

# Table of Contents - Board of Agriculture

March 18-20, 2026 | Redmond, OR



Agenda Item:	Title:	Page #:
*	Meeting Agenda	2
1.	List of Board Members	7
1.	Draft Minutes - December 2025 Meeting	8
2.	ODA Director's Report	15
3.	ODA Budget and Legislative Updates	45
4.	Deschutes Land Trust	94
5.	OSU College of Agricultural Sciences - Deans' Updates	97
6.	Regional Food and Ag Business Centers	98
7.	Recent Rulemaking at ODA	118
8.	General Public Comment	120
9.	Board Business - SWCC Updates and 2026 Meeting Schedule	122
9.	Board Resolution Review Process	123
10.	Governor's Natural Resources Team Update	127
11A.	ODA Pesticide Program Updates	158
11B.	Public Comment - ODA Pesticide Program Updates	179
12.	Oregon's Native Seed Strategy	180
13.	Board Business (continued)	208

# Meeting Agenda - Board of Agriculture

March 18-20, 2026 | Redmond, OR



## Meeting Location

In-Person:

Cascade Locks South

Deschutes County Fairgrounds

3800 SW Airport Way

Redmond, OR 97756

## Meeting Materials:

Available at <https://oda.direct/BoardAgriculture>

## How to Provide Comment:

### *Written*

Please provide written comment by **Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2026**. Comments received by this deadline will be posted to ODA's website and provided to Board Members in advance of the meeting. You may email your written comments to [BoardAgriculture@oda.oregon.gov](mailto:BoardAgriculture@oda.oregon.gov) or upload them at <https://oda.direct/BoardAgriculture>.

### *Verbal - Remotely*

Verbal comments are limited to three minutes. Public comments will be heard at designated times on the agenda. Please notify the Board Coordinator of your intent to join and provide public comment remotely via Microsoft Teams by emailing [BoardAgriculture@oda.oregon.gov](mailto:BoardAgriculture@oda.oregon.gov) with the following information:

- Your first and last name
- Your organization/affiliation, if applicable
- Topic of your comment
- Date and time slot you plan to provide comment at (refer to agenda below)

### *Verbal - In-Person*

There will be a sign-in sheet on GREEN paper near the entrance to the meeting room. Please sign-in prior to the scheduled public comment period if you wish to make comments in-person. If you will be providing hand-outs or other written materials, please bring 20 copies with you and give them to the Board Coordinator to distribute to the Board Members.

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\*\*\*

## How to Join Virtually

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Dial in by phone

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Portland

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 199 028 814#

# Meeting Agenda - Board of Agriculture

March 18-20, 2026 | Redmond, OR



## Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026

ITEM	TIME	AGENDA ITEM/TOPIC	PRESENTER
1	3:30 PM (30 mins)	<b>Welcome and Call to Order</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Roll Call/Introductions</li><li>• Review and approval of December 2025 minutes</li></ul>	<b>Elin Miller, Chair</b> State Board of Ag
2	4:00 PM (45 mins)	<b>ODA Director's Report</b>	<b>Lisa Charpiloz</b> Hanson, ODA Director
3	4:45PM (60 mins)	<b>ODA Budget and Legislative Updates - 2026 Short Session</b>	<b>Jonathan Sandau,</b> ODA Deputy Director <b>Adam Crawford,</b> ODA COO <b>Lindsay Eng,</b> ODA Deputy Director
*	5:45 PM (15 mins)	<b>BREAK</b>	
4	6:00 PM (30 mins)	<b>Deschutes Land Trust - Solar Mitigation and Conservation Easement Work in Central Oregon</b>	<b>Rika Ayotte -</b> Executive Director, Deschutes Land Trust
*	6:30 PM	<b>Dinner - Provided for the Board and ODA Staff</b>	

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\*\*\*Agenda subject to change\*\*\*

February 23, 2026

Page 2 of 5

# Meeting Agenda - Board of Agriculture

March 18-20, 2026 | Redmond, OR



## Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026

ITEM	TIME	AGENDA ITEM/TOPIC	PRESENTER
*	8:00 AM	Coffee with the Board of Ag and the Oregon FFA State Officers	
*	8:30 AM	<b>Welcome and Call to Order</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roll Call/Introductions</li> </ul>	<b>Elin Miller</b> , Chair State Board of Ag
5	8:45 AM (30 mins)	OSU College of Agricultural Sciences – Dean’s Updates	<b>Staci Simonich</b> , Dean, Oregon State University
6	9:15 AM (60 mins)	Regional Food and Ag Business Centers	<b>Jim Cupples</b> , ODA Regional Food Systems Coordinator <b>Amy Gilroy</b> , ODA Farm to School Coordinator <b>Erick Garman</b> , ODA Trade Development Manager <b>Lindsay Eng</b> , ODA Deputy Director
7	10:15 AM (20 mins)	Recent rulemaking at ODA	<b>Sunny Summers</b> , ODA Senior Policy Advisor
8	10:35 AM (10 mins)	Public Comment – General Topics	
9	10:45 AM (45 mins)	<b>Board Business</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SWCC Updates – Barbara Boyer</li> <li>2026 Meeting Schedule</li> </ul>	

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\*\*\*Agenda subject to change\*\*\*

# Meeting Agenda - Board of Agriculture

March 18-20, 2026 | Redmond, OR



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Board Resolution Process Discussion Decision</li> </ul>	
*	11:30 AM (30 mins)	<b>Lunch</b>	
10	12:00 PM (60 mins)	<b>Governor’s Natural Resources Team Update</b> <i>Brief Overview of Recent Executive Orders</i>	<b>Geoff Huntington,</b> Governor’s Office <b>Chandra Ferrari,</b> Governor’s Office <b>Amy Schlusser,</b> Governor’s Office
11A	1:00 PM (30 mins)	<b>ODA Pesticide Program Updates – Spanish Testing and Training Materials</b>	<b>Gilberto Uribe Valdez,</b> ODA Pesticide Registration & Certification Program Manager <b>Isaak Stapleton,</b> ODA Natural Resources Division Director
11B	1:30 PM (15 mins)	<b>Public Comment – ODA's Pesticide Program</b>	
12	1:45 PM (45 mins)	<b>Oregon’s Native Seed Strategy</b>	<b>Troy Abercrombie,</b> ODA Natural Resource Protection and Sustainability Manager
13	2:30 PM (20 mins)	<b>Board Business (continued)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updates to include in Ag Quarterly from the Board</li> <li>Board Resolution Review</li> </ul>	
*	2:30 PM	<b>Adjourn</b>	

Contact Board Coordinator for information regarding this agenda or to request ADA accommodations.

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\*\*\*Agenda subject to change\*\*\*

# Meeting Agenda - Board of Agriculture

March 18-20, 2026 | Redmond, OR



*	4:00 PM	<b>FFA Foundation Partnership Dinner</b> <i>Board Members will attend the FFA Partnership Dinner</i> <i>Location: Cascade Lakes North Finals Stage</i>	
*	7:00 PM	<b>FFA State Convention Opening Session</b> <i>Board Members will attend the opening session of State Convention</i> <i>Live Stream - Cascade Lakes North Finals Stage</i>	

## Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2026

ITEM	TIME	AGENDA ITEM/TOPIC	PRESENTER
*	8:30 AM	<b>OR FFA Convention</b> - <i>Board Members will participate in the OR State FFA Convention</i>	

Next meeting: June 3-5, 2026 | Madras, OR

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  
2<sup>nd</sup> term  
Position #3  
Producer  
Elin Miller, Chair  
Roseburg, OR  
Phone: 415.613.5251  
[elin@elinmiller.com](mailto:elin@elinmiller.com)

12/2/2029  
2<sup>nd</sup> term  
Position #10  
Producer  
Eric Orem, Vice-Chair  
Heppner, OR  
Phone: 541.256.0246  
[eboremfarms@hotmail.com](mailto:eboremfarms@hotmail.com)

10/28/2028  
2<sup>nd</sup> term  
Position #7  
Producer  
Josh Zielinski  
Salem, OR  
Phone: 503.339.4062  
[josh.zielinski@gmail.com](mailto:josh.zielinski@gmail.com)

12/2/2029  
2<sup>nd</sup> term  
Position #5  
Producer  
Miguel Lopez  
Carlton, OR  
Phone: 503.437.0118  
[lopez.mikey@gmail.com](mailto:lopez.mikey@gmail.com)

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

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

9/17/2027  
1<sup>st</sup> term  
Position #11  
Producer  
Chad Allen  
Tillamook, OR  
Phone: 503-801-1097  
[chadvictor76@gmail.com](mailto:chadvictor76@gmail.com)

12/19/2028  
1<sup>st</sup> term  
Position #8  
Public Member  
Kirk Maag  
Portland, OR 97209  
Phone: 541.881.9613  
[kirk.maag@gmail.com](mailto:kirk.maag@gmail.com)

03/31/2029  
1<sup>st</sup> term  
Position #4  
Public Member  
Mike Dill  
Philomath, OR  
Phone: 541.602.5338  
[mdill@organicgrown.com](mailto:mdill@organicgrown.com)

Ex-officio voting member:

SWCC  
Position #9  
Barbara Boyer  
McMinnville, OR  
Phone: 503.434.0651  
[gourmethay@onlinemac.com](mailto: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](mailto:staci.simonich@oregonstate.edu)

Lisa Charpilloz Hanson, Director  
Oregon Department of Agriculture  
635 Capitol Street NE  
Salem OR 97301-2532  
Phone: 503.986.4552  
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# Oregon State Board of Agriculture Minutes

DATE	LOCATION	START TIME	END TIME
December 3-5, 2025	Best Western Plus, Hood River Inn – Hood River, OR	5:00 PM	12:30 PM
FACILITATOR	CONTACT EMAIL	CONTACT PHONE	
John Boyes	BoardAgriculture@ODA.oregon.gov	503.986.4552	

**Meeting Recording:**

December 3 – Meeting recording Part 1 – [https://youtu.be/eRldli\\_YyX4](https://youtu.be/eRldli_YyX4)

December 4 – Meeting recording Part 2 – <https://youtu.be/u8HeFY2j19o>

December 5 – Meeting recording Part 3 – <https://youtu.be/CyzuXY79gyU>

**Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025**

**Agenda Item 01 – Welcome and Introductions (Timestamp: 0:00:50)**

Chair Elin Miller called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm. Introductions of board members followed. John Boyes, Board Coordinator, called the roll of board members.

Board Members:	ODA Staff Present:	Others Present:
<p><b>Present:</b> Elin Miller, Chair Eric Orem, Vice-Chair Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson Chad Allen Kirk Maag Mike Dill Ellie Norris (Virtually) Ty Kliewer Josh Zielinski Dean Staci Simonich</p> <p><b>Absent:</b> Miguel Lopez Barbara Boyer</p>	<p>Lindsay Eng Jonathan Sandau Rusty Rock Isaak Stapleton Karla Valness John Boyes Charlotte Campbell Erick Garman Amy Gilroy Jim Cupples Naaman Smith Andrea Cantu-Schomus</p>	<p>Krystyna Wolniakowski Lisa Naas-Cook Kris Schaedel Jennifer Euwer Lesley Tamura Kyle Odegard Mike Omeg Jim Carmack Three-Rivers Audio Visual</p>

Roll call confirmed that a quorum (minimum of 6 voting members) was met and that the meeting could continue.

**Agenda Item 01B – Columbia River Gorge Commission (Timestamp: 00:04:52)**

Krystyna Wolniakowski, Executive Director for the Columbia River Gorge Commission, and Lisa Naas-Cook, Climate Programs Manager for the Columbia River Gorge Commission, provided the Board with an overview of the Columbia River Gorge Commission’s history, current programs, and overlaps with the agricultural and working lands within the National Scenic Area.

**Agenda Item 01C – Local Industry Panel ([Timestamp: 00:36:49](#))**

Hood River County Commissioner and orchardist Jennifer Euwer led a panel discussion with local agriculturists from the Hood River region. Panelists were:

- Lesley Tamura, Chairperson of Columbia Fruit Growers
- Ian Chandler, Chair of the Oregon Sweet Cherry Commission
- Adam McCarthy, Member of the WA & OR Canned Pear Association & Fresh Pear Committee

Panelists discussed ongoing challenges to the agricultural industry in and around the Hood River Valley. Key highlights included ongoing labor cost challenges, disparity of regulatory costs across state lines, and the need for accessible government services and licensures for agricultural workforce members who do not speak English as a first language. The panel provided the Board with literature from Oregon State University (available in the meeting materials) documenting the regulatory compliance costs of fruit operations of various scales in Oregon.

Chair Miller recessed the meeting at 6:30 pm and invited the meeting attendants to join the Board for a reception downstairs.

**Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**Welcome and Introductions ([Timestamp: 00:00:05](#))**

Chair Elin Miller called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. Introductions of board members followed. John Boyes, Board Coordinator called the roll of Board members.

<b>Board Members:</b>	<b>ODA Staff Present:</b>	<b>Others Present:</b>
<p><b>Present:</b> Elin Miller, Chair Eric Orem, Vice-Chair Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson Chad Allen Kirk Maag Mike Dill Ellie Norris (Virtually) Miguel Lopez (Virtually) Ty Kliewer Josh Zielinski</p> <p><b>Absent:</b> Barbara Boyer</p>	<p>Lindsay Eng Jonathan Sandau Rusty Rock Isaak Stapleton Karla Valness John Boyes Charlotte Campbell Erick Garman Amy Gilroy Jim Cupples Naaman Smith Andrea Cantu-Schomus Adam Crawford Nick Sirovatka Sunny Summers (Virtually) Laura Passage (Virtually)</p>	<p>Kris Schaedel Lesley Tamura Adam McCarthy Amanda Hoey Lauren Kuenzi Phone Caller (ending in 2506) Three Rivers Audio Visual</p>

Roll call confirmed that a quorum (minimum of 6 voting members) was present, and the meeting could continue.

**Agenda Item 2: Board Business ([Timestamp: 00:05:29](#))**

**ACTION ITEM:**

**Approval of minutes**

Draft minutes from the September 3-5, 2025, Board Meeting were presented for review and approval.

**MOTION:**

Ty Kliewer moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Chad Allen seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote by: Ty Kliewer, Chad Allen, Elin Miller, Kirk Maag, Mike Dill, Eric Orem, Miguel Lopez, Ellie Norris; no votes in the opposition or abstentions. Barbara Boyer was excused.

**Agenda Item 3A: Director's report (Timestamp: 00:06:12)**

Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson highlighted work done by the Oregon Department of Agriculture since the September 2025 meeting. Her highlights included:

- Overview of updated guidance related to reductions in state agency spending, including stopping out of state agency travel and developing 2.5-5% agency-wide budget reduction lists at the direction of the Legislative Fiscal Office.
- Overview of the international trade mission led by Governor Kotek to Japan and South Korea.
  - The Ag Delegation focused on pesticide residue issues, market access issues, and expanding foreign markets for Oregon Commodities.
- Updates to the paused rulemaking efforts for farm stands and farm stores, indicating that resolutions would likely have to come from the legislature.
- Outlining policy implementation standardization at the agency.
- Brief overview of Governor Kotek's announcement regarding the Prosperity Council and the Prosperity Roadmap.
- Highlighting the success of the ODA Agricultural Services team, who are sharing resources and cross training staff to provide continued, stable service delivery across program areas in rural parts of Oregon.
- Rulemaking, led at ODA by Senior Policy Advisor, Sunny Summers, who continues to refine and streamline rulemaking processes at ODA.
- Sharing positive feedback received for the Ag Water Quality.
- Acknowledging the Trade Development team and Farm-to-School team, including:
  - Erick Garman's work in the EU to help market Oregon seafood abroad.
  - Amy Gilroy's work in advancing Farm-to-School efforts.
- Ongoing work in the Brands Program continues to undergo revisions to its operations, following a fee increase.
- Onboarding a safety officer, Jenn Blow, who continues to help build a culture of safety at ODA.
- Gallup Employee Satisfaction surveys showed improvement across the board.

Andrea Cantu-Schomus, Communications Director for ODA, provided an overview of ODA's effort to promote the work of women agriculturists in Oregon, detailing outreach plans and coordination across communities. 2026 is the International Year of the Woman Farmer.

Chair Miller asked if there was an opportunity for the Board to engage with the Prosperity Council and the Prosperity Roadmap outlined in Governor Kotek's December 3<sup>rd</sup> announcement. Director Charpilloz Hanson identified that this may be an opportunity to send a letter to the Governor. Chair Miller tabled the discussion on the Prosperity Council until the Board Business section.

### **Agenda Item 03B – Updates from ODA’s Marketing and Development Teamd ([Timestamp: 00:30:26](#))**

The Board received updates from Lindsay Eng, Deputy Director at ODA, on current work of the Ag Economic and Trade Development Team, including:

- History of Food & Agriculture in Oregon, including indigenous peoples, the Oregon Trail, cheese making, canning seafood and specialty crops, maraschino cherries, and food processing innovations.
- Program highlights, including achievements in Farm-to-School, International Trade, and economic development grant programs.
- A preview of the Regional Food & Agriculture Business Centers.

### **Agenda Item 03C – Budget & Legislative Updates ([Timestamp: 01:47:52](#))**

Adam Crawford, COO, and Jonathan Sandau, Deputy Director, provided the Board with an update to budget and legislative initiatives at ODA, including:

- Budget reduction exercises as directed by the Legislative Fiscal Office to outline potential cuts at 2.5% and 5% of agency-wide budget that maintained current staffing levels and mitigated impacts to core programs and services.

### **Board Business – Moved from Agenda Item 10 ([Timestamp: 02:37:16](#))**

Chair Miller addressed several Board Business agenda items given the meeting was ahead of schedule.

Chair Miller started with 2026 Meeting Date reviews.

- December 2026 will be virtual only, given ongoing budget constraints.
- March 2026 will coincide with the Oregon State FFA Convention, and the Board will attend events and participate in volunteer opportunities at the Convention.
- Reconsidering the September 2026 meeting dates, given the overlap with State Fair and Back-to-School.

Chair Miller raised the Board Newsletter, Board Resolution 000, and the overall Board Resolution review process for consideration. Discussion included:

- Discontinuing the quarterly newsletter from the Board and writing something in the Ag Quarterly to provide updates from the Board.
- Updating the Board Resolution Process to discontinue the mandatory 3-year resolution review period established to ensure resolution review adds value to Board Meetings and minimizes agency resources expended during the review process.

Chair Miller tabled the discussion about the Board Resolution process until the Board Business Section on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **Agenda Item 04 – Oregon Department of Energy – Energy Strategy Update ([Timestamp: 02:59:15](#))**

Janine Benner, Director of the Oregon Department of Energy, and Jessica Reichers, Technology and Policy Manager, provided an overview of the Oregon Energy Strategy and the methodology used to develop its least-cost pathways (available in the Meeting Materials).

### **Agenda Item 05 – Public Comment ([Timestamp: 03:50:03](#))**

Chair Elin Miller called for public comment at 12:20 pm. Public Comments were received from the following individuals:

- Kris Schaedel – Language Accessibility for Pesticide Licensing
- Lesley Tamura – Language Accessibility for Pesticide Licensing
- Adam McCarthy – Labor and Crop Protection

The Board received one submission of written comments prior to the meeting and reviewed them (available in the Meeting Materials):

Submitter:	Organization/Affiliation:	Topic:
Isabela Mackey	N/A	Pesticide Licensing Accessibility

Chair Miller recessed the Board Meeting until Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 8:30 AM.

**Site Visits:**

The Board and ODA Staff visited the following sites around Hood River:

- Diamond Fruit Growers – Odell, OR
- Mid-Columbia Agricultural Research and Extension Center – Hood River, OR
- USDA APHIS – Hood River, OR

**Friday, December 5th, 2025**

**Welcome and Introductions (Timestamp: 00:00:03)**

Chair Elin Miller called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. John Boyes, Board Coordinator called the roll of Board Members.

Board Members:	ODA Staff Present:	Others Present:
<p><b>Present:</b>                      Elin Miller, Chair                      Eric Orem, Vice-Chair                      Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson                      Chad Allen                      Kirk Maag                      Mike Dill                      Ty Kliewer                      Josh Zielinski                      Miguel Lopez (Virtually)</p> <p><b>Absent:</b>                      Barbara Boyer                      Ellie Norris</p>	Jonathan Sandau Rusty Rock Isaak Stapleton Karla Valness John Boyes Charlotte Campbell Andrea Cantu-Schomus Nick Sirovatka Sunny Summers (Virtually) Laura Passage (Virtually)	Jed Arnold Brian Pearson Amanda Hoey

Roll call confirmed that a quorum (minimum of 6 voting members) was present, and the meeting could continue.

Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson introduced her new Executive Assistant, Charlotte Campbell. Director Hanson recognized Karla Valness for her logistical support with the trade missions.

**Agenda Item 06 – OSU College of Agriculture Dean’s Updates (Timestamp: 00:06:10)**

*DRAFT – December 2025*

Staci Simonich, Dean and Reub Long Professor of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Director of the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station at Oregon State University provided the Board with updates from the College of Agricultural Sciences (CAS). She shared CAS student enrollment and detailed enrollment increasing over the last 20 or so years, research expenditure and funding availability projections for the future.

**Agenda Item 07A – Rulemaking for the Central Oregon Protection District (COPD) for rapeseed and Brassica Crops ([Timestamp: 00:23:02](#))**

Sunny Summers, ODA’s Senior Policy Advisor, provided the Board with an update and background of the rulemaking efforts related to Central Oregon Protected Districts for rapeseed/Brassica crops. ODA has received requests to repeal the Central Oregon Protected District in whole or part, and the Board will be involved with future rulemaking related to this protected district.

**Agenda Item 07B – Public Comment for COPD Only ([Timestamp: 00:47:10](#))**

The Board heard verbal comments from:

- Alice Morrison – Friends of Family Farmers

The Board received no written comments related to COPD rulemaking.

**Agenda Item 07C – General Public Comment**

The Board did not receive any requests for verbal comments during this available time slot.

Chair Miller recessed the Board for a 10 minute break.

**Agenda Item 08: Columbia River Intertribal Fish Council (CRITFC) ([Timestamp: 01:01:17](#))**

Elaine Harvey, Watershed Program Manager for the Columbia River Intertribal Fish Council, gave the Board an overview of CRITFC’s with the four Treaty Tribes along the Columbia River. She also shared with the Board an overview of CRITFC’s Tribal Energy Vision.

**Agenda Item 09A – Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area (LUBGWMA) Rules ([Timestamp: 01:48:31](#))**

Isaak Stapleton, Natural Resources Division Director, and Nick Sirovatka, IWRS and LUGWMA Lead for ODA, provided the Board with an update to rule changes for the LUBGWMA nitrate reduction rulemaking. Nick highlighted changes to irrigated acreage size criteria for an operation, discussed concerns received from public input about monitoring techniques identified in the rules, and provided an updated timeline for rulemaking and implementation.

**Agenda Item 09B – Public Comment for LUBGWMA Only ([Timestamp: 02:29:23](#))**

The Board received verbal comments from:

- Dani Lightle – Oregonians for Food and Shelter
- Ryan Krabill – Oregon Farm Bureau

**Agenda Item 10 – Board Business ([Timestamp: 02:50:43](#))**

The Board discussed including highlights from the panel discussion in updates in the Ag Quarterly.

**Oregon Agriculture Heritage Program Nominations**

*DRAFT – December 2025*

Miguel Lopez nominated Gary Wade to be the Board's nomination to the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission. Motion was seconded by Ty Kliewer. Mike Dill nominated John Deck to be the Board's nomination to the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission. Miguel Lopez and Mike Dill provided their insight behind their nominations.

**VOTE (Timestamp: 02:58:35)**

Gary Wade: 2 votes (Miguel Lopez, Ty Kliewer)

John Deck: 6 votes (Mike Dill, Josh Zielinski, Chad Allan, Eric Orem, Elin Miller)

Barbara Boyer and Ellie Norris were absent.

By vote, John Deck was selected as the nominee for the OAHC vacancy.

**Resolution Review Process (Timestamp: 03:00:00)**

The Board discussed next steps for adjusting the Resolution Review process to help minimize workload demand and address issues timely. Board members provided perspective. The consensus was to annually review a summary of each Board Resolution and stop reviewing resolutions on the three-year cadence currently in place.

Chair Miller raised the collection of land use Board Resolutions for consideration and tabled consideration of those until after legislative session.

**MOTION**

Ty Kliewer moved to accept the framework for Board Resolution Review as discussed, including putting together a high-level summary and stopping the three-year review cadence. Motion was seconded by Chad Allan. Motion passed by unanimous vote by Elin Miller, Chad Allan, Josh Zielinski, Kirk Maag, Ty Kliewer, Eric Orem, and Mike Dill; no votes in the opposition; Ellie Norris and Barbara Boyer were absent.

**MOTION**

After some brief discussion about engaging with the Governor's Office via written letter from the Board, Ty Kliewer moved that the Board of Agriculture write a letter to the Governor requesting representation for Food and Agriculture on the Prosperity Council. Chad Allan seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote by Elin Miller, Chad Allan, Josh Zielinski, Kirk Maag, Ty Kliewer, Eric Orem, and Mike Dill; no votes in the opposition; Ellie Norris and Barbara Boyer were absent.

Chair Miller discussed the current budget environment and floated the idea of holding a special call during legislative session depending on prospective legislative initiatives.

Chair Miller adjourned the meeting at 12:30 pm.

## MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture  
From: Board Coordinator  
Subject: Agenda Item number 2: *Director's Report*

### I. Introduction

The Board will receive an update from ODA Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson about recent agency work, legislative outcomes from the 2026 Short Session, and rulemaking progress. Director Charpilloz Hanson will address:

- ODA's progress on its 2024-2027 Strategic Plan
- Agency activities
- Updates on International Year of the Woman Farmer
- OneODA I.T. Modernization project updates

Also included for Board review is:

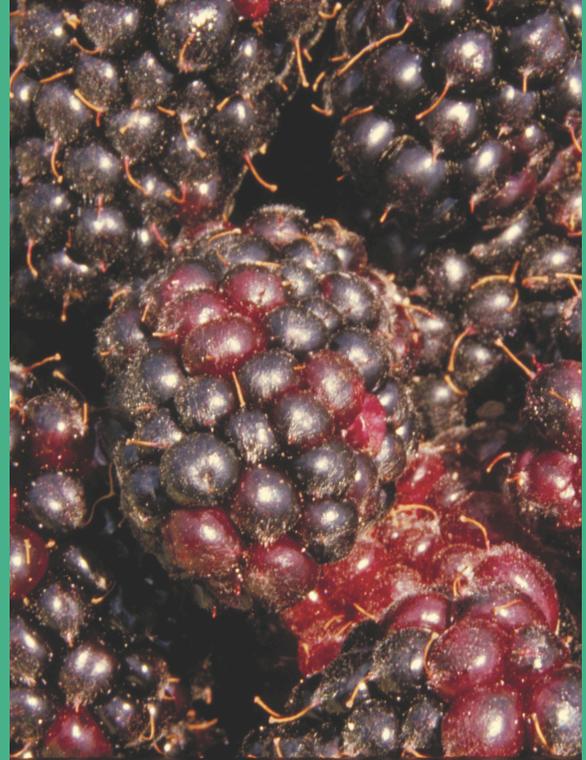
- Progress report for ODA in achieving the Governor's Expectations of state agencies.
- Updates from each of ODA's Program areas over the last quarter.



OREGON  
DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE

# 2024-2027 Strategic Plan

Quarterly Report  
to the Board  
*March 2026*



# STRATEGIC GOAL 1: ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

*Disciplined stewardship, collaborative culture, and a legislative session that delivered.*

## A Successful Legislative Session



ODA emerged from the 2026 short legislative session in a positive position. The agency absorbed an approximately 1% budget reduction, while securing meaningful new investments in Oregon’s agricultural producers, including \$1.8 million for the Japanese Beetle Program, \$1 million in additional funding for the Wolf Depredation and Prevention Grant Program, and a new revenue measure that may generate an estimated \$4 million per biennium for the Wolf Depredation Fund and the Oregon Invasive Species Council.

The session’s most complex negotiation produced the farm store permitting legislation, which consolidated and simplified the process for agricultural operations conducting direct farm sales and agritourism activities under a single permit. The result reflects ODA’s ability to support legislators in navigating competing interests to deliver pragmatic, workable policies.

## The Power of Collaboration



Cross-training across program areas continues to expand ODA’s capacity while respecting fiscal constraints. Dairy Program staff are now being cross-trained in Livestock Identification, Shipping Point Inspection, Produce Safety, and Plant Health. This model ensures that limited public resources are deployed strategically and where they deliver the greatest impact, balancing ODA’s critical mission to protect, promote, and prosper Oregon’s bountiful harvest with the need for fiscal responsibility.

## ODA Staff Honored and Recognized



ODA staff were honored by the Oregon Invasive Species Council for their exceptional contributions to protecting Oregon from invasive threats:

- Amber Basting was awarded the Eagle Eye Award for identifying and treating the first-ever Spotted Lanternfly egg mass found in Oregon during a railways inspection in The Dalles, preventing a potentially devastating infestation.
- Carrie Pirosko was recognized for her leadership on invasive weed removal in Southern Oregon.
- Patricia “Bonnie” Rasmussen was honored for her work treating Palmer amaranth, an emerging A-listed noxious weed in Malheur and Harney counties.

These awards reflect the caliber and commitment of ODA’s field professionals, and the direct, measurable impact their expertise has on Oregon’s agricultural economy and natural resources.

# STRATEGIC GOAL 2: MODERNIZATION

*From planning to procurement to build: the agency's digital transformation accelerates.*

## Project OneODA Updates



ODA's flagship modernization initiative is reaching a critical inflection point this quarter: submitting for Stage Gate 2 approval from the state's oversight process, completing all current state business process workshops and receiving formal endorsement to move into procurement and implementation planning. The Phase 1 scope has been finalized and includes two major components:

1. A customer self-service portal that will allow external customers the ability to submit new applications, check the status of renewals, download certificates and reports, update contact information, and make payments, capabilities that do not fully exist today.
2. A unified internal Customer Relations Module (CRM) and customer data platform that will give every ODA staff member a single, searchable view of any customer record agency-wide. This replaces the existing, fragmented program-by-program databases with a standardized and centralized system. The target completion date remains on schedule for March-April of 2027.

