will be hard to implement and will impose significant costs on farmers without providing meaningful nutrient management information. We look forward to working ODA staff, management, and the board to develop a meaningful rulemaking that meets its goal of protecting groundwater quality in the



Lower Umatilla Basin. Please do not hesitate to contact us regarding these comments or any issue on which we can assist.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Justin Green', is positioned above the printed name.

Justin Green
Executive Director
Water for Eastern Oregon

Agenda Item number 09 – Site Visits

State Board of Agriculture meeting, September 3-5, 2025

MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture
From: Board Coordinator
Subject: Agenda Item number 09 – Site Visits

The Board and ODA Staff will tour the local area.

12:40 p.m.	Depart Running Y Resort
1:00 p.m.	First tour stop – TBA
2:00 p.m.	Link River Estates
3:30 p.m.	Klamath Basin Research & Extension Center Agricultural Experiment Station 6941 Washburn Way Klamath Falls, OR 97603
5:00 p.m.	Mountain Valley Gardens 4800 Washburn Way Klamath Falls, OR 97603

Note: Additional details and directions are forthcoming.

MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture
From: Board Coordinator
Subject: Agenda Item number 10 – SB 777 – Wolf Compensation Program –
Implementation

I. Introduction

ODA Wolf Depredation Compensation & Financial Assistance Grant Program

ODA's [Wolf Depredation Compensation and Financial Assistance Grant Program](#) complements [Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Wolf Conservation and Management Plan](#) (incorporates adaptive monitoring, conflict reduction, and strategic lethal removal where necessary). It helps counties develop and maintain programs that reduce wolf-livestock conflicts and assist livestock producers dealing with wolf-related losses.

Grant funds are awarded to counties with a Wolf Advisory Committee, as a block program, to create and develop wolf depredation compensation programs. These programs must prioritize producers with above-normal wolf losses and ensure at least **30%** of funding supports non-lethal measures. Counties historically have been able to:

- pay for livestock or working dogs killed or injured by wolves with confirmation by ODFW,
- pay those who use methods to prevent wolves from attacking livestock,
- pay for livestock or working dogs missing due to wolves, and
- receive money to cover eligible costs for running the program.

In 2025, ODA awarded **\$729,318** across 14 counties—84% for preventive measures.

II. Background

Changes Under SB 777 (2025)

- **New Compensation Model:** The "missing livestock" category has been eliminated. It has been replaced with a new multiplier system for confirmed or probable losses due to wolves. This allows county committees to approve compensation of **up to 3x to 5x the animal's market value** (depending on the animal type), with a cap of \$25,000 per animal. This change is intended to better recognize the full economic impact of a depredation, including herd stress and lost productivity.

- **Increased Support for Prevention:** The new law also increases the state's investment in proactive, non-lethal tools, requiring that **at least 50% of grant funds** be used for prevention measures.

ODA Actions Required Under SB 777

Action Area	Requirements
Rulemaking (OAR updates)	Adopt new rules to reflect SB 777: compensation caps, multipliers, exclude missing livestock, 50% prevention allocation.
Grant Program Updates	Revise county application materials, claim forms, instructions to align with new valuation methods, reporting, and fund distribution protocols.
County Guidance & Oversight	Provide training and templates for evidence documentation, fair market assessments, advisory committee process, and report formatting.

Oregon State Board of Agriculture – Agenda Item 11

Friday, September 5, 2025 – Public Comments – verbal testimony sign-up

Speaker	Name	Topic	Date Received	Virtual
1	Justin Green Director of Water for Eastern Oregon	LUBGWMA Rulemaking	08/25/25	yes
2	Lauren Kuenzi Oregon Farm Bureau	SB 777 Wolf Depredation Compensation Program	08/26/25	yes
3				
4				
5				

As of 08/25/2025

MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture
From: Board Coordinator
Subject: Agenda Item number 12 – Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area
(LUBGWMA) Rules

I. Introduction

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide background on the Oregon Department of Agriculture's (ODA) rulemaking to implement the Agricultural Water Quality Program provisions associated with the Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area (LUBGWMA) Nitrate Reduction Plan. This rulemaking is a key step in the efforts to reduce nitrate contamination in groundwater and protect groundwater quality and the health of people who live in the LUBGWMA.