## Technology Systems Coming Online

### **ArcGIS Cloud Migration**

ODA's first major cloud migration—moving the agency's geospatial mapping platform off on-premise servers and into Microsoft's cloud environment—went live on March 16. This project delivers both a software modernization (keeping the platform current) and a hardware modernization (shifting to managed cloud infrastructure), establishing a dynamic model for future migrations.



### **LIMS Replacement**

The multi-year effort to replace the agency's 30-year-old Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS) is approaching completion. Most laboratory groups are already live on the new platform, with the final three programs on track for migration before July. This migration eliminates the legacy system's \$7,000 monthly fee.

### **Windows Migration Planning**

The agency's transition from Apple/Mac to Windows devices is in active planning, with hardware selection and a vendor engineering resource targeted for early April. A phased rollout will begin this fall, aligned with the OneODA timeline, and is expected to be completed by spring of 2027.

# STRATEGIC GOAL 3: CUSTOMER-FOCUSED SERVICE

*Removing barriers and building preparedness for Oregon producers.*

## Investing in Preparedness



ODA's Animal Health team has been preparing to respond to New World Screwworm in Oregon. While no active cases have been reported in the state, ODA is committed to protecting Oregon's livestock from emerging infectious diseases. The agency has hosted several interagency workshops, bringing together wildlife, public health, and domestic animal health officials to develop best practices for rapid response and resource allocation before there is an emergency.

This proactive approach to biosecurity, planning and drilling before a crisis arrives, reflects the same institutional readiness that enabled ODA's rapid cross-agency response to the ByHeart infant formula recall last year.

## Breaking Barriers, Improving Market Access



ODA's Trade and Economic Development team is launching the first-of-its kind "Distribution First Buyer Event," a new model designed to solve one of the biggest barriers between regional food producers and retail buyers: logistics. In partnership with the Organically Grown Company and others, ODA is expanding access to critical logistical pathways for Oregon growers to reach buyers in the Seattle and Western Washington market. Participating growers will have access to a centralized drop point, over-the-road freight coordination, and final-mile distribution. This approach aligns product discovery with real-world execution, creating a more efficient, scalable, and results-driven marketplace for both retailers and regional food companies.

# Strategic Goals



Vision of Resiliency



Customer-Focused



Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging



Engaged AGGIES



Modernization

							
Goal 1: Organizational Excellence	1.1	Mission-Driven Agency					
	1.2	Accountability					
	1.3	Business Continuity					
Goal 2: Modernization	2.1	Cloud-First Technology Strategy					
	2.2	Modernize Legacy Systems					
Goal 3: Customer-Focused Service	3.1	Evaluate Services					
	3.2	Focus on Interaction					
	3.3	Continuous Improvement of Service					

# GOVERNOR’S EXPECTATIONS

In January of 2023, Governor Tina Kotek issued a letter to the Executive Branch agencies outlining 11 expectations for state agency leaders. These expectations serve as guideposts for the Executive Branch’s work with Oregonians and drive system improvements to help serve individuals and families in all corners of the state.

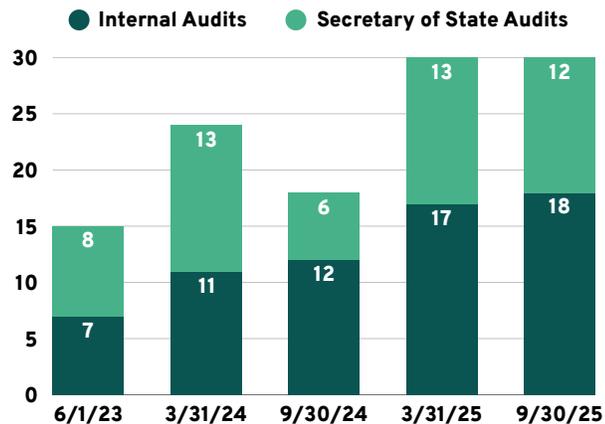
## Completed Expectations

Expectation and Goal	Update
<p><u>Strategic Planning</u> Agencies will develop and follow a strategic plan that also aligns with priorities set forth by the Governor’s Office.</p>	<p>ODA completed its 2024-2027 Strategic Plan in 2025.</p>
<p><u>Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)</u> Agencies will maintain and annually update a COOP.</p>	<p>2024: 96% completeness 2025: 94% completeness</p>
<p><u>DEI Planning</u> Agencies will maintain a biennial Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) plan and will report Affirmative Action progress every even-numbered year.</p>	<p>DEI Plan embedded within ODA’s 2024-2027 Strategic Plan</p>
<p><u>Technology Planning</u> Agencies will maintain a business-driven and enterprise-aligned information technology (IT) strategic plan that supports the organization’s strategic priorities.</p>	<p>Completed in 2024; Revised in 2025 with an annual update</p>
<p><u>Succession Planning</u> All agencies will develop and submit an annual succession plan.</p>	<p>Completed in 2024; updated in 2025</p>
<p><u>Leadership</u> Each agency director will receive a 360 review every two years.</p>	<p>Review completed with next review scheduled for April of 2027</p>

# Expectation Updates and Metrics

## Audit Response

Agencies will implement recommendations from internal audits and from Secretary of State audits, reporting to DAS on status by May 31 and November 30 of each year.



## Employee Engagement

All agencies with more than four full-time equivalent employees will annually administer the Gallup Q12 survey to measure employee engagement and satisfaction.

Metric	As of 3/31/25
<b>% Employees that responded to survey</b>	<b>57%</b>
<b>Engagement score</b>	<b>3.80*</b>

\*Ratio of engaged employees to not engaged employees.

## Workforce Development

All agencies will have all new employees complete an agency orientation and DAS Customer Service Fundamentals training within 60 days of hire and attend an Uplift Your Benefits session.

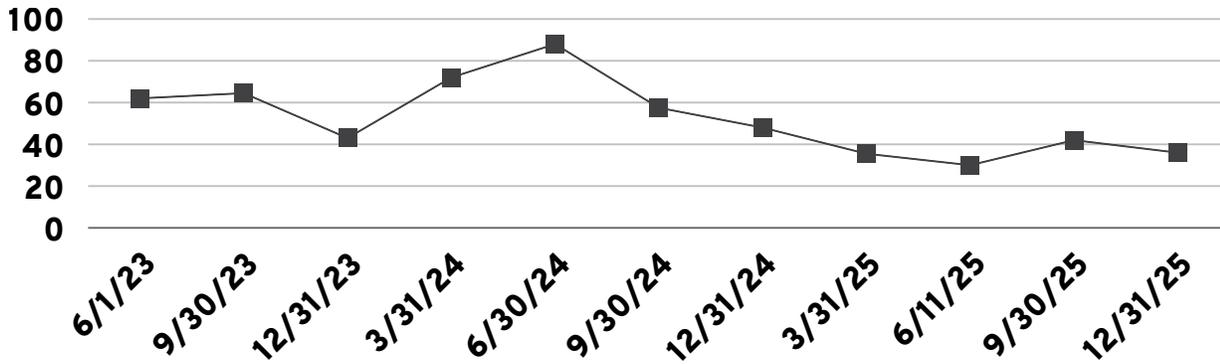
Training	12/23	3/24	6/24	9/24	12/24	3/25	6/25	9/25	12/25
<b>Customer Service</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	83%	100%	100%	100%
<b>Foundational</b>	*	100%	100%	100%	100%	*	*	100%	100%
<b>Performance Accountability &amp; Feedback</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	*	*	100%	100%
<b>Uplift Your Benefits</b>	88%	90%	100%	100%	71%	50%	100%	60%	100%

\*Indicates no data available in the applicable quarter.

# Expectation Updates and Metrics

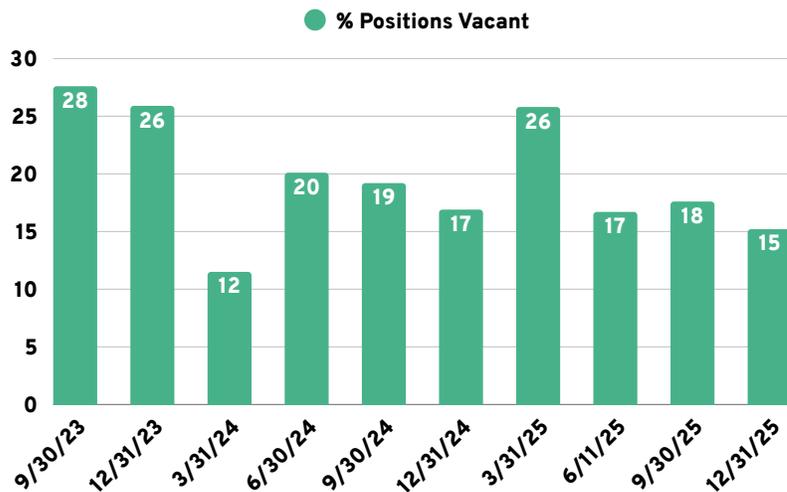
## Days to Fill Vacant Positions

Agencies will aim to fill vacant positions in 50 days or less



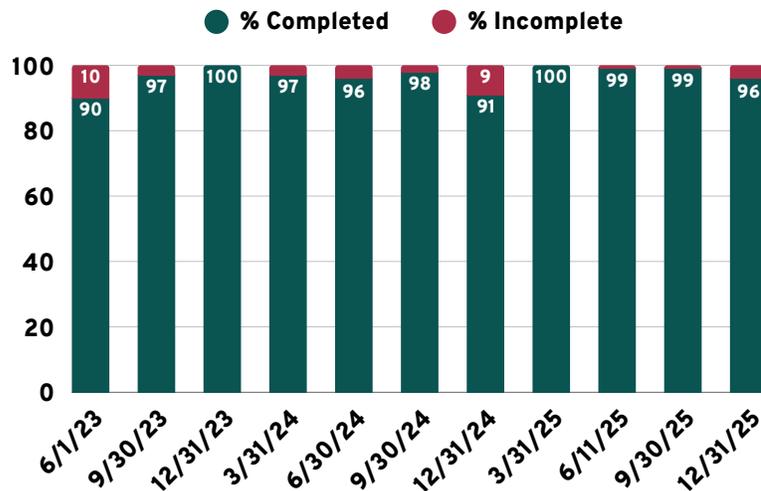
## Filled Positions

Each agency will maintain an average of 50 or fewer days to complete open competitive recruitments and will actively manage vacancies, reporting quarterly the reasons for each.



## Employee Feedback

Each agency will complete 90+% of its required manager and employee performance feedback check-ins each quarter.





March 5, 2026

Honorable Lana Popham  
Minister of Agriculture and Food  
PO Box 9043 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Sent via E-mail: [AF.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:AF.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

Dear Minister Popham:

We are writing to ask for your support in expanding collaboration between our three Pacific Northwest states and British Columbia (BC) to build upon the decades of fruitful collaboration among the wine sectors of the four jurisdictions. Our goal is to facilitate increased cooperation among our regions and to find a way forward from the current trade challenges that are negatively impacting our respective wine sectors.

British Columbia, Washington, Oregon and California are all home to world-class wine communities that produce great wines of character and distinction and that represent the very epitome of value-added agriculture. Over more than four decades, grape-growing, wine production, and the development of a robust consumer and export market for wine products has grown with intense collaboration between British Columbia and our states. During this time our wine sectors have shared expertise and collaborated on critical efforts such as responding to natural disasters, advancing smoke exposure research and expanding global markets for wine through efforts like the World Wine Trade Group.

This growth has had significant impacts for GDP, employment, and tax revenue in all jurisdictions. These positive impacts are being challenged by an evolving marketplace of changing consumer demand, increasing costs and an uncertain trade environment. Shifting dynamics that have put immense pressure on the wine sectors in our regions and put all this progress at risk.

It is our hope that you will engage with us in a renewed Pacific Northwest wine dialogue to support the future growth of our collective agricultural interests. There is precedent for U.S. states direct engagement with BC. In January 2026, Washington State and BC signed an inter-government agreement to promote dialogue and explore solutions to cross-border matters.

Honorable Lana Popham

March 5, 2026

Page 2

We would appreciate the opportunity to hold a virtual dialogue in the weeks ahead to discuss these critical issues. Currently, we have availability the week of March 30th (April 2-3) and times on April 13th and 23rd for consideration. To help coordinate schedules, please have staff connect with Ms. Carol Tate ([carol.tate@cdfa.ca.gov](mailto:carol.tate@cdfa.ca.gov)).

Thank you for your consideration of this request and we look forward to engaging in a discussion to benefit the Pacific Northwest wine region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Derek I. Sandison".

Derek I. Sandison, Director

Washington State Department of Agriculture

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lisa Charpilloz Hanson".

Lisa Charpilloz Hanson, Director

Oregon Department of Agriculture

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Karen Ross".

Karen Ross, Secretary

California Department of Food and Agriculture



# Memo

Date:	March 6, 2026
To:	Lisa Charpilloz Hanson, Director, Oregon Department of Agriculture Sophorn Cheang, Director, Business Oregon
From:	Erick Garman, Trade Manager, Oregon Department of Agriculture
Subject:	<b>2025-2026 UK Temporary Duty Suspensions and Autonomous Tariff Quotas (ATQs)</b>

On November 5, 2025, Oregon Governor Tina Kotek and the United Kingdom formalized a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to strengthen cooperation in trade, investment, and innovation across key sectors. As Governor Kotek noted at the signing, the agreement reflects a renewed and forward-looking partnership grounded in practical collaboration and shared economic opportunity.

In alignment with this commitment, the Oregon Department of Agriculture is participating in the United Kingdom’s 2025-2026 Temporary Duty Suspensions and Autonomous Tariff Quotas (ATQs) process. This mechanism is designed to enhance the competitiveness of UK and Crown Dependency businesses by temporarily reducing or suspending duties on certain imported goods, particularly those used as production inputs. These measures support economic growth, ensure reliable access to essential materials, and reinforce supply chain resilience.

## Background

During the 2023-2024 cycle, Oregon submitted applications for duty suspension covering the following species:

- Cold Water Shrimp (*Pandalus jordani*)
- Sablefish (*Anoplopoma fimbria*)
- Petrale Sole (*Eopsetta jordani*)
- Pacific Dover Sole (*Microstomus pacificus*)
- Albacore Tuna (*Thunnus alalunga*)

Although these requests were not approved during the previous cycle, Oregon has resubmitted these species for consideration in 2025 to reaffirm its commitment to supplying UK wholesalers, processors, food service providers, and consumers with responsibly harvested, high-quality seafood.

## Strategic Considerations: Cold Water Prawns

Cold Water Prawns warrant particular attention within this submission. The United Kingdom remains one of the largest shrimp-consuming markets globally, with annual consumption estimated at 40,000–45,000 metric tons. Demand remains robust across both retail and food service channels.

Currently, U.S. cold-water prawn exports face a 20 percent import tariff when entering the UK market—a rate maintained following the UK’s departure from the European Union. In the absence of a broader UK–U.S. trade agreement, this tariff significantly constrains price competitiveness and limits access for UK importers.

At the same time, global supply dynamics have shifted. Substantial quota reductions in Canada and Greenland have tightened the availability of cold-water prawns, increasing supply pressures within the UK market. Oregon’s fishery, by contrast, remains stable, sustainably managed, and capable of delivering a consistent and reliable supply to help meet demand.

In addition, many West Coast U.S. processors are actively investing in British Retail Consortium (BRC) certification to meet the rigorous food safety and quality standards required by UK retailers. This investment reflects a long-term commitment to direct participation in the UK market rather than reliance on third-party intermediaries. For UK importers and wholesalers, this creates a valuable opportunity to source BRC-certified, single-frozen prawns directly from origin—strengthening supply chain transparency, improving pricing efficiency, and enhancing overall value.

Importantly, Oregon’s seafood products are positioned to complement—not compete with—UK domestic industry. They can:

- Provide dependable raw material for further processing
- Support wholesale and distribution networks
- Strengthen food service sector offerings
- Improve product availability and stability for UK consumers

## Conclusion

A temporary duty suspension or tariff reduction would directly support UK importers, processors, and distributors by reinforcing supply stability and improving cost competitiveness. Such action would also align with the broader objectives of the Oregon–UK Memorandum of Understanding by advancing practical, mutually beneficial trade cooperation.

Oregon’s participation in the 2025–2026 Temporary Duty Suspensions and ATQs process reflects its continued commitment to building a durable and strategic trade relationship with the United Kingdom. Cold Water Prawns present a compelling case for support based on established demand, complementary market positioning, responsible resource management, and current global supply conditions.

Oregon Department of Agriculture Program Reports  
Prepared for: State Board of Agriculture  
Meeting date: March 18-20, 2026

**Food Safety, Animal Health, and Lab Services**

Rusty Rock, Division Director, [rusty.rock@oda.oregon.gov](mailto: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 1,547.

**Retail and Manufactured Foods**

- ODA has started the FDA 2025-26 contract work, which include:
  - 105 Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) inspections,
  - 42 full-scope Preventative Controls (PC) inspections,
  - 8 acidified food inspections, and
  - 10 seafood HACCP inspections.
  - We have completed approximately 25% of the contract work so far.
- The Retail Food Program is in the process of updating the Retail Food Code with an anticipated adoption in 2026. Rule advisory committee meetings are scheduled to begin the last week of February 2026.

**Shellfish and Crab Program**

- Food Safety shellfish program staff participated in the Oregon Mariculture Future Forum held in Coos Bay at the end of 2025. The goals of this forum were to identify mariculture development priorities for the next 1 to 3 years, identify funding pathways for mariculture, and facilitate partnerships to move the mariculture sector forward in Oregon. A follow up virtual meeting was held in February to address the role ODA could have in the development of mariculture, and more broadly aquaculture, in Oregon.
- ODA Food Safety shellfish inspectors performed 26 shellfish re-certification inspections of shellfish distributors and processors in Oregon in December. These re-certification inspections are required to permit Oregon shellfish dealers to ship, as well as to receive shellfish from around the country.

**Dairy Program**

- The Dairy Program is expanding its sampling efforts through collaboration with staff from other ODA division programs. To support this initiative, staff will be cross-trained across multiple programs, including Brand, Shipping Point, Produce Safety, and Plant Health. This cross-training model enhances operational flexibility, strengthens program resilience, and maximizes the effective use of available resources.

- The initial phase of cross-training will focus on duties related to dairy, water, and glycol/coolant sampling to ensure staff are fully trained to meet immediate program needs and regulatory requirements.
- As cross-utilization of staff from other ODA programs (collectively referred to as Agricultural (Ag) Services) continues to grow, additional cross-training will expand to include responsibilities such as egg grading, shellfish beach postings, milk tank truck inspections, and other related activities. This phased approach supports strategic program growth while maintaining consistent service delivery and regulatory oversight.

### **State Meat Inspection (SMI)**

- The staffing structure for the State Meat Inspection (SMI) Program remains the same: one (1) Meat Inspector, one (1) Meat Specialist, and one (1) Veterinarian position. The Veterinarian role continues to be supported through a shared arrangement among three veterinarians, ensuring consistent oversight and regulatory coverage throughout the state.
- At the end of 2025, our Meat Inspector retired following his dedicated service to the SMI program. Subsequently, a new Meat Inspector was hired to fill the vacancy and has been a strong addition to the team. He is currently completing a structured onboarding and training process, which is anticipated to take approximately two to three months to ensure full competency in his assigned duties. This position is currently designated as limited duration pending legislative action to make the position permanent.
- To enhance field operations and address increasing workload demands, we have initiated recruitment for a part-time position and hope to onboard the position by the end of March 2026. This position will be based in the Klamath Falls area and is intended to strengthen regional coverage for the SMI facilities in Lakeview and Burns areas. The part-time Ag Services/Meat Inspector position will also be established as limited duration pending legislative approval for permanent status.

### **Animal Health**

- The program continues to see sporadic cases of High Path Avian Influenza (HPAI) in backyard flocks across the state. We have expanded our response capabilities by training Ag Services employees to assist in geographically strategic locations to both speed responses and minimize program costs.
- The United States is currently free of New World Screwworm. The ODA AH program continues to actively prepare for the potential from cases reported in both Central America and Mexico in 2025. Mammals and birds are potential hosts to NWS, including humans. In Oregon, it is possible for outbreaks to occur from an actively infested animal traveling from endemic areas. Outbreaks of any origin may significantly impact the livestock industry, economy, and food supply chain.
- The AH program is staying busy with [rule making](#) related to the following: Animal Remedies, Pharmaceuticals, and Veterinary Biologicals; adopting 2025 AAFCO publication & enforcement framework for commercial feeds; permanent disease controls related to livestock exhibitions; import restrictions for areas infested with New World Screwworm.

### **Lab Services**

- The lab is working on implementing a new LIMS by bringing on-line analytical areas one at a time. Currently, dairy, pesticides, domoic in crab viscera are live. Next in line Food, Shellfish, Fertilizer, then Cannabis.

- A new fee schedule was developed to the Animal Health Lab to bring charges more in line to cover costs.
- Cannabis Reference Laboratory (CRL) continues to work OLCC on Cannabis issues. The CRL is currently wrapping up audit testing vape cartridges for potency, heavy metals and residual solvents.
- The ODA lab received FDA NSSP approval for performing *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* using PCR. The lab is the first state lab to gain approval for this test. The only other approved laboratory is FDA's Dauphin Island, AL facility. The Pesticide group I backlog continues to be worked on as well as participation in several proficiency sample sets. Proficiency samples are used to document analyst competency.

## **Agriculture Services Division**

Casey Prentiss, Division Director, [casey.prentiss@oda.oregon.gov](mailto: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. 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**

- The program is working with partners to raise fees consistent with service levels.
- Crop movement is slow overall

### **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.
- In 2025, the program investigated 22 claims and issued 11 Notices of Payment Demand against one company that underpaid growers for 2024 crop tall fescue. To date in 2026, the program has received 8 complaints.
- The program will undertake rulemaking to address industry concerns about the Slow Pay No Pay investigation process.

### **Weights and Measures/Motor Fuel Quality**

- The program continues to test devices and conduct inspections of approximately 65,000 weighing and measuring devices licensed for commercial service in Oregon.

## Natural Resource Division

Isaak Stapleton, Division Director, [isaak.stapleton@oda.oregon.gov](mailto: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.

### Fostering Collaboration

#### *Pesticides Program:*

- During the Winter of 2025, the program continued to participate in meetings to help with communication, coordination, and to help increase awareness around pesticide regulations.
  - In December the program met with representatives of Department of Early Learning and Care (DELC), Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and Oregon State University (OSU) to discuss school IPM law, and to provide feedback to OSU as they planned for the 2026 school IPM trainings.
  - During the winter the program collaborated with Oregon OSHA and other participating agencies to help plan for an inter-agency meeting in March 2026 to discuss emerging issues and challenges relating to pesticide regulations and to promote coordination and communication between agencies.
  - In January the program participated and presented at the annual EPA Region 10 Directors meeting.
  - After receiving multiple drift related complaints (nine cases initiated after May 2025) relating to vineyards the program met with multiple stakeholders during the Winter to look for collaborative opportunities to increase awareness around the usage of broadleaf herbicides.
- Program staff continue to work with partner agencies and organizations to extend Worker Protection Standard outreach; partnering with agencies that have established relationships with agricultural groups, as well as industry groups such as the Oregon Association of Nurseries to explore partnership opportunities.
- The ODA Certification and Licensing team continues to work closely with OSU and other organizations to update study materials and track the development of other materials that can be made available for use by Oregon applicators.

#### *Ag Water Quality Program (AgWQ):*

- 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 have input data for the last three biennia related to the Scope of Work and for Strategic Implementation Area work. The HUB was used by SWCDs for their bi-annual reporting in January of 2026. In addition, ODA staff have used the HUB to provide data for reporting for biennial reports and for two TMDL Implementation Plan annual reports due in February 2026.

- Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Implementation Plans – Water Quality program staff are coordinating with DEQ for the Willamette, Coos/Coquille area, Umpqua, Rogue, John Day, Snake, and Miles Creek basins for upcoming TMDL processes. Water Quality Program Staff are conducting public outreach for the Willamette TMDL Implementation Plan with SWCD staff, SWCD Directors and Local Advisory Committee members on November 21 and December 11, 2025. Additional public meetings are scheduled for March 12 and 18 for the general public and on March 20 for Environmental Groups and advocates. Water Quality Program staff are in the process of setting meetings with the Oregon Seed Council, Oregon Association of Nurseries, Hazelnut growers, Christmas Tree growers, and Farm Bureau.
- Partner Coordination – The Water Quality Program lead team met with a new OSU Extension Agricultural Water Quality Technical Advisory Program contact to coordinate program priorities. The AgWQ Program coordinated with OWEB to update the existing MOA related to the SWCD Capacity Grants.
- 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. AgWQ and SWCD staff have worked with OWEB staff to start preparing for rulemaking related to OWEBs rules related to SWCD and Watershed Council capacity grants. An initial Webinar with SWCDs and Watershed Councils was held on February 4, 2026. Listening sessions are scheduled in March, April, and May with rulemaking to start in the late summer/fall of 2026.

## **Permits, Registrations, and Notifications**

### *Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO):*

- The public comment period for the draft Oregon CAFO NPDES General Permit ended on January 21, 2026 and CAFO staff are currently writing responses to those comments. We expect to finalize this permit and begin to notice existing operation to this permit in the first part of 2026.

### *Agricultural Drainage Channel Maintenance (ADCM):*

- The 2025 Legislative Report was completed for submission to the Legislature. Only two notices were submitted in 2025. The report can be found on our website here, <https://www.oregon.gov/oda/Documents/Publications/NaturalResources/ADCM-Legislative-Report-2025.pdf>

### *Pesticides Program:*

- The ODA Pesticides Registration team is made up of three full time staff. During the renewal season for 2026 registrations, the team had two vacancies to fill. Other members of the Pesticides Program filled in to provide support while new staff are hired and onboarded. As a result, there is a slight backlog in routine registrations, Special Local Need registration processing, and other activities associated with product registrations. The team is fully staffed as of February 11, 2026, but will take time to fully train the new staff.

## **Providing Compliance and Technical Assistance**

### *Ag Water Quality Program:*

- The LUB GWMA draft rules were filed with the Secretary of State and public hearings were held on December 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. The public comment period was open through December 22, 2025. Response to public comments have been completed and the LUB GWMA rules will soon be filed as permanent rule.

- 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 October of 2025. A copy of the nitrate reduction plan can be found here <https://www.oregon.gov/deg/wq/documents/qwp-oregonnitratereductionplan-2024.pdf>. The agencies completed the [annual report](#) in January of 2026.
- 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. The Soil and Water Conservation Commission met on February 19, 2026.
- 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 (FAS) areas starting in 2024 (Polk – Salt Creek), 2025 (Yamhill), and 2025 (Washington). The Salt Creek FAS remote evaluation was completed.

*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.

In December, ODA investigative/enforcement staff presented on the school IPM law at the final 2025 OSU School IPM Coordinator Training in Jefferson, Oregon. In 2025 the team attended and presented eleven trainings around the state. 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 the project had to be temporarily paused earlier in 2025, but the team is back working on the project and is hoping to continue production of an additional two modules that they are hoping to have published in the near future. 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. As of February 2026 four modules have been published to date in both English and Spanish. The modules may be viewed at:

<https://oda.fyi/IPMSchoolsPlaylist>

- 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 Fall and Winter months, the program has conducted a number of in-person and remote presentations. More specifically in the fourth quarter of 2025 (Sept 1-Dec 31), staff conducted seventeen presentations to over 1000 people. Common topics that were presented on in the quarter included the ODA Updates, ODA Lessons Learned/ Case Studies, WPS, school IPM and utilizing drones for pesticide applications.
- For more information of recent Pesticides Program newsletters, bulletins and advisories see: <https://www.oregon.gov/oda/pesticides/pages/pesticides-current-issues.aspx>

#### *Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO):*

- Annual Reports from permitted CAFOs were due March 16, 2026. Blank forms were mailed out with the CAFO recordkeeping calendars in December and email reminders were sent via GovDelivery on February 20 and March 9, 2026. Late receipt of a CAFO's Annual Report will result in a Notice of Noncompliance.
- Blank Water Supply Plan (WSP) forms were mailed to all CAFOs on the NPDES permit along with the Annual Report forms and calendars in December (those on the WPCF permit submitted their WSP in 2025). Once these are received, they will be reviewed by CAFO staff and then sent to Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) watermasters for approval. The WSP is a new requirement from the 2023 Senate Bill 85 and will need to be received back from OWRD before a facility will be allowed to register to the new Oregon CAFO NPDES General Permit.
- The CAFO Program had a booth at the March 9-10, 2026 Oregon Dairy Farmers Convention to help operators complete their Annual Report and Water Supply Plan forms. Operators not attending this event are encouraged to reach out to their CAFO inspector for assistance, if needed.

## **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 slightly decreases in the Fall/ Winter and the program shifts to conducting more compliance monitoring inspections. 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.  
The program's Citizen Liaison continues to regularly fulfill public records requests, plus 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. In 2025, Ag Water Quality staff completed 59 investigations; 11 of these were either ODA observation or via the Strategic Implementation Area (SIA) process, 24 were public written complaint, and 24 were referral from other agencies. This included 121 compliance actions (27 in compliance, 20 fix-it letters, 57 water quality advisories, 12 notices of noncompliance, 2 civil penalties, and 3 settlement agreements).

### *Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO):*

- In the 2025 calendar year, CAFO inspectors performed 638 inspections on permitted and non-permitted facilities. Routine inspections of permitted CAFOs, performed every 10 months, accounted for 497 of those inspections and had a compliance rate of 99.2%.