II. Background

The LUBGWMA, is about 550 square miles in northern Morrow and northwestern Umatilla counties. The area was designated in 1990 by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) in response to elevated nitrate concentrations in groundwater exceeding the federal Safe Drinking Water Act maximum contaminant level of 10 mg/L. Nitrate contamination in groundwater poses risks to human health, particularly for vulnerable populations, and has long-term implications for agricultural sustainability. The ODA, DEQ, and Water Resources Department, worked together to develop a nitrate reduction strategy and in September of 2024 the state published the LUBGWMA Nitrate Reduction Plan https://lubgwma.org/nitrate_reduction_plan/

As part of the Nitrate reduction Plan ODA included a strategy to develop regulatory requirements aimed at addressing nitrate contamination for irrigated agriculture operations inside the LUBGWMA designation. ODA began drafting a rule framework in the fall of 2024 and initiated formal rulemaking in March of 2025 by holding the first Rules Advisory Committee (RAC) meeting. Since that time there have been five RAC meeting with the most recent being August 18th. All meeting material and recordings of the meetings can be found at <http://oda.direct/rulemaking>

Objectives of the Rulemaking

The rulemaking process aims to:

- Reduce excess nitrogen use in irrigated agriculture
- Reduce nitrate loading in soils
- Prevent or reduce excess nitrate from leaching into groundwater
- Maintain flexibility of producer to manage operations to achieve the Nitrate Reduction Plan Goals.

Overview of Board of Agriculture Resolutions under review in 2025.
September 2025 Resolution packet.

I. Introduction

During the December 2024 State Board of Agriculture meeting, the ODA staff provided an overview of the Board of Agriculture Resolutions scheduled for review in 2025. Staff have reviewed and provided recommendations to keep the background statement as written or recommend proposed edits to background statement for each Resolution.

II. Background

Based on the Board Policy and Procedures for Resolutions, the following resolutions are scheduled for review in 2025.

The State Board of Agriculture will be accepting public comment on these resolutions during public comment opportunities listed on the board agenda beginning at the 2025 Q1 meeting.

Proposed action beginning in 2025 Q1 meeting: Board members to review and determine what action needs to be taken on each resolution. Based on ODA review and public comments, board members will 1) accept/decline ODA review of background statement 2) determine if resolution statement should remain a) Active with no edits b) Active and review for possible edits c) No longer active and archive resolution.

For a list of State Board of Agriculture Resolutions go to:

<https://oda.direct/BOAResolutions>

III. Evaluation Process and Recommendations

Each of the following Resolutions, scheduled for review in 2025, have been reviewed by ODA staff members to determine if the Resolution background statements are complete or if the staff have any recommended edits for Board members to consider. Recommended edits are attached for public comment.

A. Resolution 319 – Climate Change Policy Considerations

Reviewed by: Jonathan Sandau, Deputy Director

This resolution was created in December 2019 and last reviewed in November 2022.

Recommendation: Review in 2025

Background Update:

- Highlight Oregon’s leadership in producing over 250 diverse commodities and the importance of preserving this diversity amidst changing climate conditions.
- Reference USDA programs, such as the Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry Partnership Initiative, which promotes carbon sequestration and sustainable farming practices.
- Incorporate recent data on climate impacts in Oregon, including drought, wildfire, and water shortages, to underscore the urgency of addressing these issues.

Resolution Refinement:

- Review Oregon’s water management policies to address shifting water availability and prioritize irrigation modernization and water storage development.
- Evaluate the effectiveness and accessibility of current voluntary incentive programs for carbon sequestration and climate adaptation in agriculture.
- Ensure offset programs and climate incentives are inclusive and workable for farms of all sizes and production systems.
- Recommend sustained funding for climate resilience programs that support soil health, water conservation, and carbon-smart agricultural practices.