## **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.
- During the Winter the program reviewed and updated its brochure titled “Preventing pesticide drift when using Broadleaf Herbicides” and also had it translated into Spanish. These are available on the web at:  
<https://www.oregon.gov/oda/Documents/Publications/PesticidesPARC/BroadleafHerbicideBrochure.pdf>  
<https://www.oregon.gov/oda/Documents/Publications/PesticidesPARC/Broadleaf-Herbicide-Brochure-SPA.pdf>

- **PESTICIDE BILINGUAL EXAMS AND STUDY MATERIALS**

The ODA Pesticides Licensing and Certification Program manages 27 pesticide applicator exams, 23 study manuals, and 29 other study resources. Two of these exams are offered in Spanish: the Private Applicator and Laws and Safety exams. Due to the large number of exams and materials to oversee, the team has been working to make targeted improvements to the exams and study materials with the highest demand and need. Over the past couple of years, the Program has developed a statistical approach to identify problematic exam questions to improve quality and address accessibility concerns.

### **Paper-Based Exams**

The Program is currently in discussions with its exam contractor and conducting internal planning to offer paper-based exams on a trial basis, due to the additional resource demands. The initial rollout will focus on the Private Applicator License Exam (English and Spanish), with an evaluation of demand, pass rates, and travel patterns to determine future expansion, if needed.

To implement paper-based exams, the Program must address several operational needs:

- Update security protocols for exam storage and handling;

- Acquire equipment to scan and grade exams;
- Identify and contract with proctors willing to administer paper exams;
- Update the online booking system to include paper-based exam options; and
- Develop a system to reintegrate paper exam data into the current databases for continued trend analyses.

### **Spanish Language Exams and Study Materials**

Becoming a certified Private Applicator in Oregon allows an individual to:

- Use restricted use pesticides (RUPs) on agricultural land, including farmland, ranches, forestland, nurseries, and orchards owned by the individual or their employer;
- Supervise co-workers or employees using RUPs;
- Provide required Worker Protection Standard (WPS) training to agricultural workers and pesticide handlers.

RUPs are not available for general public use due to their potential to cause unreasonable adverse effects on the environment and human health. These products are classified as RUPs by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

One of the Program's goals is to ensure that licensed applicators understand their responsibilities, state regulatory requirements, and how to minimize risks to themselves, others, and the environment. With this in mind, the Program has been updating exams and study materials to balance competency standards, accessibility, and staffing resources.

The Spanish-language Private Applicator Exam has been a particular focus due to historically low pass rates. While awaiting a national manual and its translation (see below), the Program has completed the following for both Spanish-language Private Applicator and Laws and Safety exams:

- Conducted statistical analyses to eliminate or revise poorly performing questions;
- Ensured English and Spanish versions of the exams are equivalent in content and difficulty;
- Reviewed study materials for alignment with exam content and consistent terminology;
- Native Spanish speaking staff have reviewed the exams for appropriateness and accuracy.

The Pesticide Educational Resources Collaborative (PERC), with a five-year cooperative agreement between the EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs and the University of California, Davis, in collaboration with Oregon State University, has been developing national pesticide education resources. These include materials for worker protection and applicator exams, which are freely available for non-profit use.

During its last funding cycle, PERC worked to update the National Pesticide Applicator Certification Core Manual (3rd Edition) and create a corresponding exam question bank. The plan included translating both into Spanish. However, EPA funding cuts allowed completion of only the English versions. The Spanish translation and question bank had been on hold due to a \$50,000 funding shortfall. The ODA Pesticides Program, with the OSU PSEP, and the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD) worked to make funding available and allow work to continue for this national resource.

The Program continues to focus its resources on targeted improvements to exams and study materials until the completed manual and exam bank are made available.

## **Other Accessibility Assessments**

**Exam Time** - All test-takers are allowed up to three hours to complete an exam. Most finish within two hours. Because testing centers offer multiple types of exams, they default to two-hour scheduling. If needed, proctors can extend time up to three hours, depending on availability. The Program is continuing to analyze data to identify exams that routinely require more than two hours and will work with the contractor to adjust scheduling, where possible.

**Testing Center Distribution** - The Program is analyzing average travel distances from registrants' addresses to testing centers. The longest travel distances are typically to centers near state borders or airports, where out-of-state applicators travel to take Oregon exams. Currently, Oregon exams are not available in other states, except at the exam contractor's headquarters in Phoenix, AZ.

**Testing Availability & Wait Times** - The Program is continuing to work with its contractor to obtain data on wait times between booking and exam dates. This will help identify locations where additional testing availability is needed and allow the Program to be more targeted in the locations we seek to find more testing availability for our test-takers.

## *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 the local 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.

## **Natural Resources Division Administrative Team**

The NRD admin team provides centralized administrative and operational support for the division, serving ~72 staff across multiple regulatory field-based programs.

### **Key activities:**

- Began large-scale digitization of programs historical and active files to create a more accessible, centralized database for field inspectors, office and remote staff, in alignment with Oregon Records Retention and Archiving requirements to ensure adherence to legal and regulatory compliance.
- Established standardized travel request and booking processes to improve consistency and turnaround time within the division by gathering and incorporating feedback from field staff and program managers.
- Streamlined document translation processes and internal review of workflows to reduce delays and improve accuracy.
- Developed and rolled out updated SOPs for administrative processes across the division.
- Conducted staff training sessions and presentations introducing new workflows and tools.

The Administrative Team is strengthening operational efficiency and field accessibility through digitization, standardized workflows, and staff training. These efforts are reducing barriers, improving staff service delivery, and creating a more consistent support system for Natural Resources Division staff.

## Plant Protection & Conservation Division

Chris Benemann, Division Director, [chris.benemann@oda.oregon.gov](mailto:chris.benemann@oda.oregon.gov) 503-986-4678

### HEMP

- Hemp rule amendments have been completed. A copy of the final rules filing document may be found [here](#); changes to existing rules are underlined. The purpose of the most recent batch of amendment was to update various definitions. You may also review our webpage, [Rulemaking at ODA](#), for more information on this rules package and the rulemaking process.

### IPPM

- **Recruitment:** The recruitment to fill the IPPM program manager is ongoing. Anticipated start date for a new hire is early April .
- **State approved invertebrate species list updated:** ODA completed an extensive update to this state-maintained list, which dictates what species are allowed to be moved into Oregon as biological control agents, pets, etc. You may view Notice of Filing [here](#). Visit the [ODA Rulemaking](#) webpage for more information.
- **Spongy moth and Flighted spongy moth complex: A joint meeting** with USDA AHPIS PPQ, CA and WA state department of agriculture was held to share updates on state survey and response efforts. Update from federal partners on the uptick of egg mass interceptions on commercial ships coming into western ports from Asia.

### NATIVE PLANT

- The **2025 Native Plant Symposium** was held virtually in January and was well attended. A recording of the symposium is available on the ODA YouTube channel here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EQw4ytYtCGk>
- Program continues to develop resources to allow sister agencies to enforce and educate permittees on ODA rules and statutes on behalf of ODA during their permitting process.
- Planning for spring season is in full swing.

### NOXIOUS WEEDS

- **State Weed Board:** Met virtually in February. Board members considered ODA suggestions for funding of 2026 Oregon Weed Grants and accepted program recommendations. Program updates included highlights of regional projects, status of current grant funded work. A new feature was added to the board agenda: Board Engagement, which will now feature special topics related to noxious weed issues in the state beyond grants and program projects. [OSWBAgendaFebruary2026.pdf](#)

- **Palmer amaranth:** Continues to be an issue. ODA will begin a slow process of engaging with partners in Idaho to explore what practical regulation of this A-listed weed can look like. ODA was notified by Washington State of the weed once again being detected in commercial bird seed sales.

## NURSERY

- **Japanese beetle:** Over the last two months, ODA has hosted two virtual town hall meetings to address questions and concerns related to the newly formed Japanese beetle (JB) Compliance Program. Nurseries continue to enter into compliance agreements with ODA to meet Japanese beetle phytosanitary requirements, including implementation of trapping programs provided by third-party contractors, with oversight from ODA Nursery inspectors. Coordination and negotiations with partner states have been productive and continues. As the 2026 trapping season approaches in May, the program is actively addressing remaining logistical considerations related to implementation and monitoring. Recordings of the [ODA JB Town Halls Meetings](#) are available online.
- **Fee Increases:** The ODA began the process to increase nursery license fees by 18%. The agency, with support of the Oregon association of Association, proposed to increase fees to support increased capacity needs resulting from the additional monitoring and certification work required to implement the JB compliance program in the 2026 season. You may also review our webpage, [Rulemaking at ODA](#), for more information on this rules package and the rulemaking process.
- ***Phytophthora ramorum*:** Spring survey work has begun. In recent weeks several new nurseries have been confirmed positive for the plant pathogen. Many of which are retail locations that are buying nursery stock from confirmed positive nurseries. Program policy is to not disclose the identity of positive nurseries to prevent additional burden those businesses that are now under regulatory oversight.

## OREGON INVASIVE SPECIES COUNCIL

- The **2025 winter meeting** was held December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Meeting minutes are available [here](#). The committee voted to consider amending current By Laws to adopt a travel reimbursement stipend for new members.
- The 2026 spring meeting will be held in person on March 17<sup>th</sup>. During the meeting, the **OISC will acknowledge winners of the OISC awards**, which acknowledge efforts and contributions to the area of invasive species management. The following ODA staff will be recognized:
  - **Amber Basting | Eagle Eye Award:** during a railway survey in The Dalles, she discovered a spotted lanternfly (SLF) egg mass. SLF egg masses are notoriously difficult to detect, as their coloration and texture easily blend into the surfaces where egg masses are laid (such as tree bark and rusted metal). Amber's interception was exceptional in that the egg mass was found on a rusted rail car, up on the higher edges of the car. To the untrained and non-committal eye, this would have easily been

missed. This was the first and only egg mass found in Oregon to date. This early interception removed the possibility of this egg mass hatching in some unknown location in Oregon which could have resulted in a population going unchecked for months or years thereafter.

- **Outstanding Agency Partner Award | Honorable Mentions**
- **Carri Pirosko:** For her leadership on invasive weeds in southern Oregon and **Patricia “Bonnie” Rasmussen** for her actions and leadership on Palmer amaranth, an emergent A-listed noxious weed, in Malheur and Harney Counties.

## **Agricultural Trade and Economic Development**

Lindsay Eng, Deputy Director, [lindsay.eng@oda.oregon.gov](mailto:lindsay.eng@oda.oregon.gov), 971-375-1800

- **Farm to School Activities**
  - The Oregon School Nutrition Association Farm to School Showcase will be held on Saturday March 14, 2026. Fifteen companies will attend to introduce more than 300 school food and nutrition purchasers to Oregon products.
  - The Oregon Farm to School Producer Equipment and Infrastructure Grant opened February 13, 2026. Funds from this grant program help offset costs of equipment purchases and infrastructure to help producers in Oregon grow, harvest, or process products that are in demand from school buyers. \$210,000 are available for the 2025-2027 biennium and the application period will close March 31, 2026. Please visit [www.oda.direct/f2s](http://www.oda.direct/f2s) for application materials and additional details.
  - The Oregon Department of Agriculture and the OSU Food Innovation Center recently launched a School Food Product Development Assistance Program. Seven Oregon companies will participate in this year’s cohort. The purpose of the program is to formulate value-added products that meet the school meal pattern and bring products to the school marketplace.
- **Local, National and International Activities**
  - Representatives from each ODA division participated in the OSU Small Farms Conference, Saturday, February 21 in Corvallis. With more than 700 attendees ODA staff presented at conference workshops and answered questions at the ODA information table.
  - The ODA wrapped up its 2025 Machinery & Equipment Certification program with a record year, certifying in more than 50 firms. In addition, five new meat processors had equipment certified, representing a state-wide total of \$175 Million inspected investments. The program provides eligible Oregon food processors with a five-year property tax exemption on new machinery and equipment, encouraging companies to reinvest and grow in Oregon. In 2025, many businesses invested in automation-such as case packers, closers, formers, and case stackers-largely in response to workforce shortages and injury concerns. The program continues to grow and remains an important tool supporting Oregon’s food processing industry.
  - The ODA is launching the first-of-its-kind “**Distribution First Buyer Event,**” a new model designed to remove one of the biggest barriers between regional food producers and retail buyers: logistics. Traditionally, buyer events focus on product discovery first, leaving distribution as an afterthought. However, we have consistently heard from retailers that they are often excited to discover outstanding new products—only to later learn that the maker does not have distribution in place, or that larger distributors are unable or unwilling to work with small- and mid-sized regional brands. This disconnect

has limited opportunities for both buyers and the local companies we champion. The Distribution First Buyer Event flips that model. In partnership with Organically Grown Company and other collaborators, we are leading with confirmed distribution infrastructure before the buying conversations begin. Every participating brand will have access to a fully functional logistics pathway into the Seattle and Western Washington market, including a centralized drop point, over-the-road freight coordination, and final-mile distribution. By ensuring distribution readiness upfront, buyers can confidently write orders at the event, knowing products can move immediately and efficiently into their stores. At the same time, regional producers gain a clear, streamlined path to market—eliminating a major hurdle that has historically slowed growth. This approach aligns product discovery with real-world execution, creating a more efficient, scalable, and results-driven marketplace for both retailers and regional food companies.

- The ODA is planning to take eight companies to the National Restaurant Association Trade Show in Chicago this May. This will be our second year hosting an Oregon Pavilion, providing Oregon companies with the opportunity to showcase their products directly to a foodservice buyer audience. The pavilion is part of our broader strategy to expand domestic market opportunities for Oregon companies.
- Managed Virtual Trade Mission (December 3-4, 2025) with buyers from China and Hong Kong. Oregon hazelnuts were among the products/companies participating in this trade mission.
- Completed 3rd group of companies participating in the WUSATA Ingredient Key Attributes & Applications Research wrapped up on December 31<sup>st</sup>. This project managed by ODA staff and contracted with the OSU Food Innovation Center, ran throughout 2025. It helped companies marketing food & beverage ingredients to potential buyers in SE Asia. However, many companies have found it valuable for marketing their ingredients in the US market as well. In total, 15 companies participated in 2025, each having up to two ingredients go the FIC's culinary research. Some of the Oregon ingredients included: hazelnut paste, hazelnut oil, dried blueberries, IQF blueberries, IQF strawberries, canned sweet cherries, mint oil, black garlic, black barley, purple barley flour, and potato flakes. In the spring of 2026, we will have the final group of 5 companies participate in the research.
- Worked with other Western departments of agriculture and WUSATA to submit over \$3 million in funding requests to the USDA's new one-time funding for agriculture product promotion through the America First Trade Promotion Program (AFTPP). The funding requests will support international marketing in the form of outbound and inbound missions, trade show opportunities, and other promotion of food and agricultural products.
- Introduced fresh cherry lead from Thailand to Oregon supplier. This was a lead that resulted from an Oregon SCBG funding inbound trade mission to Oregon in 2024. The buyer in Thailand learned about the importer in Malaysia that is importing fresh cherries from Oregon after visiting the farm on the 2024 trade mission.
- Coordinated WUSATA and ODA seminar on February 12, 2026 about funding and other resources for food and agriculture businesses wanting to expand their sales outside the US.
- Managed an inbound trade mission from India focused on dried fruit and nuts on February 25-27, 2026.
- The ODA is preparing for Seafood Expo Global in Barcelona as part of our strategy to increase awareness and drive sales of Pacific Northwest seafood in international markets. This will be our fifth year participating in the event, and each year we continue to expand both our presence and our sales impact for participating seafood companies. The Pacific Northwest Seafood Pavilion is funded through WUSATA. As part of our efforts, we provide a culinary experience featuring two to three highly trained seafood chefs who showcase products through live cooking demonstrations and ongoing samples. At

the same time, we work with our European contractor to bring qualified buyers into the pavilion for one-on-one meetings with our seafood processors, creating meaningful business connections and export opportunities.

- The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) has applied to the United Kingdom seeking suspension of tariffs on five Oregon seafood species: Pink Shrimp, Black Cod, Dover Sole, Petrale Sole, and Albacore Tuna. This request follows the recent Oregon–UK Memorandum of Understanding and reflects a strategic opportunity to strengthen trade relations. The targeted species are widely consumed in the UK and are not expected to disrupt domestic production or processing.

- **Grant Programs**

- Ag Housing Grant Program -- The Oregon Agricultural Workforce Housing Program is now closed. We had a total of \$4,884,158.55 awarded to 107 grants.
- 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 anticipates opening the 2025 reimbursement period with the 2026 program in summer of 2026. Please sign up for updates using the link below. Updated 1/14/2026. Subscribe: <https://oda.fyi/subscribe>
- Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) Grant Program -- All 8 Infrastructure Projects have been approved by USDA. All Infrastructure Projects have received their first disbursement; some have received their second disbursement - \$1,704,923.44 in total funds disbursed. Construction Prep has started for all Infrastructure Projects. Oregon State is well over 50% done with their infrastructure project. The other 7 are at least 25% completed. Site visits for the Infrastructure Projects will take place in the Spring to check on the progress.

Of the 17 Equipment Only Projects, 14 have officially been closed out, 3 are awaiting future site-visits, In total, 14 Amendments were approved by USDA for the Equipment Only Projects. \$998,940.06 total funds have been disbursed for the Equipment Only Projects.

The Supply Chain Coordination Project is moving forward. An Amendment was approved by USDA on February 9<sup>th</sup>; there will be one more Amendment needed before the project is under way.

- Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (SCBGP) -- The 2026 application period is now closed and grants are under review. We will release a list of grant summaries when the grant agreements are awarded in October of this year. All other open years of grants are on track submitting reports and reimbursement requests.
- Wolf Depredation Grant – ODA updated the rules for the Wolf Depredation Compensation and Financial Assistance Grant Program in December 2025 following passage of SB 777 (2025 Oregon Legislature). The program helps counties support livestock producers affected by wolves. Funds can be used to:
  - Compensate producers for confirmed or probable livestock losses (*depredation*) caused by wolves.
  - Pay for non-lethal tools and activities (*prevention*) that help prevent conflicts between wolves and livestock.

- Cover up to 90% of the administration (*necessary expenses*) to operate a local compensation program.

ODA provides funding each year as a block grant to counties. After ODA determines award amounts, each county enters into a grant agreement with ODA that outlines program requirements.

Applications for the 2026 grant cycle closed on February 28. These grants will reimburse deprecation losses from 2025 and support prevention activities in 2026. ODA expects to make awards to counties in April or May. Counties will then issue payments to producers.

#### ○ **Commodity Commission Oversight Program**

- Spring Commissioner Recruiting: In March, we will begin recruiting for approximately 57 commissioner positions on Oregon's 22 agricultural commodity commissions. Commissioners serve 3- or 4-year appointments, depending on the commodity commission. Please share this with anyone who may be interested in helping guide marketing and research efforts in their industry.

In addition to a press release and social media outreach, the oversight program's webpage will have all the details. Visit: <https://oda.direct/commissions>

## **Tribal Affairs**

John Boyes – Tribal Liaison & Organizational Affairs Coordinator; [John.Boyes@oda.oregon.gov](mailto:John.Boyes@oda.oregon.gov) (971) 719-1418

## **Required Reporting**

2025 Government-to-Government Report submitted and published. Available here: [Government-to-Government 2025 Annual Report](#)

## **Outreach and Engagement**

- Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) Winter Convention – Portland, OR – February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
The Governor's Office, in partnership with Tribal Affairs staff from Washington, hosted a meet and greet session for agency tribal liaisons to connect. John Boyes, ODA's Tribal Liaison, attended for ODA and shared updates on ODA's rulemaking efforts and grant opportunities.
- Cluster Groups – managed by the Legislative Commission on Indian Services (LCIS)  
ODA participated in the following Cluster Groups:
  - Economic Development
    - This is ODA's first year as a member of this cluster group
  - Cultural Resources
    - Dr. Ryan Scholz (ODA's State Vet) presented to this Cluster Group on current infectious disease control and planning work.

## **Updating ODA's Rulemaking Processes**

Senior Policy Advisor and agency Rules Coordinator, Sunny Summers, has been working closely with ODA's Tribal Liaison, John Boyes, to refine timelines and processes for rulemaking at ODA. Changes over the last quarter included requesting at least two month's advance notice of proposed rulemaking from ODA program staff to provide Tribes sufficient notice and opportunity to respond or engage in consultation. Notifications are sent to all nine federally recognized Tribes in Oregon in advance of rulemaking at ODA at least two months in advance when possible. Feedback from several tribal partners has been positive.

## MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture  
From: Board Coordinator  
Subject: Agenda Item number 3: *Budget and Legislative Updates*

### I. Introduction

The Board will hear updates from the outcome of the 2026 Legislative Short Session. Topics will include budget impacts to ODA and legislation affecting food, agriculture, and the state.

# BUDGET REVISIONS

At the start of the 2026 Short Session, state economists shared an improved economic forecast from their December 2025 forecast. Stronger readings on economic activity, including GDP and profitability, increased projected tax receipts and increasing video lottery sales were key driving factors for the improved outlook. Still, Legislators were tasked with rebalancing the 2025-2027 biennial state budget to address a General Fund deficit of **\$275 million** and a Lottery Fund deficit of **\$44 million** from the 2025 close-of-session forecast.

## Impacts to the Oregon Department of Agriculture



**\$236,014.00 - General Fund**

### Vacancy Savings

As part of the state's cost-saving measures, ODA's 2025-2027 biennial budget was reduced by \$236,014. The total reduction includes vacancy savings from several unfilled administrative and policy support positions at ODA.



**\$1,800,000.00 - General Fund**

### Japanese Beetle Eradication

ODA's Japanese Beetle Eradication program did not receive funds during the 2025 Session. [HB 5204](#) from the 2026 Session allocated \$1.8 million in General Funds for ODA's continued work to protect key agriculture industries like nurseries and vineyards. Funds will be used to continue treatments focused on primary population hot spots, targeting the remaining 1,918 adults trapped in 2025. ODA's efforts have shown a 92% decrease from baseline detections.



**\$1,000,000.00 - General Fund**

### Wolf Depredation & Prevention

As interactions between Oregon's wolves and livestock operations increase, so does demand for ODA's Wolf Depredation & Prevention Grant Program. [HB 5204](#) from the 2026 Session appropriated \$1 million in additional funds to compensate ranchers for depredation prevention measures and livestock losses.

# 2026 LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Impacts ODA Directly

Impacts Agriculture and/or Food Industries

Impacts Regulatory/Governance Processes

## HB 4034 - Animal Rescue Entities

- Clarified that veterinary facilities do not meet the definition of an animal rescue entity.
- Changed some of the record keeping requirements for an animal rescue entity.
- Directed ODA to enforce provisions related to animal rescue entities.

## HB 4134 - Transient Lodging Tax

- Increased statewide lodging tax to fund natural resource programs, including additional funding for ODA's Wolf Depredation and Prevention Grant Program.

## HB 4084 - Joint Permitting Council

- Established the Joint Permitting Council.
- Directed the Council to develop and administer a "fast track" permitting system for eligible projects including projects that meet certain \$ thresholds depending on their location and other criteria established by the Council.

## HB 4065 - Slow Pay No Pay Rules

- Changed the interest a seed dealer must pay on delinquent amounts from 1% to 1% above the current bank prime loan interest rate.
- Required that seed dealers must pay delinquent amounts within 30 days of receiving a delinquency notice from ODA.
- Increased maximum fees for payment verification and for sending delinquency notices.

## HB 4061 - Unified Trade Strategy

- Authorized Business Oregon to give grants to small businesses to offset federal tariff costs.
- Directed Business Oregon to coordinate with other state and local bodies (including ODA) to update Oregon's unified trade strategy.

## SB 1539 - Cattle Pregnancy Verification

- Allowed the Oregon State Veterinary Medical Examining Board to adopt rules to allow non-licensed veterinarians to verify pregnancy in cattle for a period of 5 years.

## HB 4153 - Farm Stores

- Allowed counties to approve farm stores as an additional use on land zoned exclusively for farm use, with certain guardrails.

## HB 4130 - Farm Use in the Tax Code

- Allowed property tax special assessment for land under processing facilities that:
  - Process farm products OR
  - Process farm crops into biofuels.

## SB 1525 - Blue Economy Task Force

- Established a task force focused on coastal economic development and resources.

## HB 4177 - Serial Communications under the Public Meetings Law

- Restated the serial communications prohibitions for public meetings law purposes.

## HB 4161 - Use of Official Position

- Allowed public bodies to give public officials food, beverages, and merchandise.

## HB 4005 - Water Professionals Appreciation Week

- Designated the first Saturday of October each year through the end of the Sunday of the following week as "Water Professionals Appreciation Week."

**Enrolled**  
**House Bill 5204**

Sponsored by JOINT COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS (at the request of Representative Tawna Sanchez)

CHAPTER .....

AN ACT

Relating to state financial administration; creating new provisions; amending section 13, chapter 616, Oregon Laws 2025, and sections 4 and 110, chapter 628, Oregon Laws 2025; and declaring an emergency.

**Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

**ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM AREA**

**SECTION 1.** Notwithstanding any other law limiting expenditures, the limitation on expenditures established by section 2 (1), chapter 517, Oregon Laws 2025, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, as the maximum limit for payment of expenses from fees, moneys or other revenues, including Miscellaneous Receipts and federal funds received from charges, but excluding lottery funds and federal funds not described in section 2, chapter 517, Oregon Laws 2025, collected or received by the Oregon Department of Administrative Services, for the Chief Operating Office, is increased by \$252,699, for the Office of Economic Analysis.

**SECTION 2.** Notwithstanding any other law limiting expenditures, the limitation on expenditures established by section 2 (2), chapter 517, Oregon Laws 2025, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, as the maximum limit for payment of expenses from fees, moneys or other revenues, including Miscellaneous Receipts and federal funds received from charges, but excluding lottery funds and federal funds not described in section 2, chapter 517, Oregon Laws 2025, collected or received by the Oregon Department of Administrative Services, for the Chief Financial Office, is increased by \$4,400,000, for the payment of State Data Center charges and contracts for out-of-state tax reporting.

**SECTION 3.** Notwithstanding any other law limiting expenditures, the limitation on expenditures established by section 2 (4), chapter 517, Oregon Laws 2025, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, as the maximum limit for payment of expenses from fees, moneys or other revenues, including Miscellaneous Receipts and federal funds received from charges, but excluding lottery funds and federal funds not described in section 2, chapter 517, Oregon Laws 2025, collected or received by the Oregon Department of Administrative Services, for the Chief Human Resources Office, is increased by \$781,024, to support new client agencies and investigation workload.

**SECTION 4.** Notwithstanding any other law limiting expenditures, the limitation on expenditures established by section 2 (5)(a), chapter 517, Oregon Laws 2025, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, as the maximum limit for payment of expenses from fees, moneys or

**SECTION 199.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the General Fund appropriation made to the Judicial Department by section 1 (6), chapter 522, Oregon Laws 2025, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, for third-party debt collection, is decreased by \$2,069,266, for a budget realignment.

**SECTION 200.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the General Fund appropriation made to the Judicial Department by section 1 (2), chapter 522, Oregon Laws 2025, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, for operations, is increased by \$3,277,526, for a budget realignment.

**SECTION 201.** Notwithstanding any other law limiting expenditures, the limitation on expenditures established by section 2 (3), chapter 522, Oregon Laws 2025, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, as the maximum limit for payment of expenses from fees, moneys or other revenues, including Miscellaneous Receipts and including reimbursements from federal service agreements, but excluding lottery funds and federal funds not described in section 2, chapter 522, Oregon Laws 2025, collected or received by the Judicial Department, for the State Court Facilities and Security Account, is decreased by \$6,940,350, for a budget realignment.

**SECTION 202.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the General Fund appropriation made to the Judicial Department by section 1 (7), chapter 522, Oregon Laws 2025, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, for the State Court Facilities and Security Account, is increased by \$6,940,350, for a budget realignment.

**SECTION 203.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Judicial Department, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$2,400,000, for distribution to the Oregon State Bar for immigration legal services.

#### NATURAL RESOURCES PROGRAM AREA

**SECTION 204.** Notwithstanding any other law limiting expenditures, the limitation on expenditures established by section 2 (3), chapter 419, Oregon Laws 2025, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, as the maximum limit for payment of expenses from fees, moneys or other revenues, including Miscellaneous Receipts, and including federal funds for contract services, but excluding lottery funds and federal funds not described in section 2, chapter 419, Oregon Laws 2025, collected or received by the State Department of Agriculture, for natural resources, is increased by \$372,490, for a Japanese beetle market access program.

**SECTION 205.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the General Fund appropriation made to the Department of Environmental Quality by section 1 (4), chapter 426, Oregon Laws 2025, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, for agency management, is increased by \$1,121,515, for cyberattack response and recovery.

**SECTION 206.** Notwithstanding any other law limiting expenditures, the limitation on expenditures established by section 2 (4), chapter 520, Oregon Laws 2025, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, as the maximum limit for payment of expenses from fees, moneys or other revenues, including Miscellaneous Receipts and including federal funds from the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund, but excluding lottery funds and federal funds not described in section 2, chapter 520, Oregon Laws 2025, collected or received by the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, for capital improvement, is increased by \$1,502,845, for rebuilding the Klamath Hatchery hatch house.

**SECTION 207.** Notwithstanding any other law limiting expenditures, the limitation on expenditures established by section 4 (1), chapter 609, Oregon Laws 2025, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, as the maximum limit for payment of expenses from federal funds, other than those described in section 2, chapter 609, Oregon Laws 2025, collected or received by the State Forestry Department, for agency administration, is increased by \$5,700,000, for federal indirect charges.

**SECTION 242.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the General Fund appropriation made to the Land Use Board of Appeals by section 1, chapter 428, Oregon Laws 2025, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, is increased by \$24,025, for contract human resources.

**SECTION 243.** Notwithstanding any other law limiting expenditures, the limitation on expenditures established by section 2, chapter 424, Oregon Laws 2025, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, as the maximum limit for payment of expenses from fees, moneys or other revenues, including Miscellaneous Receipts, but excluding lottery funds and federal funds, collected or received by the State Department of Energy, is increased by \$513,984, for climate strategy and initiatives.

**SECTION 244.** Notwithstanding any other law limiting expenditures, the limitation on expenditures established by section 2, chapter 424, Oregon Laws 2025, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, as the maximum limit for payment of expenses from fees, moneys or other revenues, including Miscellaneous Receipts, but excluding lottery funds and federal funds, collected or received by the State Department of Energy, is increased by \$1,819,810, for solar electric systems and storage.

**SECTION 245.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the General Fund appropriation made to the State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries by section 1 (2), chapter 521, Oregon Laws 2025, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, for mined land reclamation, is increased by \$700,000, for ePermitting.

**SECTION 246.** Notwithstanding any other law limiting expenditures, the limitation on expenditures established by section 2, chapter 424, Oregon Laws 2025, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, as the maximum limit for payment of expenses from fees, moneys or other revenues, including Miscellaneous Receipts, but excluding lottery funds and federal funds, collected or received by the State Department of Energy, is increased by \$834,361, for the Heat Pump Deployment Program.

**SECTION 247.** Notwithstanding any other law limiting expenditures, the limitation on expenditures established by section 2, chapter 424, Oregon Laws 2025, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, as the maximum limit for payment of expenses from fees, moneys or other revenues, including Miscellaneous Receipts, but excluding lottery funds and federal funds, collected or received by the State Department of Energy, is increased by \$3,060,871, for the Oregon Rental Home Heat Pump Program.

**SECTION 248.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the General Fund appropriation made to the State Department of Fish and Wildlife by section 1 (6), chapter 520, Oregon Laws 2025, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, for State Police enforcement, is decreased by \$3,118,767, for a budget realignment.

**SECTION 249.** The allocation to the Department of Environmental Quality of moneys deposited into the Watershed Conservation Operating Fund by section 5, chapter 527, Oregon Laws 2025, for activities and projects to implement Article XV, section 4b, of the Oregon Constitution, is increased by \$250,000.

**SECTION 250.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the General Fund appropriation made to the State Department of Agriculture by section 1 (3), chapter 419, Oregon Laws 2025, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, for natural resources, is increased by \$1,800,000, for Japanese beetle eradication.

**SECTION 251.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the General Fund appropriation made to the State Department of Agriculture by section 1 (1), chapter 419, Oregon Laws 2025, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, for administrative and support services, is increased by \$1,000,000, for deposit in the Wolf Management Compensation and Proactive Trust Fund established under ORS 610.155, for grants.

**SECTION 252.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the General Fund appropriation made to the State Parks and Recreation Department by section 1, chapter 524, Oregon Laws 2025, for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, is increased by \$274,590, for debt service.

Agency/Program/Funds	Chapter/ Section	\$ Adjustment
<b>State Department of Agriculture:</b>		
<b>Administrative and support services</b>		
General Fund	Ch. 419 1(1)	+146,266
Other funds	Ch. 419 2(1)	+481,717
<b>Food safety</b>		
General Fund	Ch. 419 1(2)	+438,606
Other funds	Ch. 419 2(2)	+1,077,439
Federal funds	Ch. 419 4(1)	+12,321
<b>Natural resources</b>		
General Fund	Ch. 419 1(3)	+431,452
Other funds	Ch. 419 2(3)	+928,353
Federal funds	Ch. 419 4(2)	+217,807
<b>Market access</b>		
General Fund	Ch. 419 1(4)	+94,637
Other funds	Ch. 419 2(4)	+837,186
Federal funds	Ch. 419 4(3)	+113,220
<b>Parks and Natural Resources Fund</b>		
Lottery funds	Ch. 419 3	+363,130
<b>Columbia River Gorge Commission:</b>		
General Fund	Ch. 334 1	+455
<b>State Department of Energy:</b>		
<b>Energy planning and innovation</b>		
General Fund	Ch. 424 1(1)	+152,860
<b>Energy development services</b>		
General Fund	Ch. 424 1(2)	+75,636
<b>Nuclear safety and emergency response</b>		
General Fund	Ch. 424 1(3)	+6,940
<b>Administrative services</b>		
General Fund	Ch. 424 1(4)	+37,868
Other funds	Ch. 424 2	+1,255,279
Federal funds	Ch. 424 3	+249,879
<b>Department of Environmental Quality:</b>		
<b>Air quality</b>		
General Fund	Ch. 426 1(1)	+983,699
Other funds	Ch. 426 2(1)	+2,701,928
Federal funds	Ch. 426 5(1)	+421,639
<b>Water quality</b>		
General Fund	Ch. 426 1(2)	+2,357,975
Other funds	Ch. 426 2(2)	+1,344,319
Federal funds	Ch. 426 5(2)	+356,999
<b>Land quality</b>		
General Fund	Ch. 426 1(3)	+77,136
Other funds	Ch. 426 2(3)	+2,801,781

General Fund	Ch. 586 8	-767,320
Legislative Fiscal Officer:		
General Fund	Ch. 586 14(1)	-344,314
Legislative Policy and Research Committee		
General Fund	Ch. 586 15	-1,202,908
Legislative Revenue Officer:		
General Fund	Ch. 586 16	-237,066

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**SECTION 341. Natural Resources.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the authorized appropriations and expenditure limitations for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, for the following agencies and programs are changed by the amounts specified:

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Agency/Program/Funds	2025	
	Oregon Laws Chapter/ Section	\$ Adjustment
<b>State Department of Agriculture:</b>		
<b>Administrative and support services</b>		
General Fund	Ch. 419 1(1)	-236,014
State Department of Energy:		
Energy development services		
General Fund	Ch. 424 1(2)	-1,200,000
Department of Environmental Quality:		
Water quality		
General Fund	Ch. 426 1(2)	-162,000
Agency management		
General Fund	Ch. 426 1(4)	-695,445
State Department of Fish and Wildlife:		
Fish Division		
General Fund	Ch. 520 1(1)	-79,853
Wildlife Division		
General Fund	Ch. 520 1(2)	-66,820
Administrative Services Division		
General Fund	Ch. 520 1(3)	-13,326
State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries:		
Geologic survey		
General Fund	Ch. 521 1(1)	-109,744
Department of Land Conservation and Development:		
Planning program		
General Fund	Ch. 551 1(1)	-540,539

**SECTION 343.** The unit and section captions used in this 2026 Act are provided only for the convenience of the reader and do not become part of the statutory law of this state or express any legislative intent in the enactment of this 2026 Act.

**EMERGENCY CLAUSE**

**SECTION 344.** This 2026 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2026 Act takes effect on its passage.

**Passed by House March 6, 2026**

.....  
Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

.....  
Julie Fahey, Speaker of House

**Passed by Senate March 6, 2026**

.....  
Rob Wagner, President of Senate

**Received by Governor:**

.....M,....., 2026

**Approved:**

.....M,....., 2026

.....  
Tina Kotek, Governor

**Filed in Office of Secretary of State:**

.....M,....., 2026

.....  
Tobias Read, Secretary of State

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.

340	LFO	(344,314)	-	-	-	(344,314)	Carryover Balances (2023-25 General Fund Reversions)
340	LPRO	(1,202,908)	-	-	-	(1,202,908)	Carryover Balances (2023-25 General Fund Reversions)
340	LRO	(237,066)	-	-	-	(237,066)	Carryover Balances (2023-25 General Fund Reversions)

**NATURAL RESOURCES PROGRAM AREA**

SECTION	AGENCY	GENERAL FUND	LOTTERY FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	FEDERAL FUNDS	TOTAL FUNDS	DESCRIPTION
341	DEQ	(84,000)	-	-	-	(84,000)	Vacancy Savings
341	DEQ	(78,000)	-	-	-	(78,000)	Vacancy Savings
341	DEQ	(695,445)	-	-	-	(695,445)	Vacancy Savings
341	DLCD	(40,539)	-	-	-	(40,539)	Position Elimination
341	DLCD	-	-	(162,157)	-	(162,157)	Position Elimination
341	DLCD	(500,000)	-	-	-	(500,000)	Services and Supplies Reduction
341	DOGAMI	(5,000)	-	-	-	(5,000)	Services and Supplies Reduction
341	DOGAMI	(92,673)	-	-	-	(92,673)	Vacancy Savings
341	DOGAMI	(8,650)	-	-	-	(8,650)	Vacancy Savings
341	DOGAMI	(3,421)	-	-	-	(3,421)	Vacancy Savings
341	DSL	(221,288)	-	-	-	(221,288)	Fund Shifts (General Fund to Other Funds in the Planner & Housing Permitting Program)
341	DSL	-	-	221,288	-	221,288	Fund Shifts (General Fund to Other Funds in the Planner & Housing Permitting Program)
341	ODA	(236,014)	-	-	-	(236,014)	Vacancy Savings
341	ODFW	(124,000)	-	-	-	(124,000)	Vacancy Savings
341	ODFW	(35,999)	-	-	-	(35,999)	Vacancy Savings
341	ODOE	(1,200,000)	-	-	-	(1,200,000)	Other Operations Reduction (Grid Resilience match not required in 2025-27)
341	OPRD	-	(1,242,052)	-	-	(1,242,052)	Grant/Pass-Through Funds Reduction (Aligned with March 2026 lottery revenue forecast)
341	OPRD	-	(2,973,814)	-	-	(2,973,814)	Services and Supplies Reduction
341	OPRD	-	(310,760)	-	-	(310,760)	Vacancy Savings
341	OPRD	-	(78,149)	-	-	(78,149)	Vacancy Savings
341	OPRD	-	-	(78,889)	-	(78,889)	Vacancy Savings
341	OPRD	-	(363,432)	-	-	(363,432)	Vacancy Savings
341	OPRD	-	-	(372,996)	-	(372,996)	Vacancy Savings



# Memo

Date:	November 3, 2025
To:	The Honorable Senator Kate Lieber, Co-Chair The Honorable Representative Tawna Sanchez, Co-Chair Interim Joint Committee on Ways and Means
From:	Lisa Charpillouz Hanson, Director, Oregon Department of Agriculture
Subject:	Reduction Cover Letter

## MISSION AND REDUCTION STRATEGY

The mission of the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) is to **Protect. Promote. Prosper.** In responding to statewide budget challenges, this mission is our compass, guiding every decision we make on behalf of the people of Oregon.

This is a complex challenge. ODA’s programs are deeply interconnected, meaning any reduction sends ripples through our agency, our partners, and the communities we serve. Therefore, our strategy is designed to protect our core operations, the foundational duties the people of Oregon have entrusted to us. While these choices are difficult and will limit our ability to tackle new or expanding responsibilities, they are essential to sustaining our capacity to perform our most critical functions and fulfilling our role as part of the solution for Oregon.

## REDUCTION OPTIONS:

All proposed reductions are one-time, except where noted.

### Reductions

We have designed these General Fund options to be as strategic and minimally disruptive as possible. First, we honor all existing contracts; no proposed reductions affect funds already committed. Second, to support our partners at the Department of Environmental Quality, the reduction to the Pesticide Stewardship Partnership is phased over time to allow for a smooth transition. Finally, many of these options, particularly the Special Payment reductions, are scalable, providing crucial flexibility.

To achieve the Lottery Funds target, we propose a one-time fund shift. This can be temporarily covered by the Nursery Program's revenues, which are sufficient to bear this shift without compromising its essential services.

The options presented for Other Funds are intended to realign dedicated fee revenue with the specific responsibilities for which it is statutorily authorized. Over time, these funds have borne costs previously funded by the General Fund and have been used to support new programs without adequate resources. This has created unsustainable financial pressure on the programs these fees were originally meant to support.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture remains committed to working with the Legislative Fiscal Office, DAS Chief Financial Office, and the Governor’s Office to identify solutions that maintain core services while balancing statewide fiscal constraints.

Cc: Amanda Beitel, Legislative Fiscal Officer  
Kate Nass, Chief Financial Officer  
Katie Bannikov, Legislative Fiscal Office Analyst  
Sione Filimoehala, Chief Financial Office Analyst

Agency Name - ODA																
2025-27 Biennium																
2025-27 LAB 46,292,447 10,014,286 99,288,854 23,782,039 - 179,377,626																
Detail of Reductions to 2025-27 Legislatively Adopted Budget																
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Priority (ranked most to least preferred)		Agency	SCR or Activity Initials	Program Unit/Activity Description	GF	LF	OF	NL-OF	FF	NL-FF	TOTAL FUNDS	Pos.	FTE	Gov. Reduction Target Yes / No	One-Time Yes / No	Describe the reduction and associated impact on services and outcomes. Please identify the source of Other Funds reductions.
Dept	Prgm/ Div															
ODA	1%	603	Admin	Vacancy Savings	436,626						\$ 436,626			Yes	Yes	Holds vacant NRS 5 (Admin) and OPA 2 (Admin) vacant for 24 months
ODA	1%	603	NRD	Reduces Pesticide Stewardship Partnership S&S related to ODA position	25,998						\$ 25,998			Yes	Yes	Reduces ODA Pesticide Stewardship Partnership S&S . Equal OF reduction
ODA	1%-2.5%	603	Agencywide	Additional Vacancy Savings, Position Related S&S including Mass Transit Tax	519,748						\$ 519,748			No	Yes	Holds NRS 3 and Food Safety Manager (also OF Reduction) vacant for 24 months. Position-related S&S included.
ODA	1%-2.5%	603	Market Access	Reduce Wolf Depredation Funding	174,938						\$ 174,938			No	Yes	Reduces portion of Wolf Depredation funding. Total GF provided was \$1,247,452. This leaves \$1,072,514 GF remaining.
ODA	2.5%-5%	603	Market Access	Further Reduces Wolf Depredation Funding	132,180						\$ 132,180			No	Yes	Further reduces Wolf Depredation funding. If above reduction is also taken this would leave \$940,334 remaining.
ODA	2.5%-5%	603	Market Access	Reduces Farm to School Equipment grants	307,118						\$ 307,118			No	Yes	Reduces Farm to School grant. Total GF provided was \$521,000. This leaves \$213,882 remaining.
ODA	2.5%-5%	603	Market Access	Predator Control Reductions	307,118						\$ 307,118			No	Yes	Reduce Special Payments to Counties. Total GF provided was \$545,660. This leaves \$238,542 remaining.
ODA	2.5%-5%	603	NRD	Halve Pesticide Monitoring Partnership Payments to DEQ	410,897						\$ 410,897			No	Yes	Currently pays for 4.0 FTE at DEQ to process water samples for ODA re: pesticides. This reduces special payment to half a year. Equal OF reduction.
ODA	0.01	603	NRD	Vacancy Savings		100,143					\$ 100,143			Yes	Yes	Hold vacant roughly 6 months of a NRS 4 (Ag Water Quality)
ODA	1%-2.5%	603	NRD	Vacancy Savings		150,214					\$ 150,214			No	Yes	Hold vacant NRS 4 (Ag Water Quality) an additional 10 months
ODA	2.5%-5%	603	NRD	Vacancy Savings and position related S&S including Mass Transit Tax		141,093					\$ 141,093			No	Yes	Hold vacant NRS 4 (Ag Water Quality) remainder of the biennium including position related S&S
ODA	2.5%-5%	603	Plant	Reduce LF support for 2 LF positions		109,264					\$ 109,264			No	Yes	One-time fund shift from Lottery Fund shift to Nursery, offsetting cut to OF costs to Nursery for Division Director and Office Manager
ODA	0.01	603	Market Access	Reduce OF limitation without revenue source in Comm. Commission			200,000				\$ 200,000			Yes	Yes	Reduce limitation without corresponding revenue
ODA	0.01	603	NRD	Reduces Pesticide Stewardship Partnership S&S related to ODA position			25,998				\$ 25,998			Yes	Yes	Reduces Pesticide Stewardship Partnership S&S for ODA position. Equal GF reduction
ODA	0.01	603	Agencywide	Vacancy Savings			755,729				\$ 755,729			Yes	Yes	Holds vacant two Weights and Measures Positions (CS 2 and OM 1) and one Food Safety (NRS 3)
ODA	1%-2.5%	603	Agencywide	Assorted S&S Cuts			730,581				\$ 730,581			No	Yes	\$224,477 - Pesticide, \$166,333 - OISC, \$156,300 - Lab Services, \$127,567 - Nursery, \$55,904 - Christmas Tree
ODA	1%-2.5%	603	Food Safety	Eliminate Animal Rescue Entity program			366,672				\$ 366,672			No	No	Eliminates Animal Rescue Entities. Position would stay in Animal Health and be supported by Animal Health funds
ODA	1%-2.5%	603	Plant	Eliminate one NRS 3 in Hemp			284,330				\$ 284,330	(1)	(1.00)	No	No	Eliminate vacant position in Hemp
ODA	2.5%-5%	603	Plant	Reduce LF support for 2 LF positions, shift to Nursery			(109,264)				\$ (109,264)			No	Yes	Fundshift parts of two positions on to Nursery. Equal savings to LF
ODA	2.5%-5%	603	Agencywide	Vacancy Savings. Includes position related S&S			1,558,498				\$ 1,558,498			No	Yes	Hold vacant OPA 2 (Admin), AS 1 (Hemp), NRS 3 (Plant Health Lab), OS 1 (Livestock ID), Food Safety Manager, Organics Manager, NRS 2 (Organics), NRS 1 (Certifications)
ODA	2.5%-5%	603	Food Safety	Reduce Weights and Measures S&S and Capital Outlay			443,510				\$ 443,510			No	Yes	Reduces Weights and Measures Capital Outlay and S&S
ODA	2.5%-5%	603	NRD	Eliminate funding to OHA for one staff member to support PARC			297,491				\$ 297,491			No	No	Eliminates Special Payment to OHA to pay for 1 FTE (Toxicologist) to support Pesticide Analytical Response Center (PARC)
ODA	2.5%-5%	603	NRD	Halve Pesticide Monitoring Partnership Payments to DEQ			410,898				\$ 410,898			No	Yes	Currently pays for 4.0 FTE at DEQ to process water samples for ODA re: pesticides. This reduces special payment to half a year. Equal GF reduction.
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>2,314,623</b>	<b>500,714</b>	<b>4,964,443</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$ 7,779,780</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>(1.00)</b>			
Target (1%)					462,924	100,143	992,889									
Target (2.5%)					1,157,311	250,357	2,482,221									
Target (5%)					2,314,622	500,714	4,964,443									
Difference					1	(0)	(0)									

**Agency Name - ODA**  
2025-27 Biennium

**Detail of Programs in the 2025-27 Legislatively Approved Budget that have been established or expanded since 2021-23**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Agency	SCR	Program Establishment / Expansion			Program Description	GF	LF	OF	NL-OF	FF	NL-FF	TOTAL FUNDS	Pos.	FTE	Implementation Status
		Biennium	Effective Date	Authorization											
603	Animal Health	19-21	1/1/2024	SB 1019	Egg Production Standards							\$ -			Ongoing. Minimal FIS. This bill established new standards for the production and sale of eggs and egg products, which became effective on January 1, 2024. This long lead time required the ODA's Food Safety and Animal Health programs to engage in extensive rulemaking, stakeholder outreach, and development of a new inspection and enforcement framework to ensure compliance by the 2024 deadline.
603	Natural Resources Division	19-21	8/9/2019	HB 2437	Ag Channel Maintenance	251,043						\$ 251,043	1	0.88	Ongoing. This bill established a new framework for agricultural channel maintenance, requiring ODA to participate in the development of rules and guidance for landowners, impacting the Natural Resources Program Area.
603	Natural Resources Division	19-21	9/29/2019	SB 445	Oregon Invasive Species Council Reporting							\$ -			Ongoing. Minimal FIS. This bill required the Oregon Invasive Species Council (OISC), which is administratively housed within the ODA, to provide biennial reports to the legislature. This created a recurring administrative and policy development workload for ODA staff supporting the council.
603	Food Safety/Animal Health	19-21	1/1/2020	SB 883	Animal Rescue Entity (AREs)	316,133		114,168				\$ 430,301	2	1.50	Ongoing. This bill established the modern regulatory framework for Animal Rescue Entities, placing significant licensing, inspection, and enforcement responsibilities on the ODA's Animal Health Program. GF all one-time. 1 NRS 3 Perm, and .5 FTE LD.
603	Natural Resources Division	19-21	7/15/2019	SB 885	Canola District Extension							\$ -			Ongoing. No Fiscal. This bill extended the Willamette Valley Protected District for canola production until 2023, continuing the ODA's complex and often contentious role in mediating the conflict between the specialty seed industry and canola growers. This issue would be revisited in subsequent sessions.
603	Food Safety/Animal Health	19-21	1/1/2021	HB 4206	State Meat Inspection	237,648		115,000				\$ 352,648	3	0.75	Ongoing. This was foundational legislation, granting the ODA the authority to establish a state meat inspection program equivalent to the federal program. This single bill set in motion the creation of a major new ODA program, which would be built out through subsequent grant funding bills (e.g., HB 2785 in 2021, HB 3410 in 2023) and statutory clarifications.
603	Natural Resources Division	19-21	7/7/2020	SB 1602	Private Forest Accord							\$ -			Ongoing. Minimal FIS for ODA. This bill initiated changes related to the Private Forest Accord and the Pesticide Analytical and Response Center (PARC). The PFA agreement, finalized in October 2021, led to further legislative action in 2022 and impacted how pesticide use is regulated and monitored in forested areas, involving ODA's Pesticides and Water Quality programs and TMDLs.

**Agency Name - ODA**  
2025-27 Biennium

**Detail of Programs in the 2025-27 Legislatively Approved Budget that have been established or expanded since 2021-23**

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Agency	SCR	Program Establishment / Expansion			Program Description	GF	LF	OF	NL-OF	FF	NL-FF	TOTAL FUNDS	Pos.	FTE	Implementation Status
		Biennium	Effective Date	Authorization											
603	Natural Resources Division	21-23	1/1/2022	HB 2031	Pesticide Enforcement Authority							\$ -			Ongoing. Minimal Fiscal. This bill was a critical, federally-mandated update to the ODA's enforcement powers. It expanded the agency's authority to impose civil and criminal penalties for violations of not just state law, but also state rules related to restricted-use pesticides. This change was necessary to align Oregon's pesticide certification plan with new EPA regulations and significantly strengthened the Pesticides Program's regulatory toolkit.
603	Market Access	21-23	9/25/2021	HB 2284	Hemp Commission							\$ -			Ongoing. Minimal Fiscal. This bill established a new commodity commission for the hemp industry. As with Oregon's 23 other commodity commissions, this placed administrative and oversight duties on the ODA. The ODA Director is responsible for appointing commissioners and providing guidance and stewardship as the new commission is formed and begins its work of promotion, research, and education funded by producer assessments.
603	Natural Resources Division	21-23	9/25/2021	HB 2344	Disposable Wipes Labeling							\$ -			Completed. No fiscal. This bill required specific "do not flush" labeling on premoistened nonwoven disposable wipes. While primarily a consumer protection and wastewater infrastructure issue, it intersects with the ODA's Pesticides Program, which is responsible for reviewing the labels of any wipes that are registered as pesticides (e.g., disinfecting wipes) to ensure compliance with all state and federal labeling laws.
603	Natural Resources Division	21-23	1/1/2022	HB 2409	Pesticide Application in Planned Communities							\$ -			Ongoing. No Fiscal. This legislation prohibited homeowners associations (HOAs) from requiring the application of pesticides on an owner's property except for ecological or public health reasons. For the ODA's Pesticides Program, this created a new regulatory context for licensed pesticide applicators, who must now navigate these restrictions when providing services in planned communities.
603	Food Safety/Animal Health	21-23	9/25/2021	HB 2785	State Meat Inspection Grants (Round 1)	2,000,000						\$ 2,000,000			Completed. This bill appropriated the first round of grant funding to help build and upgrade meat processing infrastructure around the state. It positioned the ODA as a administrator of economic development funds, tasked with developing a grant process to alleviate the processing bottlenecks faced by small-scale livestock producers. GF all one-time

**Agency Name - ODA**  
**2025-27 Biennium**

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603	Natural Resources Division	21-23	7/19/2021	HB 3000	Cannabis Regulation Overhaul							\$ -			Ongoing. Minimal Fiscal. Key provisions required the ODA to conduct criminal record checks for hemp license applicants, enhancing program security. It also strengthened multi-agency enforcement efforts against illegal cannabis cultivation, formalizing the ODA's partnership with the OLCC and law enforcement. Most importantly, it directed the ODA to undertake extensive rulemaking to align Oregon's state hemp plan with USDA requirements, a process that was both technically complex and resource-intensive, and was the driving force behind the 21-23 budget's Pkg. 395.
603	Natural Resources Division	21-23	1/1/2022	HB 3185	Agricultural Ditch Maintenance							\$ -			Ongoing,. Minimal Fiscal. This bill made further changes to the agricultural channel maintenance laws, requiring continued engagement from the ODA's Natural Resources Program Area in providing technical guidance and regulatory oversight.
603	Food Safety/Animal Health	21-23	1/1/2022	SB 103	Animal Emergency Plan Transfer							\$ -			Ongoing. Minimal FIS. This bill represented a major shift in statewide emergency management responsibility. It transferred the duty for preparing and maintaining the state's written animal emergency operations plan from the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) to the ODA, with an operative date of July 1, 2022. This made the ODA the lead state agency for animal care, evacuation, and sheltering during major disasters, a significant new responsibility for the Animal Health Program and the State Veterinarian.
603	Admin	21-23	12/14/2021	SB 892	Drought Relief Package							\$ -			Completed. Passed in tandem with SB 5561, this policy bill helped structure the drought relief effort, including the creation of an agricultural forgivable disaster loan program administered by the ODA. Together, these bills equipped the ODA with the financial tools to respond to the widespread economic damage caused by the drought.
603	Admin	21-23	12/14/2021	SB 5561	Ag Disaster Relief	44,000,000	1,000,000		40,000,000			\$ 85,000,000	15	8.51	Completed. \$40M in GF to OF limitation for Oregon Agricultural Disaster Relief Fund. \$5M (\$4M GF, \$1M LF) for Grasshopper and cricket outbreaks. Positions one-time.
603	Food Safety/Animal Health	21-23	4/15/2022	HB 4074	Rebuttal Testing of Cannabis							\$ -			Ongoing. No fiscal. Directed the ODA to require that any rebuttal testing of cannabis (to determine if it is legal hemp or illegal marijuana) be performed by ODA staff in an ODA-operated laboratory. This was a direct precursor to the formal establishment of the Cannabis Reference Laboratory in 2023.

**Agency Name - ODA**  
2025-27 Biennium

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603	Natural Resources Division	21-23	3/7/2022	SB 1564	County Commissions and Denials of Hemp Grower Licenses							\$ -			Ongoing. Minimal FIS. Authorized county commissions to request that the ODA deny new grower licenses in their jurisdiction under certain emergency conditions, adding a new layer of local government coordination to the ODA's licensing process. authorized county commissions to request that the ODA deny new grower licenses in their jurisdiction under certain emergency conditions, adding a new layer of local government coordination to the ODA's licensing process.
603	Natural Resources Division	21-23	6/3/2022	HB 4062	New Pesticide Applicator License							\$ -			Ongoing. Minimal FIS. This bill established a new "noncommercial pesticide applicator" license and a "noncommercial pesticide trainee" certificate. This required the ODA's Pesticides Program to engage in rulemaking to define the scope of these new license types and to develop new training curricula, examination materials, and certification procedures.
603	Admin	21-23	6/3/2022	HB 4077	Environmental Justice Council							\$ -			Ongoing. Minimal fiscal. This legislation codified the former Environmental Justice Task Force into the permanent Environmental Justice Council (EJC) and mandated the development of a statewide environmental justice mapping tool. As a primary natural resource agency, the ODA is required to engage with the EJC and consider the mapping tool in its rulemaking and policy development. This has resulted in a significant, ongoing, and largely unfunded time commitment from senior ODA staff from multiple programs, who must participate in council meetings, technical workgroups, and policy discussions.
603	Food Safety/Animal Health	21-23	3/2/2022	HB 4128	Zoonotic Disease Reporting							\$ -			Completed. Minimal FIS. This bill directed the Legislative Policy and Research Office (LPRO) to prepare a comprehensive report on Oregon's framework for responding to zoonotic diseases. The mandate required extensive consultation with the ODA's State Veterinarian and Animal Health program staff, consuming significant time and resources to provide the necessary data and expert analysis for the report.
603	Animal Health	21-23	4/4/2022	HB 5202	Budget Rebalance Bill - Animal Rescue Entities	180,000						\$ 180,000	2	1.06	Sec 253 allotted one-time GF funding for AREs. 2 LD positions were one-time
603	Admin	23-25	3/29/2023	HB 2001	Ag Housing Grants	5,524,762						\$ 5,524,762	1	0.88	Ongoing. This omnibus housing bill included a provision directing the ODA to provide grants to improve existing agricultural workforce housing. This tasked the ODA with administering a new grant program focused on improving health and safety conditions for farmworkers, expanding the agency's role in addressing social and infrastructure issues within the agricultural sector. Positions and GF one-time but \$1.25M in GF carried forward for 25-27 to pay out remainder of grants. .