Note: At the June 2025 Board of Agriculture meeting, written comments were received regarding Resolution 319. In response, the Board directed board member Kirk Maag and ODA staff to review the feedback and recommend further revisions.

IV. Next Steps

The State Board of Agriculture will accept public comment on these resolutions during public comment opportunities listed on the board agenda beginning at the 2025 Q1 meeting.

Proposed action in 2025 meetings: Board members to review and determine what action needs to be taken on each resolution.

Based on ODA review and public comments, board members will:

- 1) accept/decline ODA review of background statement
- 2) determine if resolution statement should remain
 - a) Active with no edits
 - b) Active and review for possible edits
 - c) No longer active and archive resolution

V. Public Comment

Written comments – All written comments received will be posted on the ODA website and will be provided to the Board in advance of the meeting. Submit your written comments by online at <https://oda.direct/BoardAgriculture> or email to: Board Coordinator at BoardAgriculture@oda.oregon.gov by **5:00 PM on Tuesday, August 26, 2025.**

Verbal comments – Verbal comments are limited to three minutes and will be heard in the public comment period on Thursday, September 4, 2025, or Friday, September 5, 2025.

In-person	Remote
<p>To provide verbal comments in-person you must sign-up, prior to the comment period on the agenda, at the meeting and provide your name and organization.</p> <p>If you have written material as part of your public comment, please provide the board coordinator with 20 copies prior to your testimony. Comment time is limited to three minutes per person.</p>	<p>To provide verbal comment remotely, you must contact the Board Coordinator at BoardAgriculture@oda.oregon.gov by 5:00 pm on Tuesday, August 26, and provide the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Date you plan to provide verbal comments (Sept 4 or Sept 5 at 9:35 am or 11:15 am)• Your first and last name• The topic of your comment• The telephone number you will be using when calling the meeting.

Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution

Title: Climate Change Policy Considerations

Number: 319

Effective Date: 11/17/2022

Workgroup A:

Harper, Allen, Miller, Orem, Santamaria

ODA Staff Contact: Isaak Stapleton

Next Review Date: 00/00/2025

Date of Last Review/Revision: 11/15/2022

Original Resolution Date: 12/05/2019

Board Chair: Luisa Santamaria

Signature on file

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Background

WHEREAS, climate change is adversely impacting Oregon agriculture including the well-being of farmers, ranchers, seafood producers and resource reliant communities because of intensifying extreme weather persistent drought, increasingly destructive wildfire seasons, and heightened water shortages, along with changing ocean conditions and other impacts;~~resulting in drought, wildfire events, water shortages, changing ocean conditions, and other impacts.~~

WHEREAS, activities with the potential to be net carbon sinks provide opportunities for farmers and ranchers to contribute to greenhouse gas mitigation and promote climate resilience and can provide co-benefits such as soil health, water quality, improved water retention, infiltration, and filtration on farms, and reduced energy and input costs;

WHEREAS, improving soil health across Oregon lands improves soil security to sustain functionality for current and future generations, agricultural resilience, nutrient retention while reducing inputs, and provides ecosystem services including water quality and quantity, flood mitigation, air quality, and may be a net carbon sink;

WHEREAS, clean and abundant ground and surface water is critical for agriculture, and climate change is affecting annual rainfall and snowpack that provides water for agriculture;
WHEREAS, Oregon's agriculture sector is among the most diverse in the United States, producing over 250 unique commodities across varied landscapes, and this diversity is essential to climate resilience, economic vitality, and food security;

WHEREAS, the USDA's Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry Partnership Initiative and other voluntary federal programs promote carbon sequestration, sustainable land management, and climate-adaptive practices in partnership with farmers and ranchers;

WHEREAS, Oregon's agriculture industry is diverse in numerous ways, producing over 250 different commodities in various landscapes and climatic conditions, operating diverse production systems using a variety of inputs, depending on diverse markets both domestically and internationally, and partnering with

numerous agriculture and food businesses to produce and process products. This diversity is essential to climate resilience, economic vitality, and food security;

WHEREAS, policies intended to help the state in adapting to changing climate conditions, such as policies to address water shortages and water quality issues, will affect agriculture and need to weigh the burden and benefits of such policies;