**Agency Name - ODA**  
**2025-27 Biennium**

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603	Natural Resources Division	23-25	8/4/2023	HB 2010	Place-based Planning	269,762						\$ 269,762	1	0.88	Ongoing. Place-based planning position and GF ongoing.
603	Market Access	23-25	1/1/2024	HB 2509	Livestock Brand Transfer							\$ -			Completed. No Fiscal. This bill simplified and clarified the process for transferring a recorded livestock brand after the owner's death, including allowing transfer through a will's residuary clause or via a small estate affidavit. This required the ODA's Brands Program to update its procedures, forms, and guidance for livestock producers.
603	Natural Resources Division	23-25	5/3/2023	HB 2687	Tribal Pesticide Applicator License							\$ -			Ongoing. Minimal FIS. This bill established a new public pesticide applicator license specifically for tribal governments, requiring the ODA's Pesticides Program to develop rules and processes for this new license category.
603	Food Safety/Animal Health	23-25	1/1/2024	HB 2689	Small-Scale Rabbit Processing Exemption							\$ -			Completed. Minimal FIS. This legislation created a new licensing exemption for producers who slaughter and process no more than 1,000 rabbits per year on their own farm. This required the ODA's Food Safety and State Meat Inspection programs to develop rules and guidance to define the sanitary and operational standards for this newly exempt category, ensuring food safety while supporting small-scale producers.
603	Food Safety/Animal Health	23-25	9/24/2023	HB 2931	Cannabis Reference Lab			2,281,689				\$ 2,281,689	3	2.64	Ongoing. This bill formally directed the ODA, in consultation with the OHA and OLCC, to establish a cannabis reference laboratory. This was a major new operational mandate, solidifying the ODA's role as the state's primary authority on cannabis testing methodology and regulatory science. The significant fiscal and staffing impacts were addressed through the 2023-25 budget (Pkg. 110 and Pkg. 230). 3 positions permanently funded by OLCC fees.
603	Food Safety/Animal Health	23-25	7/31/2023	HB 3410	State Meat Inspection Grants (Round 2)	9,000,000						\$ 9,000,000			Completed. This bill provided a second round of one-time GF funding for meat processing infrastructure grants, continuing the program established by HB 2785 (2021) and further cementing the ODA's role in administering these crucial economic development funds.
603	Natural Resources Division	23-25	8/4/2023	SB 5506	Omnibus Budget Bill	1,312,000						\$ 1,312,000			Completed. This end-of-session budget reconciliation bill contained funding for numerous state programs. For the ODA, it included funding related to invasive species, such as the Vine Mealybug and the Noxious Weed Lead (NWL) program overseen by the OISC, and wolf funding.

**Agency Name - ODA**  
**2025-27 Biennium**

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603	Food Safety/Animal Health	23-25	1/1/2024	SB 643	Cottage Food (Homemade Foods)							\$ -			Ongoing. Minimal FIS. This bill significantly modified the state's "cottage food" law, expanding the types of homemade foods that can be sold, increasing the annual sales cap to \$50,000, and allowing for online and consignment sales. This required the ODA's Food Safety program to update its rules and guidance for this growing sector of the food economy.
603	Food Safety/Animal Health	23-25	1/1/2024	SB 479	Meat Donation Rules							\$ -			Completed. Minimal FIS. This bill directed the ODA to adopt rules allowing the donation of meat from custom-exempt slaughter and processing facilities to charitable organizations. This required the ODA's Food Safety and Meat Inspection programs to develop a new regulatory framework to ensure the safety of donated meat that has not undergone continuous, carcass-by-carcass inspection.
603	Food Safety/Animal Health	23-25	9/24/2023	SB 507	Farm Direct Marketing							\$ -			Ongoing. Minimal FIS. This bill further expanded Oregon's farm-direct marketing laws, increasing the types of products farmers can sell directly to consumers and raising sales limits, requiring updates to ODA Food Safety guidance.
603	Food Safety/Animal Health	23-25	5/8/2023	SB 545	Reusable Containers							\$ -			Completed. Minimal FIS. This bill directed the ODA and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to adopt rules allowing consumers to bring their own reusable containers to food establishments for refills. ODA conducted this through a proactive and significant rulemaking effort prior to session, within the ODA's Food Safety Program to develop sanitary standards and procedures that would protect public health while enabling waste reduction.
603	Food Safety/Animal Health	23-25	1/1/2024	SB 57	Brucellosis Vaccination Requirement Removal							\$ -			Completed. No Fiscal. This bill removed the long-standing statutory requirement for mandatory brucellosis vaccination of female beef cattle. This was a policy shift that required the ODA's Animal Health Program to amend state import rules, disease surveillance protocols, and guidance for veterinarians and producers.
603	Natural Resources Division	23-25	1/1/2024	SB 775	SWCD Election Eligibility							\$ -			Ongoing. No Fiscal. This bill changed the eligibility requirements for individuals to serve as zone directors on the boards of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) in more populous counties. As the agency with oversight responsibility for SWCDs, the ODA had to update its election guidance and procedures to reflect this change.
603	Natural Resources Division	23-25	7/18/2023	SB 789	Canola Extension							\$ -			Ongoing. Minimal FIS. This bill provided a one-year extension to the Willamette Valley Protected District for canola, continuing the ODA's regulatory role while a workgroup was formed to seek a longer-term solution.

**Agency Name - ODA**  
**2025-27 Biennium**

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603	Natural Resources Division	23-25	7/27/2023	SB 85	CAFO Overhaul	562,012						\$ 562,012	2	1.76	Ongoing. This was one of the most significant pieces of agricultural legislation in the 2023 session. It substantially overhauled the regulatory framework for large Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs). It mandated a new pre-application approval process, required new and expanding large CAFOs to submit a detailed water supply plan, and created a new "Nutrient Application Permit" for certain off-site applications of manure. All of these new requirements fall under the administration and enforcement of the ODA's CAFO program, dramatically increasing its regulatory workload and complexity. GF and positions ongoing
603	Natural Resources Division	23-25	6/6/2024	HB 4102	Natural and Working Lands							\$ -			No Fiscal. This bill established the Natural and Working Lands Fund in the State Treasury, with moneys to be continuously appropriated to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) for transfer to several sub-funds. One of these is the Agriculture Natural Climate Solutions Fund (ORS 561.157). This positions the ODA to be a key partner in administering or advising on the use of these funds for projects that enhance carbon sequestration on agricultural lands, formally integrating the agency into the state's climate mitigation strategy. Funded in SB 5701
603	Natural Resources Division	23-25	4/4/2024	HB 4059	Canola Sunset Extension							\$ -			Ongoing. No Fiscal. This bill extended the sunset date for the restrictions on canola production in the Willamette Valley Protected District to January 2, 2028. This provided a medium-term resolution to the ongoing conflict, keeping the ODA's existing regulatory structure in place for the district for several more years.
603	Natural Resources Division	23-25	3/20/2024	HB 4121	Industrial Hemp Production Map							\$ -			Ongoing. Minimal FIS. This omnibus cannabis bill included a key provision directing the OLCC, in consultation with the ODA, to create and maintain a map showing the locations of all licensed marijuana and industrial hemp production sites. This mapping requirement is intended to improve regulatory oversight and enforcement, and it requires significant data sharing and technical coordination between the two agencies.
604	Natural Resources Division	23-25	4/17/2024	SB 5701	Budget Reconciliation	2,250,000		1,228,928		4,500,000		\$ 7,978,928	2	1.26	Ongoing. Section 48 increase Federal Funds limitation by \$4.5M to implement the Resilient Food System Infrastructure grants. Section 133 Other Funds funding from Natural and Working Lands Fund \$978,928. Section 407 funded \$1.25M in grasshopper mitigation efforts. Section 441 increased the General Fund appropriation and Other Funds allocation for natural resources programs by \$250,000 to deposit into the account for invasive species outreach and education, Sections 443-444 appropriated \$750,000 (General Fund) to the department's natural resources programs for activities to mitigate invasive species impacts.

**Agency Name - ODA**  
2025-27 Biennium

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603	Market Access	25-27	6/26/2025	SB 1019	Livestock Program Modernization			1,455,000				\$ 1,455,000			Ongoing. This bill modernizes the ODA's Brands Program by increasing fees for brand registration and renewal, as well as for livestock identification inspection services. It also allows for third-party and self-inspection in some cases. The fee increases are critical for the fiscal sustainability of this entirely fee-funded program.
603	Natural Resources Division	25-27	1/1/2026	SB 1154	Groundwater Area of Concern Interagency Team							\$ -			Ongoing. Minimal fiscal. This bill modifies the state's framework for managing groundwater contamination. It directs the Governor to appoint a lead agency for an interagency team whenever a groundwater area of concern is declared by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Given the ODA's central role in administering the Agricultural Water Quality Management Program, the agency will be a mandatory and critical member of these teams, representing a significant new coordination and potential regulatory responsibility.
603	Natural Resources Division	25-27	7/17/2025	HB 2169	Water Reuse Team							\$ -			Ongoing. Minimal fiscal. This bill directs the DEQ to establish an interagency water reuse team to encourage and expand water reuse in Oregon. The ODA is explicitly named as a required participant on this team. This is a mandate that will require the dedication of ODA staff time and technical expertise to inter-agency policy development.
603	Natural Resources Division	25-27	9/28/2025	SB 360	Pesticide Licensing Exemption							\$ -			Ongoing. Minimal fiscal. This bill modernizes pesticide application laws by creating a narrow exemption from licensing requirements for certain employees using low-risk, battery-powered devices. This will require the ODA's Pesticides Program to develop standards and training materials for this newly exempt category to ensure safe application practices.
603	Market Access	25-27	1/1/2026	SB 777	Wolf Compensation Program Changes							\$ -			This bill modifies the Wolf Depredation Compensation and Financial Assistance Grant Program, which is administered by the ODA. It changes the methodology used to award grants, aiming to balance compensation for confirmed livestock losses with funding for proactive, non-lethal conflict prevention measures.
603	Admin	25-27	8/7/2025	HB 5006	Wolf Compensation/OneODA IT Project Funding (bonding)	4,250,000		6,185,000				\$ 10,435,000	2	1.76	\$1M (GF) of one-time Wolf Compensation Funding, \$6.1M OF for OneODA (bonding), \$3.25M (GF) for OneODA. Both positions are one-time.
	Admin	25-27	7/1/2025	SB 5502	Ag Worker Housing Grants	1,250,000						\$ 1,250,000			Ongoing to be complete in the 25-27 biennium. Remaining funding from original \$5M in grants to be paid upon completion of the Ag Worker Housing Grants.
		25-27	7/1/2025	SB 5502	State Meat Inspection	847,076		802,626				\$ 1,649,702	2	2.00	
												\$ -			
												\$ -			
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**2025-27 Biennium**

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												\$ -			
												\$ -			
												\$ -			
												\$ -			
												\$ -			
												\$ -			
					<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>72,250,436</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>12,182,411</b>	<b>40,000,000</b>	<b>4,500,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$ 129,932,847</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>23.88</b>	

**Instructions**

Column (5) - Authorization should identify the source of the new program or program expansion, which could include enabling legislation, approved policy option package, or administrative establishment.

Column (6) - Program description should include a summary of the program and the expansion (if applicable), including any partner state agencies.

Column (16) - Current status of program implementation should be summarized, including any future budget requests anticipated upon full program implementation.

# Enrolled House Bill 4034

Sponsored by Representative LEVY B, Senator NERON MISLIN; Representatives ANDERSEN, BOICE, EDWARDS, GOMBERG, HELFRICH, HELM, LEWIS, MCDONALD, MCLAIN, OSBORNE, OWENS, RESCHKE, SCHARF, SKARLATOS, YUNKER, Senators NASH, SOLLMAN (Presession filed.)

CHAPTER .....

## AN ACT

Relating to animal rescue entities; amending ORS 609.415 and 609.420.

### Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

**SECTION 1.** ORS 609.415 is amended to read:

609.415. (1) As used in this section and ORS 609.420:

- (a) "Animal" means any nonhuman mammal, bird, reptile[,] **or** amphibian [*or fish*].
- (b) "Animal rescue entity":

**(A)** Means an individual or organization, including but not limited to an animal control agency, humane society, animal shelter, animal sanctuary or boarding kennel not subject to ORS 167.374, [*but excluding a veterinary facility,*] that keeps, houses and maintains **animals** in the individual's or organization's legal custody [*10 or more animals*], whether physically located at a facility operated by the individual or organization or kept, housed or maintained elsewhere, and that solicits or accepts donations in any form.

**(B) Does not mean a veterinary facility as defined in ORS 686.010.**

*[(c) "Enforcing agency" means the State Veterinarian.]*

(2) [*Any*] **An** animal rescue entity shall [*comply with all of the following record-keeping requirements*]:

(a) Maintain a record for each animal [*that identifies:*] **in the legal custody of the animal rescue entity, in compliance with rules adopted by the State Department of Agriculture pursuant to subsection (6)(a) of this section.**

*[(A) The date of birth for the animal or, if the date of birth is unknown, the approximate age of the animal;]*

*[(B) The date the animal rescue entity acquired possession, control or charge of the animal and the source of the animal;]*

*[(C) The number of offspring the animal produced while in the possession or control of the animal rescue entity, if applicable;]*

*[(D) The disposition the animal rescue entity makes of each animal possessed by, controlled by or in the charge of the animal rescue entity, including the date of disposition, manner of disposition and the name and address for any individual or organization taking possession, control or charge of an animal;]*

*[(E) The source of the animal, date of acquisition, age, sex, breed type and weight of the animal at intake; and]*

*[(F) A photograph of the animal taken within 24 hours of intake by the animal rescue entity.]*

(b) Permit an authorized representative of the *[enforcing agency]* **department** to inspect records of the animal rescue entity required by this subsection and furnish **any** reports and information required by the *[enforcing agency, as provided under ORS 609.420.]* **department if the department:**

**(A) Conducts an on-site investigation of the premises of the animal rescue entity pursuant to ORS 609.420; or**

**(B) Audits the animal rescue entity pursuant to rules described in subsection (6)(b) of this section.**

(3) An animal rescue entity **that keeps, houses and maintains 10 or more animals in the legal custody of the animal rescue entity for more than two consecutive business days** shall *[comply with the following licensing requirements]:*

(a) *[The entity shall]* Obtain a license issued by the *[enforcing agency]* **department** in accordance with this section and *[any]* rules *[or policies]* adopted by the *[enforcing agency]* **department**; and

(b) *[The entity shall]* Pay a reasonable fee, as determined by the *[enforcing agency]* **department**, for a license or an annual renewal of the license to provide for the actual cost of enforcing this section and ORS 609.420.

*[(4) The enforcing agency may not issue or renew a license under this section unless the animal rescue entity is in compliance with this section and ORS 609.420.]*

*[(5) An animal rescue entity may transfer a license issued under this section to another person with the written consent of the enforcing agency, provided that the transferee otherwise qualifies to be licensed as an animal rescue entity under this section and rules applicable to the transferee and does not have a certified unpaid debt to the state. The transferee shall submit a signed release to the enforcing agency permitting the performance of a background investigation of the transferee, and the enforcing agency shall conduct the background investigation.]*

*[(6) An applicant for a license issued under this section shall demonstrate that the animal rescue entity that is the subject of the application complies with all standards imposed under applicable law.]*

*[(7) Any animal rescue entity is subject to inspection by the enforcing agency as provided in ORS 609.420.]*

*[(8)(a)]* **(4)** A violation of this section may result in imposition of civil penalties to be determined by the *[enforcing agency]* **department**, including but not limited to *[impoundment of all animals under the animal rescue's control,]* the **denial, suspension or** revocation of the animal *[rescue's]* **rescue entity's** license *[to operate animal rescue operations]* **under this section** and a civil penalty of not more than \$500 for each violation.

*[(b) Before a civil penalty may be imposed under this section, the enforcing agency shall adopt rules or policies that:]*

*[(A) Ensure that a person who is the subject of an alleged violation receives notice of the allegations and potential imposition of civil penalties;]*

*[(B) Allow for an opportunity for a hearing prior to the imposition of civil penalties; and]*

*[(C) Allow for the opportunity for judicial review of the imposition of civil penalties.]*

*[(9)]* **(5)** Moneys *[raised]* **received** by the *[enforcing agency under]* **department pursuant to** this section are dedicated to and shall be used for *[enforcing agency operations undertaken pursuant to]* **implementing** this section and ORS 609.420.

**(6) The department shall adopt rules to implement this section, including rules that:**

**(a) Require an animal rescue entity to maintain a record for each animal in the legal custody of the animal rescue entity;**

**(b) Establish a process for auditing animal rescue entities that incorporates consideration of the compliance histories of the animal rescue entities;**

**(c) Establish licensing requirements for animal rescue entities;**

**(d) Ensure that an animal rescue entity that is the subject of an alleged violation is notified of the allegations and of the potential imposition of civil penalties under this section through a notice that complies with ORS 183.415;**

(e) Allow an animal rescue entity to have an opportunity for a hearing prior to the imposition of civil penalties under this section; and

(f) Allow an animal rescue entity to have an opportunity for judicial review of the imposition of civil penalties.

(7) Consistent with the rulemaking procedures set forth in ORS chapter 183, in developing rules to implement this section, the department shall solicit and review input from:

(a) Animal rescue entities located in rural areas of this state;

(b) Animal rescue entities located in urban areas of this state;

(c) Individuals or organizations involved in providing transportation to or from animal rescue entities in this state; and

(d) Individuals or organizations involved in providing free or low-cost services relating to the care of animals in this state.

**SECTION 2.** ORS 609.420 is amended to read:

609.420. (1) Whenever an authorized representative of *[an enforcing agency]* **the State Department of Agriculture** is advised or has reason to believe that an animal rescue entity **that is required to obtain a license under ORS 609.415** is operating without a license, the authorized representative may visit and conduct an on-site investigation of the premises of the animal rescue entity. The purpose of an investigation under this section is to determine whether the animal rescue entity is subject to the requirements of ORS 609.415.

(2) At any reasonable time, an authorized representative of *[an enforcing agency]* **the department**, a law enforcement agency or the United States Department of Agriculture may conduct an on-site investigation of the premises of any licensed animal rescue entity to determine whether the entity is in compliance with ORS 609.415 **or a rule adopted thereunder**.

(3) An authorized representative of the *[enforcing agency]* **State Department of Agriculture** or a law enforcement agency shall conduct an on-site investigation of the premises of any licensed animal rescue entity if the **department or** agency receives a complaint about the animal rescue entity related to the failure to comply with the requirements of ORS 609.415 **or a rule adopted thereunder** that the **department or** agency determines is credible and serious. The investigation by the **department or** agency shall be limited to determining if the animal rescue entity has failed to comply with the requirements of ORS 609.415 **or a rule adopted thereunder**.

(4) Any state agency that receives a complaint about a licensed animal rescue entity shall notify the *[enforcing agency]* **department** about the complaint and any subsequent action taken by the state agency based on that complaint.

*[(5) A licensed animal rescue entity shall permit an authorized representative of the enforcing agency to inspect records of the animal rescue entity and shall furnish any reports and information required by the enforcing agency.]*

*[(6)]* **(5)** If, during the course of an *[inspection]* **investigation** made under this section, the *[enforcing agency]* **department** finds evidence of animal cruelty in violation of ORS 167.310 to 167.351, 167.352, 167.355 or 167.360 to 167.372, the *[enforcing agency]* **department** shall seize the evidence and report the violation to law enforcement. Evidence of animal cruelty found through a valid *[inspection]* **investigation** under this section shall be presumed admissible in any subsequent criminal proceeding.

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**Passed by House February 10, 2026**

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Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

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Julie Fahey, Speaker of House

**Passed by Senate February 25, 2026**

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Rob Wagner, President of Senate

**Received by Governor:**

.....M.,....., 2026

**Approved:**

.....M.,....., 2026

.....  
Tina Kotek, Governor

**Filed in Office of Secretary of State:**

.....M.,....., 2026

.....  
Tobias Read, Secretary of State

**Enrolled**  
**House Bill 4134**

Sponsored by Representative HELM, Senator NASH, Representatives OWENS, MCLAIN, WALTERS, Senators FREDERICK, GOLDEN, GORSEK, PROZANSKI, SOLLMAN; Representatives ANDERSEN, CHAICHI, CHOTZEN, FRAGALA, GAMBA, GRAYBER, JAVADI, LEVY B, MARSH, MCDONALD, MUNOZ, NELSON, NOSSE, PHAM H, RIEKE SMITH, TRAN, WISE, Senators CAMPOS, GELSER BLOUIN, JAMA, NERON MISLIN, PATTERSON, PHAM K, WEBER (Presession filed.)

CHAPTER .....

AN ACT

Relating to funding for natural resource matters; creating new provisions; amending ORS 320.303, 320.305, 320.335, 496.303 and 496.571; prescribing an effective date; and providing for revenue raising that requires approval by a three-fifths majority.

Whereas Oregon residents have a strong and growing interest in healthy populations of native fish and wildlife and the habitats that sustain them; and

Whereas it is in the state’s interest to enhance the State Department of Fish and Wildlife’s ability to conserve Oregon’s fish, wildlife and habitats, including marine species and habitats; and

Whereas population growth, development, climate change, wildfire and other natural and human impacts contribute to increasing pressures on Oregon’s fish, wildlife, habitats and landscapes; and

Whereas it is in the state’s interest to protect the stability of tourism revenues by maintaining and restoring Oregon’s fish, wildlife and habitats and by ensuring healthy, fire-adapted landscapes; and

Whereas it is in the state’s interest to diversify and broaden the resource base of the State Department of Fish and Wildlife in an equitable and sustainable manner; and

Whereas the ability to address these issues and deliver on these goals will require a well-trained natural resources workforce; now, therefore,

**Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

**SECTION 1.** ORS 320.305 is amended to read:

320.305. (1)(a) A tax [*of 1.5 percent*] is imposed on any consideration charged for the sale, service or furnishing of transient lodging **at the following rates:**

**(A) 1.5 percent for distribution in accordance with ORS 320.335 (3)(a);**

**(B) 0.9 percent for distribution in accordance with ORS 320.335 (3)(b); and**

**(C) 0.35 percent for distribution in accordance with ORS 320.335 (3)(c).**

(b)(A) The tax must be computed on the total retail price, including all charges other than taxes, paid by a person for occupancy of the transient lodging.

(B) The total retail price paid by a person for occupancy of transient lodging that is part of a travel package may be determined by reasonable and verifiable standards from books and records kept in the ordinary course of the transient lodging tax collector’s business.

(2) The tax imposed under this section becomes due when the occupancy of the transient lodging with respect to which the tax is imposed ends.

(3)(a) The tax shall be collected by the transient lodging provider or transient lodging intermediary that collects the consideration charged for occupancy of the transient lodging, or a transient lodging intermediary described in ORS 320.300 (12)(c), as applicable.

(b) The transient lodging tax collector may withhold a collection reimbursement charge of five percent of the amount collected under this subsection.

(4) The tax imposed under this section is in addition to and not in lieu of any local transient lodging tax.

**SECTION 2.** ORS 320.335 is amended to read:

320.335. (1) All moneys received by the Department of Revenue pursuant to ORS 320.305 to 320.340, and interest *[thereon]* **on the moneys**, shall be paid to the State Treasurer to be held in a suspense account established under ORS 293.445.

(2) After the payment of refunds,[:]

*[(1) Moneys]* **moneys** necessary to reimburse the Department of Revenue for the actual costs incurred by the department in administering the state transient lodging tax, not to exceed two percent of state transient lodging tax collections, are continuously appropriated to the department.[:  
*and]*

*[(2)]* (3) The balance of the moneys received shall be transferred, **in proportion to the respective rates that generated the moneys, as follows:**

(a) **Moneys generated by the rate imposed under ORS 320.305 (1)(a)(A)**, to the account of the Oregon Tourism Commission established under ORS 284.131. The moneys transferred under this *[subsection]* **paragraph** are continuously appropriated to the Oregon Tourism Commission for the purposes set forth in ORS 284.131.

(b) **Moneys generated by the rate imposed under ORS 320.305 (1)(a)(B), to the Recovering Oregon's Wildlife Fund Subaccount established under ORS 496.303. The moneys transferred under this paragraph are continuously appropriated to the State Fish and Wildlife Commission for the purposes set forth in ORS 496.303 (13).**

(c) **Moneys generated by the rate imposed under ORS 320.305 (1)(a)(C) are continuously appropriated to the following agencies for the following purposes:**

(A) **0.10 percent to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission for deposit in the Oregon Conservation Corps Fund established under ORS 660.435;**

(B) **0.050 percent to the Department of State Police for efforts to combat the poaching of wildlife;**

(C) **0.050 percent to the State Department of Agriculture for deposit in the Wolf Management Compensation and Proactive Trust Fund established under ORS 610.155;**

(D) **0.050 percent to the State Department of Fish and Wildlife for deposit in the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund established under ORS 496.252;**

(E) **0.050 percent to the State Department of Fish and Wildlife for wildlife connectivity efforts;**

(F) **0.020 percent to the State Department of Fish and Wildlife for wildlife stewardship efforts;**

(G) **0.015 percent to the State Department of Agriculture for deposit in the Invasive Species Control Account established under ORS 570.810;**

(H) **0.010 percent to the Department of Justice for efforts related to anti-poaching and wildlife law enforcement; and**

(I) **0.005 percent to the State Department of Agriculture for deposit in the Invasive Species Council Account established under ORS 570.800.**

(4) **The State Department of Agriculture and the State Department of Fish and Wildlife may assess and retain administrative assessments from moneys received by the respective departments under subsection (3)(c) of this section.**

**SECTION 3.** ORS 320.303 is amended to read:

320.303. (1) A transient lodging tax collector shall, upon payment, provide to the person that pays the consideration charged for occupancy of transient lodging an invoice, receipt or other sim-

ilar document that clearly sets forth the sum of all transient lodging taxes charged for the occupancy of the transient lodging.

**(2) The invoice, receipt or other similar document shall describe the portion of the tax imposed at the rates set forth in ORS 320.305 (1)(a)(B) and (C) as a “nature conservation fee.”**

[2] (3) The invoice, receipt or other similar document may be in any form that the transient lodging tax collector uses in the ordinary course of business.

**SECTION 4.** ORS 496.303 is amended to read:

496.303. (1) The Fish and Wildlife Account is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. All moneys in the account are continuously appropriated to the State Fish and Wildlife Commission. The Fish and Wildlife Account shall consist of the moneys in its various subaccounts and any moneys transferred to the account by the Legislative Assembly. Unless otherwise specified by law, interest earnings on moneys in the account shall be paid into the State Treasury and credited to the State Wildlife Fund.

(2)(a) The Fish Screening Subaccount is established in the Fish and Wildlife Account. The subaccount shall consist of:

(A) All penalties recovered under ORS 536.900 to 536.920.

(B) All moneys received pursuant to ORS 498.306.

(C) All gifts, grants and other moneys from whatever source that may be used to carry out the provisions of ORS 498.306.

(D) All moneys received from the sale of angling licenses dedicated by ORS 497.124.

(b) All moneys in the subaccount shall be used to carry out the provisions of ORS 315.138, 498.306 and 509.620. However, moneys received from the sale of angling licenses dedicated by ORS 497.124 shall be expended only to carry out the provisions of law relating to the screening of water diversions.

(3) The Fish Endowment Subaccount is established in the Fish and Wildlife Account. The subaccount shall consist of transfers of moneys authorized by the Legislative Assembly from the State Wildlife Fund and gifts and grants of moneys from whatever source for the purpose of paying the expense of maintaining fish hatcheries operated by the [department] **State Department of Fish and Wildlife.**

(4) The Migratory Waterfowl Subaccount is established in the Fish and Wildlife Account. All moneys received by the commission from the sale of art works and prints related to the migratory waterfowl stamps shall be deposited in the subaccount. Moneys in the subaccount may be expended only for activities that promote the propagation, conservation and recreational uses of migratory waterfowl and for activities related to the design, production, issuance and arrangements for sale of the migratory waterfowl stamps and related art works and prints. Expenditures of moneys in the subaccount may be made within this state, in other states or in foreign countries, in such amounts as the commission determines appropriate. Expenditures in other states and foreign countries shall be on such terms and conditions as the commission determines will benefit most directly the migratory waterfowl resources of this state.

(5) The Halibut Research Subaccount is established in the Fish and Wildlife Account. Based on the annual number of recreational halibut anglers, a portion of the moneys derived from the sale of the salmon, steelhead trout, sturgeon and halibut tag pursuant to ORS 497.121 shall be credited to the subaccount. Moneys in the subaccount may be expended only for halibut population studies and other research.

(6) The Upland Bird Subaccount is established in the Fish and Wildlife Account. All moneys received by the **commission** [State Fish and Wildlife Commission] from the sale of upland bird stamps, from the sale of any art works and prints related to the upland bird stamps and from private hunting preserve permit fees shall be deposited in the subaccount. Moneys in the subaccount may be expended only for promoting the propagation and conservation of upland birds and the acquisition, development, management, enhancement, sale or exchange of upland bird habitat, and for activities related to the design, production, issuance and arrangements for sale of the upland bird

stamps and related art works and prints. Expenditures of moneys in the subaccount shall be made for the benefit of programs within this state in such amounts and at such times as the commission determines appropriate to most directly benefit the upland bird resources of the state.

(7) The Access and Habitat Board Subaccount is established in the Fish and Wildlife Account. The subaccount shall consist of moneys transferred to the subaccount pursuant to ORS 496.242. Moneys in the subaccount may be used for the purposes specified in ORS 496.242.

(8) The Marine Shellfish Subaccount is established in the Fish and Wildlife Account. Interest earnings on moneys in the subaccount shall be credited to the subaccount. All moneys received by the commission from the sale of resident and nonresident shellfish licenses pursuant to ORS 497.121 shall be deposited in the subaccount. Moneys in the subaccount shall be used for the protection and enhancement of shellfish for recreational purposes, including shellfish sanitation costs and the cost of enforcement of wildlife laws pertaining to the taking of shellfish. The State Fish and Wildlife Director, or a designee, the Director of Agriculture, or a designee, and the Superintendent of State Police, or a designee, shall jointly make a recommendation to the Governor for inclusion in the Governor's budget beginning July 1 of each odd-numbered year.

(9)(a) The Mountain Sheep Subaccount is established in the Fish and Wildlife Account, consisting of moneys collected under ORS 497.112 (2)(a) to (c).

(b) All moneys in the subaccount shall be used for the propagation and conservation of mountain sheep, for research, development, management, enhancement and sale or exchange of mountain sheep habitat and for programs within the state that in the discretion of the commission most directly benefit mountain sheep resources of this state.

(10)(a) The Antelope Subaccount is established in the Fish and Wildlife Account, consisting of moneys collected under ORS 497.112 (2)(a) to (c).

(b) All moneys in the subaccount shall be used for the propagation and conservation of antelope, for research, development, management, enhancement and sale or exchange of antelope habitat and for programs within the state that in the discretion of the commission most directly benefit antelope resources of this state.

(11)(a) The Mountain Goat Subaccount is established in the Fish and Wildlife Account, consisting of moneys collected under ORS 497.112 (2)(a) to (c).

(b) All moneys in the subaccount shall be used for the propagation and conservation of mountain goats for research, development, management, enhancement and sale or exchange of mountain goat habitat and for programs within the state that in the discretion of the commission most directly benefit mountain goat resources of this state.

(12) The commission shall keep a record of all moneys deposited in the Fish and Wildlife Account. The record shall indicate by separate cumulative accounts the sources from which the moneys are derived and the individual activity or programs against which each withdrawal is charged.

(13)(a) The [*Oregon Conservation Strategy*] **Recovering Oregon's Wildlife Fund** Subaccount is established in the Fish and Wildlife Account. [*All moneys received by the commission from the sale of habitat conservation stamps and from the sale of any art works and prints related to the habitat conservation stamp shall be deposited in the subaccount. Moneys in the subaccount may be expended only to promote and implement habitat and species restoration, enhancement and viewing activities identified in the "Oregon Conservation Strategy," 2006, by the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, and for activities related to the design, production, issuance and arrangements for sale of the habitat conservation stamps and related art works and prints.*]

**(b) The subaccount shall consist of:**

**(A) All moneys received by the commission from the sale of habitat conservation stamps, prints and art works under ORS 496.571.**

**(B) All moneys received by the Department of Revenue under ORS 320.335 (3)(b).**

**(C) Moneys appropriated to the State Department of Fish and Wildlife for deposit in the subaccount or otherwise transferred to the subaccount.**

**(D) Any gifts, grants, contributions or other donations for use as described in paragraph (c) of this subsection that are received by the State Department of Fish and Wildlife or the**

commission from any public or private source and caused to be deposited in the subaccount or otherwise transferred to the subaccount.

(c) Moneys in the subaccount shall be used:

(A) To promote, implement, revise or enhance the policies in the State Wildlife Action Plan, or any subsequent iterations of that policy, as determined by the department; and

(B) To satisfy nonfederal fund matching requirements for a conservation or restoration program designed to recover and manage the species in greatest need of conservation and the habitats essential to conservation of those species, as determined by the department.

(d) Moneys in the subaccount may be used for activities related to the design, production, issuance and arrangement for sale of the habitat conservation stamps, prints and art works under ORS 496.571.

(14)(a) The Rogue-South Coast Research and Monitoring Subaccount is established in the Fish and Wildlife Account, consisting of moneys collected under ORS 497.121 (1)(r) and (s).

(b) All moneys in the subaccount shall be used for research and monitoring that is consistent with the Rogue-South Coast Multi-Species Conservation and Management Plan the commission adopted in December 2021, as subsequently amended by the commission.

(c) The commission may amend the plan as needed.

(d) The commission shall make the current version of the plan publicly available on a website of the commission or of the State Department of Fish and Wildlife.

(15) The Marine Fisheries Enhancement Fund Subaccount is established in the Fish and Wildlife Account. All moneys received by the commission from the sale of annual or daily ocean endorsements under ORS 496.146 shall be deposited in the subaccount. Moneys in the subaccount may be expended only to promote and enhance marine fisheries and marine conservation.

**SECTION 5.** ORS 496.571 is amended to read:

496.571. (1) The State Fish and Wildlife Commission may issue an annual habitat conservation stamp. The fee for the stamp may not exceed \$50.

(2) The commission shall arrange, by contest or other appropriate means, for the selection of the design of the annual habitat conservation stamp authorized by subsection (1) of this section and for the production and sale of the stamps.

(3) The commission may produce the number of stamps the commission considers appropriate and may make stamps available for the creation of art prints and other related art works and may arrange for the sale of stamps, prints and art works to persons desiring to purchase those items.

(4) In carrying out its duties, functions and powers with regard to the habitat conservation stamp, the commission may contract for the performance of those duties, functions and powers. The contract may include, among other matters, provisions for advance payment or reimbursement for services performed pursuant to the contract. All costs and expenses incurred pursuant to this section shall be paid from the [*Oregon Conservation Strategy*] **Recovering Oregon's Wildlife Fund** Subaccount established under ORS 496.303.

**SECTION 6.** The amendments to ORS 320.303, 320.305 and 320.335 by sections 1 to 3 of this 2026 Act apply to consideration charged on or after January 1, 2027, for the sale, service or furnishing of transient lodging.

**SECTION 7.** This 2026 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on which the 2026 regular session of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.

**Passed by House February 24, 2026**

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Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

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Julie Fahey, Speaker of House

**Passed by Senate March 4, 2026**

.....  
Rob Wagner, President of Senate

**Received by Governor:**

.....M,....., 2026

**Approved:**

.....M,....., 2026

.....  
Tina Kotek, Governor

**Filed in Office of Secretary of State:**

.....M,....., 2026

.....  
Tobias Read, Secretary of State

# Enrolled House Bill 4153

Sponsored by Representative BREESE-IVERSON, Senators SOLLMAN, SMITH DB, Representatives HELFRICH, LEVY B, RIEKE SMITH, Senator ANDERSON; Representatives ELMER, LEVY E, OWENS, RESCHKE, Senators BROADMAN, GIROD, GORSEK, MCLANE, MEEK, NASH, WEBER (Presession filed.)

CHAPTER .....

AN ACT

Relating to farm stores; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 215.213, 215.283, 475A.570 and 475C.489.

**Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

**SECTION 1. Section 2 of this 2026 Act is added to and made a part of ORS chapter 215.**

**SECTION 2. (1) As used in this section:**

**(a)(A) “Agri-tourism activity” means an activity that is conducted by a farm operation to promote the farm operation, visitors to a farm store and the sale of farm store products to the public and that may also generate commercial, entertainment or educational value. Such activities may include:**

- (i) Farm tours;**
- (ii) Educational exhibits or classes;**
- (iii) Crop mazes;**
- (iv) Play structures;**
- (v) Farm-to-table meals;**
- (vi) Animal petting and feeding exhibits;**
- (vii) Hay or tractor rides; or**
- (viii) Other seasonal or holiday events.**

**(B) “Agri-tourism activity” does not include using a farm store for lodging or as a dwelling.**

**(b) “Farm-to-table meal” means a meal offered as part of a fee-based dining experience, where food grown by a farm operation or farmers in a local agricultural area is prepared and served in a manner that educates the public about agricultural production or on-site sourcing.**

**(c) “Farm unit” means a farm operation comprising all parcels being farmed by a single operation, whether the operation owns or leases the parcels.**

**(d) “Farm use” means, notwithstanding ORS 215.010, only those activities listed under ORS 215.203 (2)(a) undertaken for the primary purpose of obtaining a profit.**

**(e) “Local agricultural area” means Oregon or an adjacent county in California, Idaho, Nevada or Washington that borders an Oregon county in which a farm store is located.**

**(f) “Processed farm product” means a farm product that has been transformed into a manufactured product through methods such as cooking, baking, heating, drying, mixing,**

grinding, churning, separating, extracting, cutting, butchering or freezing and has been packaged or canned for human or animal use.

(2) A farm store may be established as a permitted use on land zoned for exclusive farm use under ORS 215.213 (1) and 215.283 (1), or on land zoned for mixed farm and forest use, if:

(a) The farm store is used for the sale of farm products produced by the farm operation that operates the farm store;

(b) No more than 10,000 square feet of one or more permanently enclosed structures are used for the farm store uses listed in subsection (3) of this section; and

(c) The farm store is situated on a tract of:

(A) At least 80 acres with at least 45 acres employed for farm use;

(B) Less than 80 acres but at least 40 acres and with at least 25 acres employed for farm use;

(C) Less than 40 acres but at least 20 acres and with at least 15 acres employed for farm use; or

(D) Less than 20 acres if:

(i) At least 10 acres are employed for farm use; or

(ii) The farm store operates as part of a farm unit that has earned at least \$10,000 in gross farm income cumulatively over the preceding two years.

(3) Farm stores may be used for:

(a) The sale of the farm products or processed farm products produced in the local agricultural area;

(b) The sale of other retail items, if displayed in an area not to exceed 25 percent of the floor area of the permanent enclosed farm store structures;

(c) The sale of beverages and prepared food items that are cooked or otherwise made ready for immediate consumption; or

(d) Agri-tourism activities.

(4) The sale of retail items under subsection (3)(b) of this section must take place within a permanent enclosed structure. All other allowable farm store uses may take place outside or in temporary or unenclosed structures.

(5) In conjunction with an agri-tourism activity, a farm store may use temporary structures or mobile vending units.

(6) A farm store may include on-site kitchen facilities licensed by the Oregon Health Authority under ORS 624.010 to 624.121. Food and beverages prepared under subsection (3)(c) of this section may not be served in a manner that causes the kitchen facilities to function as a cafe or drive-through dining establishment.

(7)(a) A local government with land use jurisdiction over the site of a farm store may adopt siting standards for farm stores related to:

(A) Access, egress and parking;

(B) Traffic management;

(C) Noise management;

(D) Hours of event operation; or

(E) Sanitation and solid waste.

(b) A county may not apply siting standards in a manner that prohibits the siting and operation of a farm store under this section.

**SECTION 3.** ORS 215.213 is amended to read:

215.213. (1) In counties that have adopted marginal lands provisions under ORS 197.247 (1991 Edition), the following uses may be established in any area zoned for exclusive farm use:

(a) Churches and cemeteries in conjunction with churches.

(b) The propagation or harvesting of a forest product.

(c) Utility facilities necessary for public service, not including commercial facilities for the purpose of generating electrical power for public use by sale or transmission towers over 200 feet in height, but including:

(A) Utility facilities as provided in ORS 215.275;

(B) Utility facilities that are associated transmission lines, as defined in ORS 215.274 and 469.300;

(C) Wetland waste treatment systems; or

(D) Facilities and service lines needed to provide water or wastewater services allowed under ORS 215.256.

(d) A dwelling on real property used for farm use if the dwelling is occupied by a relative of the farm operator or the farm operator's spouse, which means a child, parent, stepparent, grandchild, grandparent, stepgrandparent, sibling, stepsibling, niece, nephew or first cousin of either, if the farm operator does or will require the assistance of the relative in the management of the farm use and the dwelling is located on the same lot or parcel as the dwelling of the farm operator. Notwithstanding ORS 92.010 to 92.192 or the minimum lot or parcel size requirements under ORS 215.780, if the owner of a dwelling described in this paragraph obtains construction financing or other financing secured by the dwelling and the secured party forecloses on the dwelling, the secured party may also foreclose on the homesite, as defined in ORS 308A.250, and the foreclosure shall operate as a partition of the homesite to create a new parcel.

(e) Nonresidential buildings customarily provided in conjunction with farm use.

(f) Subject to ORS 215.279, primary or accessory dwellings customarily provided in conjunction with farm use. For a primary dwelling, the dwelling must be on a lot or parcel that is managed as part of a farm operation and is not smaller than the minimum lot size in a farm zone with a minimum lot size acknowledged under ORS 197.251.

(g) Operations for the exploration for and production of geothermal resources as defined by ORS 522.005 and oil and gas as defined by ORS 520.005, including the placement and operation of compressors, separators and other customary production equipment for an individual well adjacent to the wellhead. Any activities or construction relating to such operations shall not be a basis for an exception under ORS 197.732 (2)(a) or (b).

(h) Operations for the exploration for minerals as defined by ORS 517.750. Any activities or construction relating to such operations shall not be a basis for an exception under ORS 197.732 (2)(a) or (b).

(i) One manufactured dwelling or recreational vehicle, or the temporary residential use of an existing building, in conjunction with an existing dwelling as a temporary use for the term of a hardship suffered by the existing resident or a relative of the resident. Within three months of the end of the hardship, the manufactured dwelling or recreational vehicle shall be removed or demolished or, in the case of an existing building, the building shall be removed, demolished or returned to an allowed nonresidential use. The governing body or its designee shall provide for periodic review of the hardship claimed under this paragraph. A temporary residence approved under this paragraph is not eligible for replacement under paragraph (q) of this subsection.

(j) Climbing and passing lanes within the right of way existing as of July 1, 1987.

(k) Reconstruction or modification of public roads and highways, including the placement of utility facilities overhead and in the subsurface of public roads and highways along the public right of way, but not including the addition of travel lanes, where no removal or displacement of buildings would occur, or no new land parcels result.

(L) Temporary public road and highway detours that will be abandoned and restored to original condition or use at such time as no longer needed.

(m) Minor betterment of existing public road and highway related facilities, such as maintenance yards, weigh stations and rest areas, within right of way existing as of July 1, 1987, and contiguous public-owned property utilized to support the operation and maintenance of public roads and highways.

(n) A replacement dwelling to be used in conjunction with farm use if the existing dwelling has been classified as historic property as described in ORS 358.487 (4).

(o) Creation, restoration or enhancement of wetlands.

(p) A winery, as described in ORS 215.452 or 215.453.

(q) Alteration, restoration or replacement of a lawfully established dwelling, as described in ORS 215.291.

(r) Farm stands if:

(A) The structures are designed and used for the sale of farm crops or livestock grown on the farm operation, or grown on the farm operation and other farm operations in the local agricultural area, including the sale of retail incidental items and fee-based activity to promote the sale of farm crops or livestock sold at the farm stand if the annual sale of incidental items and fees from promotional activity do not make up more than 25 percent of the total annual sales of the farm stand; and

(B) The farm stand does not include structures designed for occupancy as a residence or for activity other than the sale of farm crops or livestock and does not include structures for banquets, public gatherings or public entertainment.

(s) An armed forces reserve center, if the center is within one-half mile of a community college. For purposes of this paragraph, "armed forces reserve center" includes an armory or National Guard support facility.

(t) A site for the takeoff and landing of model aircraft, including such buildings or facilities as may reasonably be necessary. Buildings or facilities shall not be more than 500 square feet in floor area or placed on a permanent foundation unless the building or facility preexisted the use approved under this paragraph. The site shall not include an aggregate surface or hard surface area unless the surface preexisted the use approved under this paragraph. An owner of property used for the purpose authorized in this paragraph may charge a person operating the use on the property rent for the property. An operator may charge users of the property a fee that does not exceed the operator's cost to maintain the property, buildings and facilities. As used in this paragraph, "model aircraft" means a small-scale version of an airplane, glider, helicopter, dirigible or balloon that is used or intended to be used for flight and is controlled by radio, lines or design by a person on the ground.

(u) A facility for the processing of farm products as described in ORS 215.255.

(v) Fire service facilities providing rural fire protection services.

(w) Irrigation reservoirs, canals, delivery lines and those structures and accessory operational facilities, not including parks or other recreational structures and facilities, associated with a district as defined in ORS 540.505.

(x) Utility facility service lines. Utility facility service lines are utility lines and accessory facilities or structures that end at the point where the utility service is received by the customer and that are located on one or more of the following:

(A) A public right of way;

(B) Land immediately adjacent to a public right of way, provided the written consent of all adjacent property owners has been obtained; or

(C) The property to be served by the utility.

(y) Subject to the issuance of a license, permit or other approval by the Department of Environmental Quality under ORS 454.695, 459.205, 468B.050, 468B.053 or 468B.055, or in compliance with rules adopted under ORS 468B.095, and as provided in ORS 215.246 to 215.251, the land application of reclaimed water, agricultural or industrial process water or biosolids, or the onsite treatment of septage prior to the land application of biosolids, for agricultural, horticultural or silvicultural production, or for irrigation in connection with a use allowed in an exclusive farm use zone under this chapter. For the purposes of this paragraph, onsite treatment of septage prior to the land application of biosolids is limited to treatment using treatment facilities that are portable, temporary and transportable by truck trailer, as defined in ORS 801.580, during a period of time within which land application of biosolids is authorized under the license, permit or other approval.

(z) Dog training classes or testing trials, which may be conducted outdoors or in farm buildings in existence on January 1, 2019, when:

(A) The number of dogs participating in training does not exceed 10 dogs per training class and the number of training classes to be held on-site does not exceed six per day; and

(B) The number of dogs participating in a testing trial does not exceed 60 and the number of testing trials to be conducted on-site is limited to four or fewer trials per calendar year.

(aa) A cider business, as described in ORS 215.451.

(bb) A farm brewery, as described in ORS 215.449.

**(cc) A farm store, as described in section 2 of this 2026 Act.**

(2) In counties that have adopted marginal lands provisions under ORS 197.247 (1991 Edition), the following uses may be established in any area zoned for exclusive farm use subject to ORS 215.296:

(a) A primary dwelling in conjunction with farm use or the propagation or harvesting of a forest product on a lot or parcel that is managed as part of a farm operation or woodlot if the farm operation or woodlot:

(A) Consists of 20 or more acres; and

(B) Is not smaller than the average farm or woodlot in the county producing at least \$2,500 in annual gross income from the crops, livestock or forest products to be raised on the farm operation or woodlot.

(b) A primary dwelling in conjunction with farm use or the propagation or harvesting of a forest product on a lot or parcel that is managed as part of a farm operation or woodlot smaller than required under paragraph (a) of this subsection, if the lot or parcel:

(A) Has produced at least \$20,000 in annual gross farm income in two consecutive calendar years out of the three calendar years before the year in which the application for the dwelling was made or is planted in perennials capable of producing upon harvest an average of at least \$20,000 in annual gross farm income; or

(B) Is a woodlot capable of producing an average over the growth cycle of \$20,000 in gross annual income.

(c) Commercial activities that are in conjunction with farm use, including the processing of farm crops into biofuel not permitted under ORS 215.203 (2)(b)(K) or 215.255.

(d) Operations conducted for:

(A) Mining and processing of geothermal resources as defined by ORS 522.005 and oil and gas as defined by ORS 520.005, not otherwise permitted under subsection (1)(g) of this section;

(B) Mining, crushing or stockpiling of aggregate and other mineral and other subsurface resources subject to ORS 215.298;

(C) Processing, as defined by ORS 517.750, of aggregate into asphalt or portland cement; and

(D) Processing of other mineral resources and other subsurface resources.

(e) Community centers owned by a governmental agency or a nonprofit community organization and operated primarily by and for residents of the local rural community, hunting and fishing preserves, public and private parks, playgrounds and campgrounds. Subject to the approval of the county governing body or its designee, a private campground may provide yurts for overnight camping. No more than one-third or a maximum of 10 campsites, whichever is smaller, may include a yurt. The yurt shall be located on the ground or on a wood floor with no permanent foundation. Upon request of a county governing body, the Land Conservation and Development Commission may provide by rule for an increase in the number of yurts allowed on all or a portion of the campgrounds in a county if the commission determines that the increase will comply with the standards described in ORS 215.296 (1). A public park or campground may be established as provided under ORS 195.120. As used in this paragraph, "yurt" means a round, domed shelter of cloth or canvas on a collapsible frame with no plumbing, sewage disposal hookup or internal cooking appliance.

(f) Golf courses on land determined not to be high-value farmland as defined in ORS 195.300.

(g) Commercial utility facilities for the purpose of generating power for public use by sale. If the area zoned for exclusive farm use is high-value farmland, a photovoltaic solar power generation facility may be established as a commercial utility facility as provided in ORS 215.447. A renewable energy facility as defined in ORS 215.446 may be established as a commercial utility facility.

(h) Personal-use airports for airplanes and helicopter pads, including associated hangar, maintenance and service facilities. A personal-use airport as used in this section means an airstrip restricted, except for aircraft emergencies, to use by the owner, and, on an infrequent and occasional basis, by invited guests, and by commercial aviation activities in connection with agricultural operations. No aircraft may be based on a personal-use airport other than those owned or controlled by the owner of the airstrip. Exceptions to the activities permitted under this definition may be granted through waiver action by the Oregon Department of Aviation in specific instances. A personal-use airport lawfully existing as of September 13, 1975, shall continue to be permitted subject to any applicable rules of the Oregon Department of Aviation.

(i) A facility for the primary processing of forest products, provided that such facility is found to not seriously interfere with accepted farming practices and is compatible with farm uses described in ORS 215.203 (2). Such a facility may be approved for a one-year period which is renewable. These facilities are intended to be only portable or temporary in nature. The primary processing of a forest product, as used in this section, means the use of a portable chipper or stud mill or other similar methods of initial treatment of a forest product in order to enable its shipment to market. Forest products, as used in this section, means timber grown upon a parcel of land or contiguous land where the primary processing facility is located.

(j) A site for the disposal of solid waste approved by the governing body of a city or county or both and for which a permit has been granted under ORS 459.245 by the Department of Environmental Quality together with equipment, facilities or buildings necessary for its operation.

(k)(A) Commercial dog boarding kennels; or

(B) Dog training classes or testing trials that cannot be established under subsection (1)(z) of this section.

(L) Residential homes as defined in ORS 197.660, in existing dwellings.

(m) The propagation, cultivation, maintenance and harvesting of aquatic species that are not under the jurisdiction of the State Fish and Wildlife Commission or insect species. Insect species shall not include any species under quarantine by the State Department of Agriculture or the United States Department of Agriculture. The county shall provide notice of all applications under this paragraph to the State Department of Agriculture. Notice shall be provided in accordance with the county's land use regulations but shall be mailed at least 20 calendar days prior to any administrative decision or initial public hearing on the application.

(n) Home occupations as provided in ORS 215.448.

(o) Transmission towers over 200 feet in height.

(p) Construction of additional passing and travel lanes requiring the acquisition of right of way but not resulting in the creation of new land parcels.

(q) Reconstruction or modification of public roads and highways involving the removal or displacement of buildings but not resulting in the creation of new land parcels.

(r) Improvement of public road and highway related facilities such as maintenance yards, weigh stations and rest areas, where additional property or right of way is required but not resulting in the creation of new land parcels.

(s) A destination resort that is approved consistent with the requirements of any statewide planning goal relating to the siting of a destination resort.

(t) Room and board arrangements for a maximum of five unrelated persons in existing residences.

(u) A living history museum related to resource based activities owned and operated by a governmental agency or a local historical society, together with limited commercial activities and facilities that are directly related to the use and enjoyment of the museum and located within authentic buildings of the depicted historic period or the museum administration building, if areas

other than an exclusive farm use zone cannot accommodate the museum and related activities or if the museum administration buildings and parking lot are located within one quarter mile of the metropolitan urban growth boundary. As used in this paragraph:

(A) "Living history museum" means a facility designed to depict and interpret everyday life and culture of some specific historic period using authentic buildings, tools, equipment and people to simulate past activities and events; and

(B) "Local historical society" means the local historical society, recognized as such by the county governing body and organized under ORS chapter 65.

(v) Operations for the extraction and bottling of water.

(w) An aerial fireworks display business that has been in continuous operation at its current location within an exclusive farm use zone since December 31, 1986, and possesses a wholesaler's permit to sell or provide fireworks.

(x) A landscape contracting business, as defined in ORS 671.520, or a business providing landscape architecture services, as described in ORS 671.318, if the business is pursued in conjunction with the growing and marketing of nursery stock on the land that constitutes farm use.

(y) Public or private schools for kindergarten through grade 12, including all buildings essential to the operation of a school, primarily for residents of the rural area in which the school is located.

(z) Equine and equine-affiliated therapeutic and counseling activities, provided:

(A) The activities are conducted in existing buildings that were lawfully constructed on the property before January 1, 2019, or in new buildings that are accessory, incidental and subordinate to the farm use on the tract; and

(B) All individuals conducting therapeutic or counseling activities are acting within the proper scope of any licenses required by the state.

(aa) Child care facilities, preschool recorded programs or school-age recorded programs that are:

(A) Authorized under ORS 329A.250 to 329A.450;

(B) Primarily for the children of residents and workers of the rural area in which the facility or program is located; and

(C) Colocated with a community center or a public or private school allowed under this subsection.

(3) In counties that have adopted marginal lands provisions under ORS 197.247 (1991 Edition), a single-unit residential dwelling not provided in conjunction with farm use may be established on a lot or parcel with soils predominantly in capability classes IV through VIII as determined by the Agricultural Capability Classification System in use by the United States Department of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service on October 15, 1983. A proposed dwelling is subject to approval of the governing body or its designee in any area zoned for exclusive farm use upon written findings showing all of the following:

(a) The dwelling or activities associated with the dwelling will not force a significant change in or significantly increase the cost of accepted farming practices on nearby lands devoted to farm use.

(b) The dwelling is situated upon generally unsuitable land for the production of farm crops and livestock, considering the terrain, adverse soil or land conditions, drainage and flooding, location and size of the tract. A lot or parcel shall not be considered unsuitable solely because of its size or location if it can reasonably be put to farm use in conjunction with other land.

(c) Complies with such other conditions as the governing body or its designee considers necessary.

(4) In counties that have adopted marginal lands provisions under ORS 197.247 (1991 Edition), one single-unit dwelling, not provided in conjunction with farm use, may be established in any area zoned for exclusive farm use on a lot or parcel described in subsection (7) of this section that is not larger than three acres upon written findings showing:

(a) The dwelling or activities associated with the dwelling will not force a significant change in or significantly increase the cost of accepted farming practices on nearby lands devoted to farm use;

(b) If the lot or parcel is located within the Willamette River Greenway, a floodplain or a geological hazard area, the dwelling complies with conditions imposed by local ordinances relating

specifically to the Willamette River Greenway, floodplains or geological hazard areas, whichever is applicable; and

(c) The dwelling complies with other conditions considered necessary by the governing body or its designee.

(5) Upon receipt of an application for a permit under subsection (4) of this section, the governing body shall notify:

(a) Owners of land that is within 250 feet of the lot or parcel on which the dwelling will be established; and

(b) Persons who have requested notice of such applications and who have paid a reasonable fee imposed by the county to cover the cost of such notice.

(6) The notice required in subsection (5) of this section shall specify that persons have 15 days following the date of postmark of the notice to file a written objection on the grounds only that the dwelling or activities associated with it would force a significant change in or significantly increase the cost of accepted farming practices on nearby lands devoted to farm use. If no objection is received, the governing body or its designee shall approve or disapprove the application. If an objection is received, the governing body shall set the matter for hearing in the manner prescribed in ORS 215.402 to 215.438. The governing body may charge the reasonable costs of the notice required by subsection (5)(a) of this section to the applicant for the permit requested under subsection (4) of this section.

(7) Subsection (4) of this section applies to a lot or parcel lawfully created between January 1, 1948, and July 1, 1983. For the purposes of this section:

(a) Only one lot or parcel exists if:

(A) A lot or parcel described in this section is contiguous to one or more lots or parcels described in this section; and

(B) On July 1, 1983, greater than possessory interests are held in those contiguous lots, parcels or lots and parcels by the same person, spouses or a single partnership or business entity, separately or in tenancy in common.

(b) "Contiguous" means lots, parcels or lots and parcels that have a common boundary, including but not limited to, lots, parcels or lots and parcels separated only by a public road.

(8) A person who sells or otherwise transfers real property in an exclusive farm use zone may retain a life estate in a dwelling on that property and in a tract of land under and around the dwelling.

(9) No final approval of a nonfarm use under this section shall be given unless any additional taxes imposed upon the change in use have been paid.

(10) Roads, highways and other transportation facilities and improvements not allowed under subsections (1) and (2) of this section may be established, subject to the approval of the governing body or its designee, in areas zoned for exclusive farm use subject to:

(a) Adoption of an exception to the goal related to agricultural lands and to any other applicable goal with which the facility or improvement does not comply; or

(b) ORS 215.296 for those uses identified by rule of the Land Conservation and Development Commission as provided in section 3, chapter 529, Oregon Laws 1993.

(11) The following agri-tourism and other commercial events or activities that are related to and supportive of agriculture may be established in any area zoned for exclusive farm use:

(a) A county may authorize a single agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity on a tract in a calendar year by an authorization that is personal to the applicant and is not transferred by, or transferable with, a conveyance of the tract, if the agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity meets any local standards that apply and:

(A) The agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity is incidental and subordinate to existing farm use on the tract;

(B) The duration of the agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity does not exceed 72 consecutive hours;

(C) The maximum attendance at the agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity does not exceed 500 people;

(D) The maximum number of motor vehicles parked at the site of the agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity does not exceed 250 vehicles;

(E) The agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity complies with ORS 215.296;

(F) The agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity occurs outdoors, in temporary structures, or in existing permitted structures, subject to health and fire and life safety requirements; and

(G) The agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity complies with conditions established for:

(i) Planned hours of operation;

(ii) Access, egress and parking;

(iii) A traffic management plan that identifies the projected number of vehicles and any anticipated use of public roads; and

(iv) Sanitation and solid waste.

(b) In the alternative to paragraphs (a) and (c) of this subsection, a county may authorize, through an expedited, single-event license, a single agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity on a tract in a calendar year by an expedited, single-event license that is personal to the applicant and is not transferred by, or transferable with, a conveyance of the tract. A decision concerning an expedited, single-event license is not a land use decision, as defined in ORS 197.015. To approve an expedited, single-event license, the governing body of a county or its designee must determine that the proposed agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity meets any local standards that apply, and the agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity:

(A) Must be incidental and subordinate to existing farm use on the tract;

(B) May not begin before 6 a.m. or end after 10 p.m.;

(C) May not involve more than 100 attendees or 50 vehicles;

(D) May not include the artificial amplification of music or voices before 8 a.m. or after 8 p.m.;

(E) May not require or involve the construction or use of a new permanent structure in connection with the agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity;

(F) Must be located on a tract of at least 10 acres unless the owners or residents of adjoining properties consent, in writing, to the location; and

(G) Must comply with applicable health and fire and life safety requirements.