WHEREAS, strategic water management is critical to agricultural resilience, and irrigation modernization, expanded water storage, and watershed restoration are necessary to sustain production under shifting climate patterns;

WHEREAS, Government and private sector programs, policies, and investments can help agriculture adapt and become more resilient to climate impacts and contribute to greenhouse gas mitigation and promote climate resilience and can provide co-benefits such as soil health, water quality, improved water retention, infiltration, and filtration on farms, and reduced energy and input costs;

WHEREAS, policies to address greenhouse gas emissions may also affect agricultural production, even if agriculture is exempted from these policies;

WHEREAS, policies that regulate greenhouse gas emissions will affect the costs of agricultural inputs including fuels, electricity, and fertilizer, impacting the cost of production as well as the cost of moving agriculture and food products to market;

WHEREAS, competition and regulatory issues can cause emissions intensive trade exposed industries to explore out of state or overseas opportunities, potentially affecting industries that add value to Oregon agricultural products and contribute to Oregon's agricultural and food economies;

WHEREAS, climate change policy may also benefit agriculture by mitigating some of the most serious impacts of climate change, and by providing incentives and tools to help agriculture reduce its emissions and adapt to climate change;

WHEREAS, offsets are one type of incentive, but the costs to measure and verify the mitigation benefits of offset projects can be prohibitive for certain project types;

WHEREAS, Oregon's Land Use Planning program is a major contributor to the protection of agricultural land that preserves the viability of Oregon agriculture by protecting farm and rangeland from development and thus ensuring soils and vegetation can continue to sequester carbon;

WHEREAS, other jurisdictions have experienced good participation from the agricultural sector in flexible, accessible, voluntary programs that invest allowance revenue into activities that help agriculture reduce its carbon footprint and adapt to climate change;

Resolution

Be it resolved that the Oregon Board of Agriculture recommends any climate change related policies should:

- Maintain a healthy agricultural economy, including processing and infrastructure that adds value to Oregon agricultural production, and retain agriculture's ability to grow crops and livestock, harvest seafood, pack and process agricultural products economically in Oregon.
- Consider the well-being of farmers, ranchers and rural communities and the need to sustain a resilient food supply, rural economy, and quality of life.
- Support Oregon's land use planning program's protection of natural and working lands as foundational for Oregon's agricultural viability and their contribution to climate mitigation through soil carbon sequestration.
- Balance the need to reduce emissions from energy-energy intensive and trade exposed industries with the goal of retaining these industries in the state.
- Recognize that if processing or other facilities leave the state because of higher costs due to carbon policy, we have not achieved the goal of reducing carbon and have simply moved emissions to another location while harming our economy and industry.
- Provide compliance assistance, including longer compliance time frames, technical assistance, and low-cost compliance instruments, for energy intensive trade exposed industries that are at risk of loss to overseas or out of state competitors.
- Evaluate potential impacts to fuel costs and consider option to mitigate impacts for essential production activities. Support exemptions or rebates for fuel used in on farm activities.
- Consider the costs of transportation to move agricultural and food products to market, both within the state, domestically, and internationally, and maintain affordable transportation methods to move agricultural products to market both within and beyond the state.
- Structure offset programs so they are as workable and accessible as possible for farmers and ranchers with diverse farm sizes, crop types, and production systems. An aggregation or cooperative effort of small and mid-size operations should be allowed under any offset program.
- Evaluate and improve the effectiveness, equity, and accessibility of voluntary incentive programs for carbon sequestration and climate adaptation, ensuring allowing participation by farms of all sizes and production systems. ~~Structure programs to incentivize carbon sequestration and resilience on Oregon's agricultural lands to be as workable and accessible as possible for farmers and ranchers with diverse farm sizes, crop types, and production systems.~~
- Create sustained funding for voluntary incentive programs to assist Oregon agriculture in adapting to and mitigating the impacts of climate change.
- Provide incentives to address the potential impacts of climate change to water supplies and water quality, and support agricultural practices that support soil health, conserve water, modernize irrigation techniques, and develop water storage capacity.
- Consider adapting the state's water management policies to recognize the changes in climate conditions and water availability.
- Create flexible funding programs, recognizing the diversity in Oregon's commodities, production methods, farm size, and changing and evolving technologies and strategies used.
- Ensure both natural and working lands are included in climate policy and programs and position the state to leverage state and federal lands and investments to do so.
- Design incentive programs to be as accessible as possible, including a straightforward and simple application process, delivery systems that use local partners such as Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and simple reporting requirements.
- Support research into strategies that help agriculture adapt to impacts from climate change.