(c) In the alternative to paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection, a county may authorize up to six agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities on a tract in a calendar year by a limited use permit that is personal to the applicant and is not transferred by, or transferable with, a conveyance of the tract. The agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities must meet any local standards that apply, and the agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities:

(A) Must be incidental and subordinate to existing farm use on the tract;

(B) May not, individually, exceed a duration of 72 consecutive hours;

(C) May not require that a new permanent structure be built, used or occupied in connection with the agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities;

(D) Must comply with ORS 215.296;

(E) May not, in combination with other agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities authorized in the area, materially alter the stability of the land use pattern in the area; and

(F) Must comply with conditions established for:

(i) The types of agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities that are authorized during each calendar year, including the number and duration of the agri-tourism or other commercial events and activities, the anticipated daily attendance and the hours of operation;

(ii) The location of existing structures and the location of proposed temporary structures to be used in connection with the agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities;

(iii) The location of access and egress and parking facilities to be used in connection with the agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities;

(iv) Traffic management, including the projected number of vehicles and any anticipated use of public roads; and

(v) Sanitation and solid waste.

(d) In addition to paragraphs (a) to (c) of this subsection, a county may authorize agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities that occur more frequently or for a longer period or that do not otherwise comply with paragraphs (a) to (c) of this subsection if the agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities comply with any local standards that apply and the agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities:

(A) Are incidental and subordinate to existing commercial farm use of the tract and are necessary to support the commercial farm uses or the commercial agricultural enterprises in the area;

(B) Comply with the requirements of paragraph (c)(C), (D), (E) and (F) of this subsection;

(C) Occur on a lot or parcel that complies with the acknowledged minimum lot or parcel size; and

(D) Do not exceed 18 events or activities in a calendar year.

(12) A holder of a permit authorized by a county under subsection (11)(d) of this section must request review of the permit at four-year intervals. Upon receipt of a request for review, the county shall:

(a) Provide public notice and an opportunity for public comment as part of the review process; and

(b) Limit its review to events and activities authorized by the permit, conformance with conditions of approval required by the permit and the standards established by subsection (11)(d) of this section.

(13) For the purposes of subsection (11) of this section:

(a) A county may authorize the use of temporary structures established in connection with the agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities authorized under subsection (11) of this section. However, the temporary structures must be removed at the end of the agri-tourism or other event or activity. The county may not approve an alteration to the land in connection with an agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity authorized under subsection (11) of this section, including, but not limited to, grading, filling or paving.

(b) The county may issue the limited use permits authorized by subsection (11)(c) of this section for two calendar years. When considering an application for renewal, the county shall ensure compliance with the provisions of subsection (11)(c) of this section, any local standards that apply and conditions that apply to the permit or to the agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities authorized by the permit.

(c) The authorizations provided by subsection (11) of this section are in addition to other authorizations that may be provided by law, except that “outdoor mass gathering” and “other gathering,” as those terms are used in ORS 197.015 (10)(d), do not include agri-tourism or other commercial events and activities.

**SECTION 4.** ORS 215.283 is amended to read:

215.283. (1) The following uses may be established in any area zoned for exclusive farm use:

(a) Churches and cemeteries in conjunction with churches.

(b) The propagation or harvesting of a forest product.

(c) Utility facilities necessary for public service, not including commercial facilities for the purpose of generating electrical power for public use by sale or transmission towers over 200 feet in height, but including:

(A) Utility facilities as provided in ORS 215.275;

(B) Utility facilities that are associated transmission lines, as defined in ORS 215.274 and 469.300;

(C) Wetland waste treatment systems; or

(D) Facilities and service lines needed to provide water or wastewater services allowed under ORS 215.256.

(d) A dwelling on real property used for farm use if the dwelling is occupied by a relative of the farm operator or the farm operator's spouse, which means a child, parent, stepparent, grandchild, grandparent, stepgrandparent, sibling, stepsibling, niece, nephew or first cousin of either, if the farm operator does or will require the assistance of the relative in the management of the farm use and the dwelling is located on the same lot or parcel as the dwelling of the farm operator. Notwithstanding ORS 92.010 to 92.192 or the minimum lot or parcel size requirements under ORS 215.780, if the owner of a dwelling described in this paragraph obtains construction financing or other financing secured by the dwelling and the secured party forecloses on the dwelling, the secured party may also foreclose on the homesite, as defined in ORS 308A.250, and the foreclosure shall operate as a partition of the homesite to create a new parcel.

(e) Subject to ORS 215.279, primary or accessory dwellings and other buildings customarily provided in conjunction with farm use.

(f) Operations for the exploration for and production of geothermal resources as defined by ORS 522.005 and oil and gas as defined by ORS 520.005, including the placement and operation of compressors, separators and other customary production equipment for an individual well adjacent to the wellhead. Any activities or construction relating to such operations shall not be a basis for an exception under ORS 197.732 (2)(a) or (b).

(g) Operations for the exploration for minerals as defined by ORS 517.750. Any activities or construction relating to such operations shall not be a basis for an exception under ORS 197.732 (2)(a) or (b).

(h) Climbing and passing lanes within the right of way existing as of July 1, 1987.

(i) Reconstruction or modification of public roads and highways, including the placement of utility facilities overhead and in the subsurface of public roads and highways along the public right of way, but not including the addition of travel lanes, where no removal or displacement of buildings would occur, or no new land parcels result.

(j) Temporary public road and highway detours that will be abandoned and restored to original condition or use at such time as no longer needed.

(k) Minor betterment of existing public road and highway related facilities such as maintenance yards, weigh stations and rest areas, within right of way existing as of July 1, 1987, and contiguous public-owned property utilized to support the operation and maintenance of public roads and highways.

(L) A replacement dwelling to be used in conjunction with farm use if the existing dwelling has been classified as historic property as described in ORS 358.487 (4).

(m) Creation, restoration or enhancement of wetlands.

(n) A winery, as described in ORS 215.452 or 215.453.

(o) Farm stands if:

(A) The structures are designed and used for the sale of farm crops or livestock grown on the farm operation, or grown on the farm operation and other farm operations in the local agricultural area, including the sale of retail incidental items and fee-based activity to promote the sale of farm crops or livestock sold at the farm stand if the annual sale of incidental items and fees from promotional activity do not make up more than 25 percent of the total annual sales of the farm stand; and

(B) The farm stand does not include structures designed for occupancy as a residence or for activity other than the sale of farm crops or livestock and does not include structures for banquets, public gatherings or public entertainment.

(p) Alteration, restoration or replacement of a lawfully established dwelling, as described in ORS 215.291.

(q) A site for the takeoff and landing of model aircraft, including such buildings or facilities as may reasonably be necessary. Buildings or facilities shall not be more than 500 square feet in floor area or placed on a permanent foundation unless the building or facility preexisted the use approved under this paragraph. The site shall not include an aggregate surface or hard surface area unless the surface preexisted the use approved under this paragraph. An owner of property used for the

purpose authorized in this paragraph may charge a person operating the use on the property rent for the property. An operator may charge users of the property a fee that does not exceed the operator's cost to maintain the property, buildings and facilities. As used in this paragraph, "model aircraft" means a small-scale version of an airplane, glider, helicopter, dirigible or balloon that is used or intended to be used for flight and is controlled by radio, lines or design by a person on the ground.

(r) A facility for the processing of farm products as described in ORS 215.255.

(s) Fire service facilities providing rural fire protection services.

(t) Irrigation reservoirs, canals, delivery lines and those structures and accessory operational facilities, not including parks or other recreational structures and facilities, associated with a district as defined in ORS 540.505.

(u) Utility facility service lines. Utility facility service lines are utility lines and accessory facilities or structures that end at the point where the utility service is received by the customer and that are located on one or more of the following:

(A) A public right of way;

(B) Land immediately adjacent to a public right of way, provided the written consent of all adjacent property owners has been obtained; or

(C) The property to be served by the utility.

(v) Subject to the issuance of a license, permit or other approval by the Department of Environmental Quality under ORS 454.695, 459.205, 468B.050, 468B.053 or 468B.055, or in compliance with rules adopted under ORS 468B.095, and as provided in ORS 215.246 to 215.251, the land application of reclaimed water, agricultural or industrial process water or biosolids, or the onsite treatment of septage prior to the land application of biosolids, for agricultural, horticultural or silvicultural production, or for irrigation in connection with a use allowed in an exclusive farm use zone under this chapter. For the purposes of this paragraph, onsite treatment of septage prior to the land application of biosolids is limited to treatment using treatment facilities that are portable, temporary and transportable by truck trailer, as defined in ORS 801.580, during a period of time within which land application of biosolids is authorized under the license, permit or other approval.

(w) A county law enforcement facility that lawfully existed on August 20, 2002, and is used to provide rural law enforcement services primarily in rural areas, including parole and post-prison supervision, but not including a correctional facility as defined under ORS 162.135.

(x) Dog training classes or testing trials, which may be conducted outdoors or in preexisting farm buildings, when:

(A) The number of dogs participating in training does not exceed 10 dogs per training class and the number of training classes to be held on-site does not exceed six per day; and

(B) The number of dogs participating in a testing trial does not exceed 60 and the number of testing trials to be conducted on-site is limited to four or fewer trials per calendar year.

(y) A cider business, as described in ORS 215.451.

(z) A farm brewery, as described in ORS 215.449.

**(aa) A farm store, as described in section 2 of this 2026 Act.**

(2) The following nonfarm uses may be established, subject to the approval of the governing body or its designee in any area zoned for exclusive farm use subject to ORS 215.296:

(a) Commercial activities that are in conjunction with farm use, including the processing of farm crops into biofuel not permitted under ORS 215.203 (2)(b)(K) or 215.255.

(b) Operations conducted for:

(A) Mining and processing of geothermal resources as defined by ORS 522.005 and oil and gas as defined by ORS 520.005 not otherwise permitted under subsection (1)(f) of this section;

(B) Mining, crushing or stockpiling of aggregate and other mineral and other subsurface resources subject to ORS 215.298;

(C) Processing, as defined by ORS 517.750, of aggregate into asphalt or portland cement; and

(D) Processing of other mineral resources and other subsurface resources.

(c) Private parks, playgrounds, hunting and fishing preserves and campgrounds. Subject to the approval of the county governing body or its designee, a private campground may provide yurts for overnight camping. No more than one-third or a maximum of 10 campsites, whichever is smaller, may include a yurt. The yurt shall be located on the ground or on a wood floor with no permanent foundation. Upon request of a county governing body, the Land Conservation and Development Commission may provide by rule for an increase in the number of yurts allowed on all or a portion of the campgrounds in a county if the commission determines that the increase will comply with the standards described in ORS 215.296 (1). As used in this paragraph, "yurt" means a round, domed shelter of cloth or canvas on a collapsible frame with no plumbing, sewage disposal hookup or internal cooking appliance.

(d) Parks and playgrounds. A public park may be established consistent with the provisions of ORS 195.120.

(e) Community centers owned by a governmental agency or a nonprofit community organization and operated primarily by and for residents of the local rural community. A community center authorized under this paragraph may provide services to veterans, including but not limited to emergency and transitional shelter, preparation and service of meals, vocational and educational counseling and referral to local, state or federal agencies providing medical, mental health, disability income replacement and substance abuse services, only in a facility that is in existence on January 1, 2006. The services may not include direct delivery of medical, mental health, disability income replacement or substance abuse services.

(f) Golf courses on land:

(A) Determined not to be high-value farmland, as defined in ORS 195.300 (10); or

(B) Determined to be high-value farmland described in ORS 195.300 (10)(c) if the land:

(i) Is not otherwise described in ORS 195.300 (10);

(ii) Is surrounded on all sides by an approved golf course; and

(iii) Is west of U.S. Highway 101.

(g) Commercial utility facilities for the purpose of generating power for public use by sale. If the area zoned for exclusive farm use is high-value farmland, a photovoltaic solar power generation facility may be established as a commercial utility facility as provided in ORS 215.447. A renewable energy facility as defined in ORS 215.446 may be established as a commercial utility facility.

(h) Personal-use airports for airplanes and helicopter pads, including associated hangar, maintenance and service facilities. A personal-use airport, as used in this section, means an airstrip restricted, except for aircraft emergencies, to use by the owner, and, on an infrequent and occasional basis, by invited guests, and by commercial aviation activities in connection with agricultural operations. No aircraft may be based on a personal-use airport other than those owned or controlled by the owner of the airstrip. Exceptions to the activities permitted under this definition may be granted through waiver action by the Oregon Department of Aviation in specific instances. A personal-use airport lawfully existing as of September 13, 1975, shall continue to be permitted subject to any applicable rules of the Oregon Department of Aviation.

(i) Home occupations as provided in ORS 215.448.

(j) A facility for the primary processing of forest products, provided that such facility is found to not seriously interfere with accepted farming practices and is compatible with farm uses described in ORS 215.203 (2). Such a facility may be approved for a one-year period which is renewable. These facilities are intended to be only portable or temporary in nature. The primary processing of a forest product, as used in this section, means the use of a portable chipper or stud mill or other similar methods of initial treatment of a forest product in order to enable its shipment to market. Forest products, as used in this section, means timber grown upon a parcel of land or contiguous land where the primary processing facility is located.

(k) A site for the disposal of solid waste approved by the governing body of a city or county or both and for which a permit has been granted under ORS 459.245 by the Department of Environmental Quality together with equipment, facilities or buildings necessary for its operation.

(L) One manufactured dwelling or recreational vehicle, or the temporary residential use of an existing building, in conjunction with an existing dwelling as a temporary use for the term of a hardship suffered by the existing resident or a relative of the resident. Within three months of the end of the hardship, the manufactured dwelling or recreational vehicle shall be removed or demolished or, in the case of an existing building, the building shall be removed, demolished or returned to an allowed nonresidential use. The governing body or its designee shall provide for periodic review of the hardship claimed under this paragraph. A temporary residence approved under this paragraph is not eligible for replacement under subsection (1)(p) of this section.

(m) Transmission towers over 200 feet in height.

(n)(A) Commercial dog boarding kennels; or

(B) Dog training classes or testing trials that cannot be established under subsection (1)(x) of this section.

(o) Residential homes as defined in ORS 197.660, in existing dwellings.

(p) The propagation, cultivation, maintenance and harvesting of aquatic species that are not under the jurisdiction of the State Fish and Wildlife Commission or insect species. Insect species shall not include any species under quarantine by the State Department of Agriculture or the United States Department of Agriculture. The county shall provide notice of all applications under this paragraph to the State Department of Agriculture. Notice shall be provided in accordance with the county's land use regulations but shall be mailed at least 20 calendar days prior to any administrative decision or initial public hearing on the application.

(q) Construction of additional passing and travel lanes requiring the acquisition of right of way but not resulting in the creation of new land parcels.

(r) Reconstruction or modification of public roads and highways involving the removal or displacement of buildings but not resulting in the creation of new land parcels.

(s) Improvement of public road and highway related facilities, such as maintenance yards, weigh stations and rest areas, where additional property or right of way is required but not resulting in the creation of new land parcels.

(t) A destination resort that is approved consistent with the requirements of any statewide planning goal relating to the siting of a destination resort.

(u) Room and board arrangements for a maximum of five unrelated persons in existing residences.

(v) Operations for the extraction and bottling of water.

(w) Expansion of existing county fairgrounds and activities directly relating to county fairgrounds governed by county fair boards established pursuant to ORS 565.210.

(x) A living history museum related to resource based activities owned and operated by a governmental agency or a local historical society, together with limited commercial activities and facilities that are directly related to the use and enjoyment of the museum and located within authentic buildings of the depicted historic period or the museum administration building, if areas other than an exclusive farm use zone cannot accommodate the museum and related activities or if the museum administration buildings and parking lot are located within one quarter mile of an urban growth boundary. As used in this paragraph:

(A) "Living history museum" means a facility designed to depict and interpret everyday life and culture of some specific historic period using authentic buildings, tools, equipment and people to simulate past activities and events; and

(B) "Local historical society" means the local historical society recognized by the county governing body and organized under ORS chapter 65.

(y) An aerial fireworks display business that has been in continuous operation at its current location within an exclusive farm use zone since December 31, 1986, and possesses a wholesaler's permit to sell or provide fireworks.

(z) A landscape contracting business, as defined in ORS 671.520, or a business providing landscape architecture services, as described in ORS 671.318, if the business is pursued in conjunction with the growing and marketing of nursery stock on the land that constitutes farm use.

(aa) Public or private schools for kindergarten through grade 12, including all buildings essential to the operation of a school, primarily for residents of the rural area in which the school is located.

(bb) Equine and equine-affiliated therapeutic and counseling activities, provided:

(A) The activities are conducted in existing buildings that were lawfully constructed on the property before January 1, 2019, or in new buildings that are accessory, incidental and subordinate to the farm use on the tract; and

(B) All individuals conducting therapeutic or counseling activities are acting within the proper scope of any licenses required by the state.

(cc) Guest ranches in eastern Oregon, as described in ORS 215.461.

(dd) Child care facilities, preschool recorded programs or school-age recorded programs that are:

(A) Authorized under ORS 329A.250 to 329A.450;

(B) Primarily for the children of residents and workers of the rural area in which the facility or program is located; and

(C) Colocated with a community center or a public or private school allowed under this subsection.

(3) Roads, highways and other transportation facilities and improvements not allowed under subsections (1) and (2) of this section may be established, subject to the approval of the governing body or its designee, in areas zoned for exclusive farm use subject to:

(a) Adoption of an exception to the goal related to agricultural lands and to any other applicable goal with which the facility or improvement does not comply; or

(b) ORS 215.296 for those uses identified by rule of the Land Conservation and Development Commission as provided in section 3, chapter 529, Oregon Laws 1993.

(4) The following agri-tourism and other commercial events or activities that are related to and supportive of agriculture may be established in any area zoned for exclusive farm use:

(a) A county may authorize a single agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity on a tract in a calendar year by an authorization that is personal to the applicant and is not transferred by, or transferable with, a conveyance of the tract, if the agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity meets any local standards that apply and:

(A) The agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity is incidental and subordinate to existing farm use on the tract;

(B) The duration of the agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity does not exceed 72 consecutive hours;

(C) The maximum attendance at the agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity does not exceed 500 people;

(D) The maximum number of motor vehicles parked at the site of the agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity does not exceed 250 vehicles;

(E) The agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity complies with ORS 215.296;

(F) The agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity occurs outdoors, in temporary structures, or in existing permitted structures, subject to health and fire and life safety requirements; and

(G) The agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity complies with conditions established for:

(i) Planned hours of operation;

(ii) Access, egress and parking;

(iii) A traffic management plan that identifies the projected number of vehicles and any anticipated use of public roads; and

(iv) Sanitation and solid waste.

(b) In the alternative to paragraphs (a) and (c) of this subsection, a county may authorize, through an expedited, single-event license, a single agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity on a tract in a calendar year by an expedited, single-event license that is personal to the applicant and is not transferred by, or transferable with, a conveyance of the tract. A decision

concerning an expedited, single-event license is not a land use decision, as defined in ORS 197.015. To approve an expedited, single-event license, the governing body of a county or its designee must determine that the proposed agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity meets any local standards that apply, and the agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity:

- (A) Must be incidental and subordinate to existing farm use on the tract;
- (B) May not begin before 6 a.m. or end after 10 p.m.;
- (C) May not involve more than 100 attendees or 50 vehicles;
- (D) May not include the artificial amplification of music or voices before 8 a.m. or after 8 p.m.;
- (E) May not require or involve the construction or use of a new permanent structure in connection with the agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity;
- (F) Must be located on a tract of at least 10 acres unless the owners or residents of adjoining properties consent, in writing, to the location; and
- (G) Must comply with applicable health and fire and life safety requirements.

(c) In the alternative to paragraphs (a) and (b) of this subsection, a county may authorize up to six agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities on a tract in a calendar year by a limited use permit that is personal to the applicant and is not transferred by, or transferable with, a conveyance of the tract. The agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities must meet any local standards that apply, and the agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities:

- (A) Must be incidental and subordinate to existing farm use on the tract;
- (B) May not, individually, exceed a duration of 72 consecutive hours;
- (C) May not require that a new permanent structure be built, used or occupied in connection with the agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities;
- (D) Must comply with ORS 215.296;
- (E) May not, in combination with other agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities authorized in the area, materially alter the stability of the land use pattern in the area; and
- (F) Must comply with conditions established for:

(i) The types of agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities that are authorized during each calendar year, including the number and duration of the agri-tourism or other commercial events and activities, the anticipated daily attendance and the hours of operation;

(ii) The location of existing structures and the location of proposed temporary structures to be used in connection with the agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities;

(iii) The location of access and egress and parking facilities to be used in connection with the agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities;

(iv) Traffic management, including the projected number of vehicles and any anticipated use of public roads; and

(v) Sanitation and solid waste.

(d) In addition to paragraphs (a) to (c) of this subsection, a county may authorize agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities that occur more frequently or for a longer period or that do not otherwise comply with paragraphs (a) to (c) of this subsection if the agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities comply with any local standards that apply and the agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities:

(A) Are incidental and subordinate to existing commercial farm use of the tract and are necessary to support the commercial farm uses or the commercial agricultural enterprises in the area;

(B) Comply with the requirements of paragraph (c)(C), (D), (E) and (F) of this subsection;

(C) Occur on a lot or parcel that complies with the acknowledged minimum lot or parcel size; and

(D) Do not exceed 18 events or activities in a calendar year.

(5) A holder of a permit authorized by a county under subsection (4)(d) of this section must request review of the permit at four-year intervals. Upon receipt of a request for review, the county shall:

(a) Provide public notice and an opportunity for public comment as part of the review process; and

(b) Limit its review to events and activities authorized by the permit, conformance with conditions of approval required by the permit and the standards established by subsection (4)(d) of this section.

(6) For the purposes of subsection (4) of this section:

(a) A county may authorize the use of temporary structures established in connection with the agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities authorized under subsection (4) of this section. However, the temporary structures must be removed at the end of the agri-tourism or other event or activity. The county may not approve an alteration to the land in connection with an agri-tourism or other commercial event or activity authorized under subsection (4) of this section, including, but not limited to, grading, filling or paving.

(b) The county may issue the limited use permits authorized by subsection (4)(c) of this section for two calendar years. When considering an application for renewal, the county shall ensure compliance with the provisions of subsection (4)(c) of this section, any local standards that apply and conditions that apply to the permit or to the agri-tourism or other commercial events or activities authorized by the permit.

(c) The authorizations provided by subsection (4) of this section are in addition to other authorizations that may be provided by law, except that “outdoor mass gathering” and “other gathering,” as those terms are used in ORS 197.015 (10)(d), do not include agri-tourism or other commercial events and activities.

**SECTION 5.** ORS 475A.570 is amended to read:

475A.570. [Psilocybin-producing fungi as crop; exceptions to permitted uses.] (1) Psilocybin-producing fungi is:

(a) A crop for the purposes of farm use as defined in ORS 215.203;

(b) A crop for purposes of a farm and farming practice, both as defined in ORS 30.930;

(c) A product of farm use as described in ORS 308A.062; and

(d) The product of an agricultural activity for purposes of ORS 568.909.

(2) Notwithstanding ORS chapters 195, 196, 197, 197A, 215 and 227, the following are not permitted uses on land designated for exclusive farm use:

(a) A new dwelling used in conjunction with a psilocybin-producing fungi crop;

(b) A farm stand, as described in ORS 215.213 (1)(r) or 215.283 (1)(o), used in conjunction with a psilocybin-producing fungi crop; *[and]*

**(c) A farm store, as described in section 2 of this 2026 Act, used in conjunction with a psilocybin-producing fungi crop; and**

*[(c)]* **(d)** Subject to subsection (3) of this section, a commercial activity, as described in ORS 215.213 (2)(c) or 215.283 (2)(a), carried on in conjunction with a psilocybin-producing fungi crop.

(3) The operation of a psilocybin service center may be carried on in conjunction with a psilocybin-producing fungi crop.

(4) A county may allow the manufacture of psilocybin products as a farm use on land zoned for farm or forest use in the same manner as the manufacture of psilocybin products is allowed in exclusive farm use zones under this section and ORS 215.213, 215.283 and 475C.053.

(5) This section applies to psilocybin product manufacturers that hold a license under ORS 475A.290.

**SECTION 6.** ORS 475C.489 is amended to read:

475C.489. (1) Marijuana is:

(a) A crop for the purposes of “farm use” as defined in ORS 215.203;

(b) A crop for purposes of a “farm” and “farming practice,” both as defined in ORS 30.930;

(c) A product of farm use as described in ORS 308A.062; and

(d) The product of an agricultural activity for purposes of ORS 568.909.

(2) Notwithstanding ORS chapters 195, 196, 197, 197A, 215 and 227, the following are not permitted uses on land designated for exclusive farm use:

(a) A new dwelling used in conjunction with a marijuana crop;

(b) A farm stand, as described in ORS 215.213 (1)(r) or 215.283 (1)(o), used in conjunction with a marijuana crop; *[and]*

**(c) A farm store, as described in section 2 of this 2026 Act, used in conjunction with a marijuana crop; and**

*[(c)]* **(d)** A commercial activity, as described in ORS 215.213 (2)(c) or 215.283 (2)(a), carried on in conjunction with a marijuana crop.

(3) A county may allow the production of marijuana as a farm use on land zoned for farm or forest use in the same manner as the production of marijuana is allowed in exclusive farm use zones under this section and ORS 215.213, 215.283 and 475C.053.

(4) This section applies to:

(a) Marijuana producers that hold a license issued under ORS 475C.065;

(b) Persons registered under ORS 475C.792 and designated to produce marijuana by one or more persons who hold valid registry identification cards issued under ORS 475C.783; and

(c) For the purpose of producing marijuana or propagating immature marijuana plants, researchers of cannabis that hold a certificate issued under ORS 475C.289.

**Passed by House March 4, 2026**

.....  
Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

.....  
Julie Fahey, Speaker of House

**Passed by Senate March 6, 2026**

.....  
Rob Wagner, President of Senate

**Received by Governor:**

.....M.,....., 2026

**Approved:**

.....M.,....., 2026

.....  
Tina Kotek, Governor

**Filed in Office of Secretary of State:**

.....M.,....., 2026

.....  
Tobias Read, Secretary of State

## MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture  
From: Board Coordinator  
Subject: Agenda Item number 4: *Deschutes Land Trust*

### I. Introduction

The Board of Agriculture will hear updates from the Deschutes Land Trust's Executive Director, Rika Ayotte. Presentation topics will include current work involving solar mitigation and conservation easement development throughout central Oregon.

### II. Background

The Deschutes Land Trust is a locally based, nationally accredited 501(c)3 nonprofit land conservation organization founded in 1995 in Bend, Oregon. Its core mission is *to conserve and care for the lands and waters that sustain Central Oregon, so local communities and the natural world can flourish together for generations to come*. Their mission is accomplished through working with willing landowners on voluntary conservation agreements, purchasing or receiving land donations, restoring habitats, and connecting people with nature.

To date, the Deschutes Land Trust has conserved tens of thousands of acres in the Deschutes River Basin and surrounding communities, protecting wetlands, forests, meadows, creek corridors, and wildlife habitat.

See Deschutes Land Trust's Strategic Vision for 2025-2030 attached.

# DESCHUTES LAND TRUST STRATEGIC VISION 2025-2030

**Our Mission:** to conserve and care for the lands and waters that sustain Central Oregon, so local communities and the natural world can flourish together for generations to come. To achieve our mission, we make the following core commitments:

## COMMITMENT #1

### Scale up conservation, stewardship, and restoration across Central Oregon.

Climate change and our rapidly growing region are placing enormous pressure on our life-sustaining resources: clean air, clean water, and native plants and animals. We will work with our communities and partners to prioritize, conserve, and restore lands in Central Oregon using place-based, data-driven, landscape-scale approaches.

## COMMITMENT #2

### Connect everyone—to the land, nature, and each other.

We believe that people are a part of the natural world. Together we can create places for ALL communities to connect with the Land Trust and the lands we conserve.

## COMMITMENT #3

### Restore access, stewardship, and ownership of land to Tribes and Tribal communities.

The Land Trust upholds the Tribal rights of sovereign nations, and we honor and support their role as the original stewards of the land and water. We will work collaboratively with these Nations to return access, stewardship, and land.

## COMMITMENT #4

### Grow Deschutes Land Trust's leadership role and organizational capacity.

Strong organizations can create lasting change in our community. We strive to build the Land Trust of the future to help conserve and care for the lands and waters our region needs to thrive.

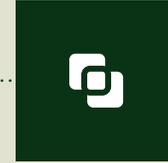


Photos clockwise from top: Karen Walsh, Land Trust, Jay Mather, and Wasim Muklashy.

Learn more: [deschuteslandtrust.org](https://deschuteslandtrust.org)

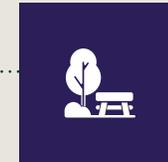
## 1. Scale up conservation, stewardship, and restoration across Central Oregon.

- Collaborate on landscape-scale conservation, stewardship, and restoration for the health of our lands and waters and to mitigate the impacts of climate change.
- Develop abundant financial resources that help us move quickly on key opportunities.
- Complete conservation and restoration projects that matter to our neighbors in rural and urban communities throughout Central Oregon.
- Increase integration of community wildfire resiliency and Indigenous Traditional Ecological and Cultural Knowledge in our stewardship and conservation work.



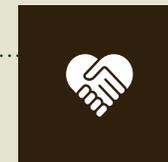
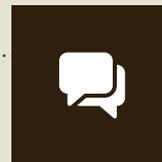
## 2. Connect everyone—to the land, nature, and each other.

- Create Land Trust Preserves that reduce barriers to access for ALL communities.
- Provide new ways for people to connect with Land Trust conserved lands.
- Align conservation and stewardship priorities with community needs.
- Inspire people and communities to connect to nature and each other.