- Recognize the net carbon sequestration opportunities in agriculture and the benefits that longstanding stewardship activities such as protecting the soil, set aside lands with native or non-invasive vegetation.

Summary

Recommends that any climate change policies provide voluntary incentives for agriculture to mitigate and adapt to climate change; recognize agriculture's positive environmental and economic impacts; provide exemptions and compliance time frames to minimize adverse impacts to input costs and companion industries; support research into additional strategies; [align with water management reforms that support irrigation and resilience](#); and support equitable long-term planning, resource allocation and policy changes to help the state adapt to climate change.

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Agenda Item number 13 Board Business -- Preview of Board of Agriculture Resolutions under review in 2026, September 3-5, 2025, Board meeting.

I. Introduction

This staff report provides a list of Board of Agriculture Resolutions and procedures scheduled for review in 2026.

II. Background

During the December 2025 board meeting in Hood River, ODA staff will review and provide recommendations to keep the background statement as written or recommend proposed edits to the background statement for each Resolution and procedure for Board member consideration.

Based on the Board Policy and Procedures for Resolutions, the following resolutions are scheduled for review in 2026.

For a list of State Board of Agriculture Resolutions go to:

<https://oda.direct/BOAResolutions>

Resolution Number	Resolution Title	Effective Date	Next Review Date	ODA Staff Contact
000	Board of Agriculture Policy and Procedures for Resolutions	06/15/23	2026	Board Coordinator
029	Reservation of Columbia River Water for Irrigation Purposes	06/15/23	2026	Isaak Stapleton
124	Trade policy that promotes free and reciprocal access	06/15/23	2026	Lindsay Eng
155	Position on Farm Tax Deferral and Urban Growth Boundaries	06/15/23	2026	Jonathan Sandau
162	Buildable Lands Inside Urban Growth Boundaries	06/15/23	2026	Jonathan Sandau
275	Cougar Management Plan	06/15/23	2026	Isaak Stapleton
295	Protection of Oregon Agriculture	08/17/23	2026	Jonathan Sandau
300	Siting of Aggregate Mining Operations in the Willamette Valley	06/15/23	2026	Jonathan Sandau
305	The Native Plant Conservation Program	08/17/23	2026	Chris Benemann

Resolution Number	Resolution Title	Effective Date	Next Review Date	ODA Staff Contact
310	Siting of Agri-tourism, entertainment activities and associated activities on agricultural lands	08/17/23	2026	Lindsay Eng

Oregon State Board of Agriculture – Agenda Item 14

Friday, September 5, 2025 – Public Comments – verbal testimony sign-up

Speaker	Name	Topic	Date Received	Virtual
1	Shana Johnson Una Johnson	Wolf Depredation	08/26/2025	Yes
2				
3				
4				
5				

As of 08/22/2025

August 25, 2025

MEMO

To: State Board of Agriculture (BOA)
From: Board Coordinator
Subject: 2026 and 2027 Board of Agriculture meeting dates and proposed locations

To assist with the selection of the locations for the 2026 and 2027 State Board of Agriculture meetings, attached is attached a list of previous Board of Agriculture meeting dates and locations.

Meeting dates for the Board of Agriculture have been determined based on the first Wednesday-Friday in March, June, September and December of each year.

2026 meeting dates and proposed locations:

Meeting Dates:	Proposed Location:	Confirmed Location:
March 17-19, 2026 (BOA Mtg)* March 19-22, 2026 (FFA)	Redmond, OR	Redmond, OR
June 3-5, 2026		
September 2-4, 2026		
December 2-4, 2026		

2027 meeting dates and proposed locations:

Meeting Dates:	Proposed Location:	Confirmed Location:
March 3-5, 2027	Salem, OR	
June 2-4, 2027		
September 1-3, 2027		
December 1-3, 2027		

*First quarter meeting dates have been adjusted to coincide with the Oregon FFA State Convention in Redmond, Oregon.

State Board of Agriculture Meeting Location History

Date	Location
December 3-5, 2025	Hood River, OR (Best Western Plus)
September 3-5, 2025	Klamath Falls, OR (Running Y Resort)
June 4-6, 2025	LaGrande, OR (Eastern Oregon University)
March 12-14, 2025	Salem, OR (Department of Agriculture)
December 17-19, 2024	Newport, OR (Agate Beach Inn)
September 10-12, 2024	Hermiston, OR (Blue Mountain Community College)
August 20, 2024	Farm and Forest Land Use Information Session – Virtual Meeting
June 4-6, 2024	Burns, OR (Harney County Fairgrounds)
April 29, 2024	Wilsonville, OR (State of Oregon, North Valley Complex)
January 16-18, 2024	Virtual Meeting
November 14-17, 2023	Eugene/Springfield, OR (Hilton Garden Inn)
August 15-17, 2023	Tillamook, OR (Tillamook Creamery)
June 13-15, 2023	Roseburg, OR (Douglas Co Fairgrounds)
February 21-23, 2023	Salem, OR (ODA Building)
November 15-17, 2022	Tigard, OR (Grand Hotel Bridgeport)
August 16-18, 2022	Ontario, OR (Four Rivers Cultural Center)
May 3-5, 2022	Corvallis, OR (Courtyard by Marriott)
February 1-2, 2022	Virtual meeting (restricted due to COVID19)
Nov 30-Dec 1, 2021	Virtual meeting (restricted due to COVID19)
Sept 14-15, 2021	Virtual meeting (restricted due to COVID19)
May 18-19, 2021	Virtual meeting (restricted due to COVID19)
January 19-20, 2021	Virtual meeting (restricted due to COVID19)
Dec 1-3, 2020	Virtual meeting video/conf call (restricted due to COVID19)
Sept 22-23, 2020	Virtual meeting video/conf call (restricted due to COVID19)
June 18, 2020	Virtual meeting video/conf call (restricted due to COVID19)

State Board of Agriculture Meeting Location History

February 11-13, 2020	Salem (ODA)
December 2019	Astoria (Holiday Inn Express)
September 2019 *joint w/EQC	Madras (Inn at Cross Keys)
June 2019	Silverton (Oregon Garden)
February 2019	Salem (ODA)
November 2018	McMinnville (Yamhill Heritage Museum)
September 2018	North Bend/Coos Bay (The Mill Casino)
June 2018	Hood River (Best Western Inn)
February 2018	Salem (ODA)
November 2017	Portland (FIC)
September 2017	Klamath Falls (Shilo Inn)
May 2017	Salem (ODA)
February 2017	Salem (ODA)
December 2016	Wilsonville (Holiday Inn)
September 2016	Pendleton (Wildhorse Resort & Casino)
June 2016	John Day (Grant County Fairgrounds)
March 2016	Corvallis (OSU)
December 2015	Portland (Oregon Food Bank)
September 2015	Boardman (SAGE Center)
April 2015	Salem (ODA)
February 2015	Salem (Best Western Mill Creek Inn)
December 2014	Portland (Port of Portland)
September 2014	Enterprise
June 2014	Tillamook
February 2014	Salem
December 2013	Portland (FIC)
September 2013	Prineville
June 2013	Salem
March 2013	Salem
November 2012	Portland (Port of Portland)
September 2012	Medford
May 2012	Ontario
March 2012	Salem
December 2011	Pendleton
September 2011	Salem
June 2011	Salem
March 2011	Salem
December 2010	Portland (Port of Portland)
September 2010	Astoria
June 2010	Klamath Falls
March 2010	Silverton (Oregon Gardens)