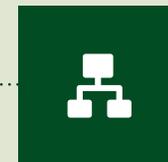
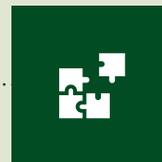
## 3. Restore access, stewardship, and ownership of land to Tribes and Tribal communities.

- Engage with and learn from Tribal partners.
- Together with Tribes, co-lead conservation, restoration, and stewardship planning and implementation on Land Trust conserved lands.
- Restore Tribal access to Land Trust conserved lands.
- Support and assist in the return of land to Tribes.



## 4. Grow Deschutes Land Trust's leadership role and organizational capacity.

- Grow and strengthen our network of partners to advance our shared goals and values.
- Build systems, resources, and connections to sustain long-term organizational and financial health.
- Match our capacity across all staff departments and the Board of Directors to our plans and ambitions.
- Develop a Board and staff that reflect the Central Oregon communities we serve.



**Interested in learning more?**

Please visit: [deschuteslandtrust.org](https://deschuteslandtrust.org)

## MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture  
From: Board Coordinator  
Subject: Agenda Item Number 5: *OSU College of Agriculture Dean Updates*

### I. Introduction

Dean Staci Simonich of Oregon State University will provide the Board with an update on Oregon State University's College of Agriculture.

## MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture  
From: Board Coordinator  
Subject: Agenda Item Number 6: *Regional Food & Ag Business Centers*

### I. Introduction

The Board will hear updates from ODA's Trade and Economic Development program on the status of the three pilot Regional Food & Ag Business Centers.

### II. Background

In December of 2025, the Board heard broad updates from ODA's Trade and Economic Development program. Those updates included a timeline overview of the development of Regional Food & Ag Business Centers throughout the state, an effort funded by the USDA, Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure grant.

#### **Locations**

ODA is working with community-based organizations in three regions across the state to help develop build resiliency within the middle of the food supply chain. Those three regions are: Medford, Salem, and Ontario.

#### **Updates**

Timelines for grant funding expenditure and work completion have shifted from the initial timeline presented to the Board. ODA staff will provide an updated timeline and detail the work currently happening to develop the Regional Food and Ag Business Centers.

# Oregon's Regional Food & Agriculture Business Centers

*Building a Coordinated "Front Door" for Producers*

Economic Development Program Update

Board of Agriculture Meeting  
Redmond, OR

March 19, 2026



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# RFABC Team

Amy Gilroy  
Trade Manager

Jim Cupples  
Regional Food System  
Coordinator

Erick Garman  
Trade Manager



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# Background



## Oregon's Food & Beverage Manufacturing Industry Road Map

Executive Summary Report  
and Recommendations

*Food and Beverage Steering Committee*  
December 2016

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE | Food & Beverage Maker's Roadmap

Oregon Harvest for Schools - Learn more about - Help Center Contact Us Request for Listing

# OREGON FOOD & BEVERAGE MAKER'S ROADMAP

Planning and understanding how to successfully connect to resources throughout the state of Oregon

Search

Explore Topics



Oregon Food and Beverage  
Leadership Council



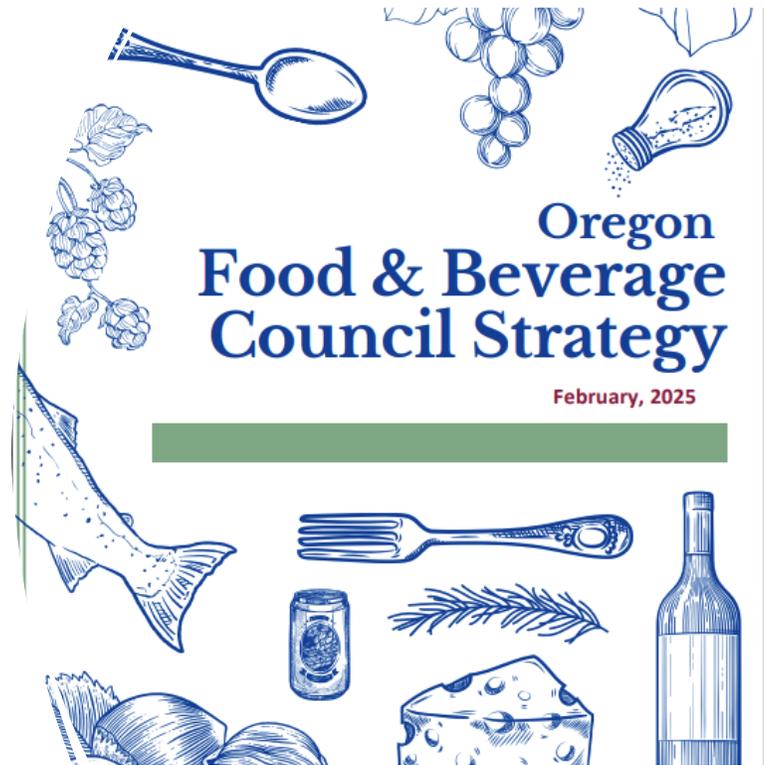
USDA REGIONAL  
**FOOD**  
BUSINESS CENTERS  
NORTHWEST & ROCKY  
MOUNTAIN

USDA Agricultural Marketing Service  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

HOME MARKET NEWS RULES & REGULATIONS GRADES & STANDARDS SERVICES R



**Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program**



Oregon  
**Food & Beverage  
Council Strategy**

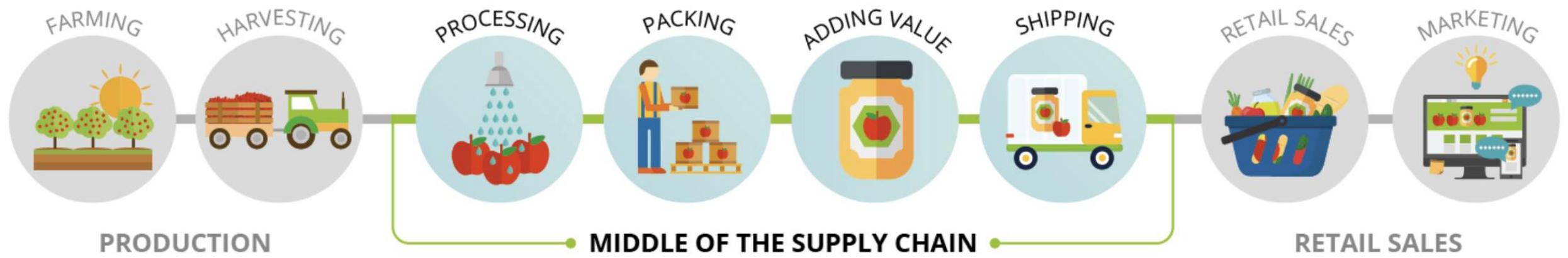
February, 2025



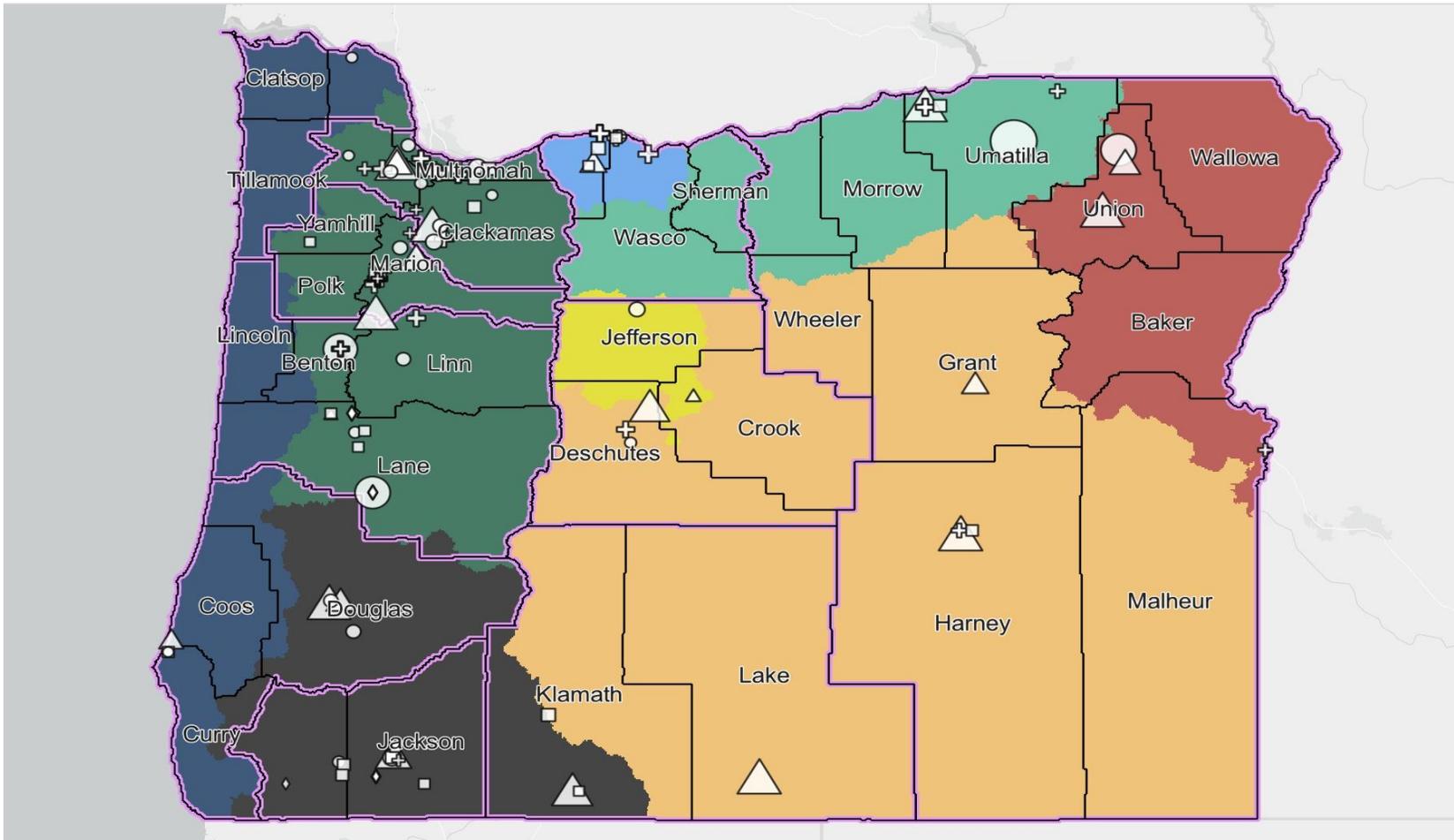
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AGRICULTURE**

# Persistent Challenges for Growth

- Distribution logistics
- Lack of cold storage
- Workforce retention and upskilling
- Understanding costs and setting prices
- Modernization
- Food safety requirements
- Access to natural resources & capital
- Copacker availability



WSDA, RFSI, 2024



# Vision for Regional Food & Ag Business Centers



Build off existing regional relationships



Lead with identified priorities



Leverage federal and state investments



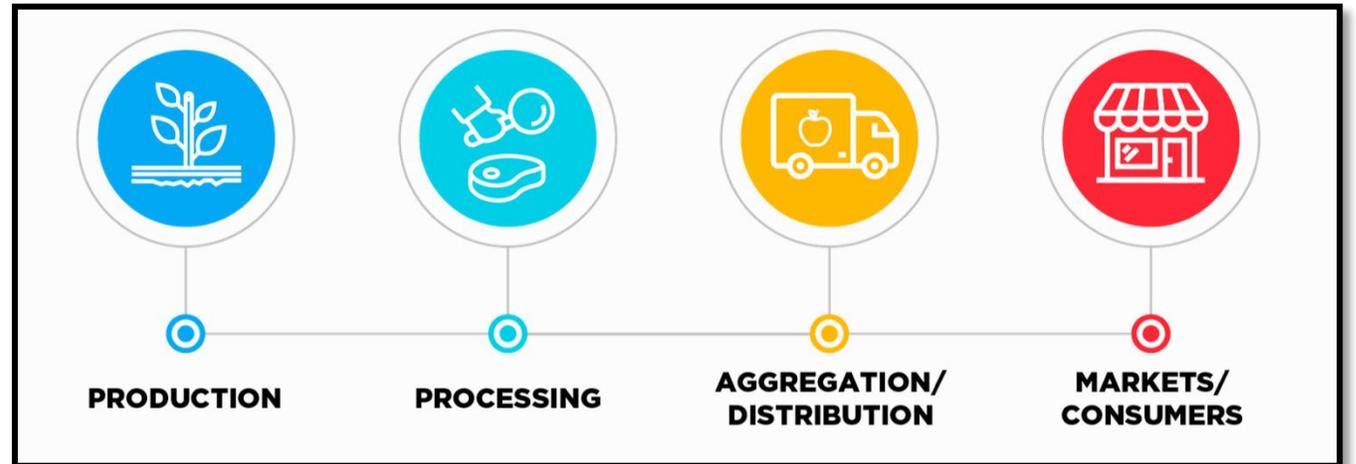
Align with Governor's Resiliency and Prosperity Initiatives



Improve economic viability for producers

# Regional Food & Agriculture Business Centers

- Balance the infrastructure equation
- Decentralize resources & people
- Build an "on ramp" that's responsive to scale



# Eastern Oregon: Border Board

- Enhance Prosperity on the Border Region
- Funding/Investment Strategies
- Agriculture Region



# Southern Oregon: Rogue Valley Food System Network

- Entrepreneurial Energy
- Recent processing infrastructure investments
- Need for coordinated navigation



# Mid-Willamette Valley: SEDCOR

- Strong agriculture innovation network
- Processing loss
- Wholesale markets



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# Roles of the RFABCs



- Regional coordination and navigation
- Proactively market and promote services
- Assess technical assistance needs
- Evaluate and improve
- Maintain relevance

# Technical Assistance

- Statewide referral network
- Deploy existing credible resources
- 1:1 coaching and support
- Build a durable communication method





**Oregon State University**  
Food Innovation Center



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# Economic Development Team Support



- Scaled Distribution Models
- Workforce Development Curriculum for CTE
- Cost Analysis Tools
- Resource Visibility and Access

# Strategic Vision

## Pilot

### Three Regional Centers

- Eastern Oregon - Border Board
- Southern Oregon - Rogue Valley Food System Network
- Willamette Valley - SEDCOR

## Proof of Concept

### Test, Measure, Refine

- Validate demand for coordinated TA
- Track engagement and outcomes
- Identify operational challenges
- Adjust before expansion

## Scalable Model

### Statewide Framework

- Replicable Center playbook
- Standard intake & referral process
- Ready for additional regions or funding

# Future Plans

- Future Region Options
- Learned Lessons
- Long Term Sustainability





# Discussion



**OREGON  
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AGRICULTURE**

## MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture  
From: Board Coordinator  
Subject: Agenda Item number 7: *Recent Rulemaking at ODA*

### I. Introduction

Sunny Summers, Senior Policy Advisor with ODA, will provide a rulemaking overview and discuss recent rulemaking activities across ODA.

### II. The Rulemaking Process

Oregon state agencies use rulemaking to put state laws into practice and explain how programs will work. When an agency plans to adopt, change, or repeal a rule, it must follow a set public process to ensure public participation in rule development.

The process starts with a **notice of proposed rulemaking**, which must be published before the rule is adopted. During this time, the agency accepts written public comments and may hold public hearings. Agencies must review and consider all comments received before making a final decision.

Usually, at least one Rules Advisory Committee (RAC) meeting is held prior to filing rules for public comment with the Oregon Secretary of State. ODA invites members to serve on RACs and aims to include members from a broad range of backgrounds and policy expertise related to the rule topic. RAC meetings are open to the public to observe but only invited RAC members take part in discussions.

After the public comment period closes, the agency reviews the input received and decides whether to adopt the rule as proposed or with changes. The final rule is then filed with the Secretary of State and becomes effective on the date specified in the notice, which must be at least **49 days after the Legislature is notified**.

In urgent situations, agencies may adopt a **temporary rule**, which takes effect immediately but is limited to 180 days unless replaced by permanent rule.

### III. Tribal Affairs

Oregon law (ORS 182) requires state agencies to consult with the federally recognized Tribes in Oregon on matters that may affect Tribal communities. In recognition of the



sovereign authority of the nine federally recognized Tribes in Oregon and these statutory requirements, ODA has adjusted its rulemaking timelines to support meaningful tribal consultation and engagement. ODA now strives to provide Tribes with at least two month's advance notice of proposed rulemaking efforts to allow time for consultation or other forms of engagement. This also allows more time for general public engagement in the rulemaking process.

## IV. Recent Rulemaking at ODA

All of ODA's recent and ongoing rulemaking efforts can be found online at <https://oda.direct/rulemaking>

**Rules in Progress:** These are rules that are currently being developed.

**Proposed Rules Open for Public Comment:** These rules have been filed with the Oregon Secretary of State and are open for public review and comment.

**Rules Recently Adopted:** These are rules adopted in the last year (starting March 2025).

## MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture  
From: Board Coordinator  
Subject: Agenda Item number 8: *General Public Comment*

### I. Introduction

The Board will hear Public Comments.

As of the date of this memo, the Board received the following written public comments:

- Comments about animal rescue entities from Bonnie Orr.

As of the date of this memo, the following individuals have signed up to provide verbal public comment:

- None.

## Department of Agriculture- Written Comment

I realize the Department is stuck with rules passed down by the legislators, who's interest is money.

It's hard to set up rules for animal rescues because of many different kind of animals. Human Cruelty is so wide spread it is impossible to control.

It seems off balance for the DOA licensing to have strict rules for the ones that rescue the abused animals yet no license or rules for the ones that breed the animals. Where do you think all these throw away animals start life???

The Animal Rescues (over 100) felt strong fines last year from not following the rules of the DOA, yet there was no list of written rules. Boy did the legislators get a bunch of money to spend on the wrong things or.

If your going to force license (money) on one part of animal control, then include all parts like the breeders that cause the over population. Also increase the punishment for the human cruelty individuals that neglect and abuse helpless animals!!!

It's sad the Oregon government is so involved in fraud.

Bonnie Orr  
Linn County Animal Control

FREEDOM OF SPEECH

## MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture  
From: Board Coordinator  
Subject: Agenda Item Number 9: *Board Business*

### I. Soil and Water Conservation Commission

The Board of Agriculture will hear updates from Board Member Barbara Boyer, Chair of the Soil and Water Conservation Commission.

### II. 2026 Meeting Schedule

The following meeting dates and locations have been set for 2026:

Meeting Dates:	Location:	Venue:
June 3-5, 2026	Madras, OR	Inn at Cross Keys Station, Madras, OR
September 2-4, 2026	Astoria, OR	Holiday Inn Express, Astoria, OR
December 2-4, 2026*	Virtual	MS Teams

\*December 2026 Board Meeting will be virtual-only and dates will likely be condensed.

## MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture  
From: Board Coordinator  
Subject: Agenda Item number 9: *Board Resolution Review Process*

### I. Introduction

At the December 2025 Board of Agriculture Meeting, Board Members discussed the Board Resolution review process. This memo outlines their discussion and clarifies the Board Resolution Review process to ensure efficient use of agency staff and Board time as well as ensure the Board is aware of all active resolutions.

### II. Board Resolution Review Procedures

Following the discussion in December of 2025, there was consensus around the following approach to Board Resolution management:

- Create and make available a high-level overview of each active Board Resolution that Board Members may review at every meeting or as they see fit. (Included below)
- Review the entire list of Board Resolutions annually to identify resolutions to revisit in upcoming year.
- Board Members, the public, and ODA staff still may request Board Resolution review at any point in time under the provisions of Board Resolution 000.
- ODA staff will work internally to provide technical expertise and background updates as needed when the Board selects a Resolution(s) for review.
- Automatic, 3-year periodic reviews of all Resolutions have stopped. Resolutions will only be reviewed based on Board selection, ODA staff recommendation, or public interest in accordance with Board Resolution 000.
- Board Resolutions will be reformatted to reflect these changes. No substantive change to resolution text shall occur without proper approval from the Board.

### III. Board Resolution Overview

Attached is the compilation of all current Board Resolutions with a brief description. At the December 2025 Board Meeting, several Board Members requested this as a resource to be included in the Board Materials delivered to Board Members in person and ahead of each meeting.

## IV. Resolution 000

Resolution 000, Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution Procedures, provides the process for establishment and review of Board resolutions. A revised version is provided to Board consideration and adoption to clarify the review process and to clarify how resolutions will be worked going forward. The Board will review the edited draft and vote to approve the changes at this Board meeting. Public comment is welcome during the General Public Comment session identified on the agenda.

# Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution Procedures

<b>Title:</b> Board of Agriculture Policy and Procedures for Resolutions	<b>Number:</b> 000 <b>Effective Date:</b> 06/15/2023
<b>ODA Staff Contact:</b> John Boyes	<b>Date of Last Review/Revision:</b> 03/19/2026 <b>Original Resolution Date:</b> 06/07/2018
<b>Board Chair:</b> Elin Miller	

## General

- This document is intended to provide a clear process for establishment and review of Board resolutions.
- Resolutions are policy statements by the Board of Agriculture.
- All active Board resolutions will be available to the public on ODA's website including an ODA staff point of contact.
- If a Resolution is under review the website will simply state "under Board review," with an ODA staff contact listed. Draft language of Resolutions under review will not be posted as a matter of routine but will be available with Board agendas. Information is provided on how the public may provide comments on resolutions under Board review.
- Inactive Board resolutions are kept in an electronic archive but are not listed on the website and are only available to the public by request to ODA staff, or if the Board decides to re-activate a resolution.
- Resolutions will be reviewed on a routine basis by ODA staff and the Board to determine relevancy and changes if needed.

## Resolution Development and Review Process

- Resolutions may be initiated at the request of individual members of the Board or may be suggested to the Board by ODA staff, or initiated by the Board at the request of an outside party.

Board Resolutions may be reviewed between Board meetings by any number of Board members.

Review activities shall follow applicable Public Meetings laws.

- If it is known prior to a Board meeting that an active or proposed resolution will be brought to the full Board, it is made available on the website to the public with materials provided to the Board for the meeting.
- At the meeting, the Board will be advised by staff of any comments received about a proposed resolution, and the public may provide comments at the meeting on the proposed resolution during public comment periods designated on the agenda.
- If no revisions to the resolution are requested by the Board after discussion and hearing public comment, or if revisions are made and accepted by the Board at the meeting, the resolution may be adopted.

- If the Board requests that more work be done on the resolution, the revised resolution will be posted on the website with the Board meeting agenda including the statement “under Board review” and instructions on how to provide public comment.
- A revised draft of the resolution will be brought to the Board at its next meeting, which the Board may adopt, or send through the revision process again. This process may be repeated until the resolution is adopted.
- Resolutions will not be active until the Board votes on the final text of the resolution.

#### **Summary of Public Involvement in Resolutions**

- Resolutions are available to the public through the website.
- Drafts of resolutions under review by the Board are posted on the website with the Board meeting agenda.
- The public may provide verbal and/or written comment on the resolutions under consideration by the Board.
- Members of the public can request the Board to consider creating or modifying a resolution.

## MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture  
From: Board Coordinator  
Subject: Agenda Item Number 10: *Governor's Natural Resources Team Update*

### I. Introduction

The Governor's Office Natural Resources staff will provide an update to the Board of Agriculture on recent Executive Orders, including EO 25-26 and EO 25-29.

Attendees from the Governor's Office will include:

- Geoff Huntington, Senior Natural Resources Advisor, Governor Kotek's Office
- Chandra Ferrari, Natural Resources Advisor, Governor Kotek's Office
- Amy Schlusser, Climate and Energy Policy Advisor, Governor Kotek's Office

Included are copies of Oregon's Prosperity Roadmap, EO 25-26 and EO 25-29.

### II. Oregon's Prosperity Roadmap

In December of 2025, Governor Tina Kotek released Oregon's Prosperity Roadmap, a comprehensive plan to develop a statewide economic strategy built around three overarching goals and a set of strategic initiatives designed to achieve those goals. The goals identified were:

- Accelerate Oregon's economic growth
- Create more living wage jobs, now
- Retain and grow Oregon businesses

Additionally, Governor Kotek announced the formation of the Governor's Prosperity Council and the establishment of the Chief Prosperity Officer. The Council, comprised of nimble, diverse experts representing every corner of the state, critical

sectors, and labor, is tasked with advising the Governor’s office and the Chief Prosperity Officer on recommendations to achieve the strategic goals outlined in the Plan.

In early 2026, Governor Kotek announced the members of the Prosperity Council. Those members are:

- Renée James, Founder, Ampere Computing – Co-Chair
- Curtis Robinhold, Port of Portland – Co-Chair
- David Booth, Tillamook Creamery
- Robert Camarillo, Oregon Building Trades
- Lois Cho, Cho Wines
- Andrew Colas, Colas Construction
- Alice Dale, Labor Consultant – SEIU
- Dave Drinkward, Hoffman Construction
- Diane Fraiman, Voyager Capital
- Brian Hall, NIC Industries
- Stephen Laffoon, Penderia Technology
- Richelle Luther, Columbia Sportswear
- Toby Luther, Lone Rock Resources
- Laure Naumes, Naumes, Inc.
- Brad DePuyt, Fort George Brewing
- Jordan Schnitzer, President & CEO of Schnitzer Properties

**Online Survey:**

A 15-minute online survey is open through March 20, 2026, for Oregonians from every corner of the state to provide insight, experience, and ideas about Oregon’s economic future. The Feedback obtained will help shape and drive the work of the Council. The survey can be accessed here:

<https://www.oregon.gov/gov/policies/Pages/Prosperity-Council.aspx>

**Board of Agriculture Letter to Governor Kotek:**

The Board of Agriculture sent a letter to Governor Kotek, expressing support for the Council and its initiative. They also requested that agriculture, food, and beverage industries, Oregon’s founding economic sectors, be adequately represented on the Council. A copy of that letter is included here.

December 19, 2025

The Honorable Tina Kotek  
Governor of Oregon  
900 Court St NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Governor Kotek,

On behalf of the State Board of Agriculture, I write to express our support for your December 3, 2025, announcement of the Prosperity Roadmap and to ensure that Oregon's founding traded sector, Agriculture and Food & Beverage, is fully integrated into this effort. Agriculture and Food & Beverage have long been cornerstones of Oregon's prosperity, supporting more than 531,000 jobs, anchoring economic activity in every county, and generating an estimated \$2.4 billion in exports with an overall \$42 billion economic impact to the state annually.

On the same day you announced the Prosperity Roadmap, our Board heard from a panel of orchardists at our quarterly Board Meeting in Hood River. Their message was urgent: rising labor costs, complex regulatory frameworks, and regulatory disparities between Oregon and neighboring states have created a challenging economic environment that threatens the long-term viability of one of Oregon's longest standing and iconic agricultural sectors. A November 2025 Oregon State University study highlighted the growing burden of regulation costs, finding that small pear growers pay as much as \$696 per acre in regulatory compliance costs alone, representing as much as 6.6% of total revenue and placing significant strain on already thin operating margins.

We share these challenges with you to highlight that Agriculture and Food & Beverage sit at the intersection of many of your prosperity initiatives: workforce, technology, transportation, energy, permitting, land-use, and domestic and international trade policies. Our sector's perspective and lived experience are uniquely positioned to help inform strategies that strengthen the entire economic system.

We share your assessment: Oregon's economy requires a deliberate and aggressive strategy to retain businesses and accelerate growth. The reports we heard in Hood River are not isolated. Producers statewide report that escalating input costs, regulatory fatigue, and intensifying global competition have narrowed profit margins and pushed family farms to a critical inflection point. As the next generation questions whether they can afford to continue, the consequences threaten the economic stability of Oregon's rural communities.

We believe the Oregon Prosperity Council is the right vehicle to turn these challenges into opportunity. For the Roadmap to succeed, however, it must reflect not only emerging industries, but also the natural-resource economy that provides stability, scale, and statewide reach. We

respectfully request the appointment of a representative from the Agriculture and Food & Beverage sector to the Council.

This partnership is essential for three reasons:

- **A stabilizing traded sector:** While technology fuels innovation and high growth, it can be cyclical. Agriculture and Food & Beverage provide durable, statewide economic output sustaining communities across the state through market shifts and economic downturns.
- **A fully integrated rural-urban value chain:** Agriculture uniquely connects rural production, urban processing, and global trade through Oregon's ports. Including this perspective ensures the Prosperity Roadmap advances a truly "One Oregon" economy.
- **Land-use and site-readiness expertise:** We noted your emphasis on industrial site readiness. As stewards of working lands, the agricultural community can help the state navigate land-use tensions in ways that expand economic opportunity while preserving long-term sector viability.

Agriculture and Food & Beverage representation on the council is a necessity for a long-term sustainable economy. The State Board of Agriculture stands ready to partner with you and contribute immediately to the success of the Prosperity Roadmap.

Sincerely,



Elin Miller, Chair  
State Board of Agriculture

CC:

Lisa Charpilloz Hanson, Director, Oregon Department of Agriculture  
Geoff Huntington, Senior Natural Resources Advisor, Office of Governor Tina Kotek  
Courtney Crowell, Regional Solutions Coordinator, Office of Governor Tina Kotek  
Sara Means, Workforce, Labor, and Higher Education Advisor, Office of Governor Tina Kotek  
Kelly Scannell Brooks, Transportation, Infrastructure, and Economic Development Advisor, Office of Governor Tina Kotek  
Vince Porter, Deputy Chief of Staff for Public Administration, Office of Governor Tina Kotek

# OREGON'S PROSPERITY ROADMAP







# OREGON'S PROSPERITY ROADMAP

Dear Fellow Oregonians,

Oregon is on the brink of a decade of extraordinary economic growth and greater affordability—if we put the right partnerships, policies, and strategies in place now.

We face the same headwinds that many other states face today: sluggish job growth, elevated unemployment, and declining population trends. These challenges, compounded by business outmigration and underutilized state resources, require more than observation – they demand coordinated and strategic action. Long-term prosperity won't happen by chance. It will happen because we choose to act together, with purpose, to create good jobs and build a stronger, more resilient economy for every community.

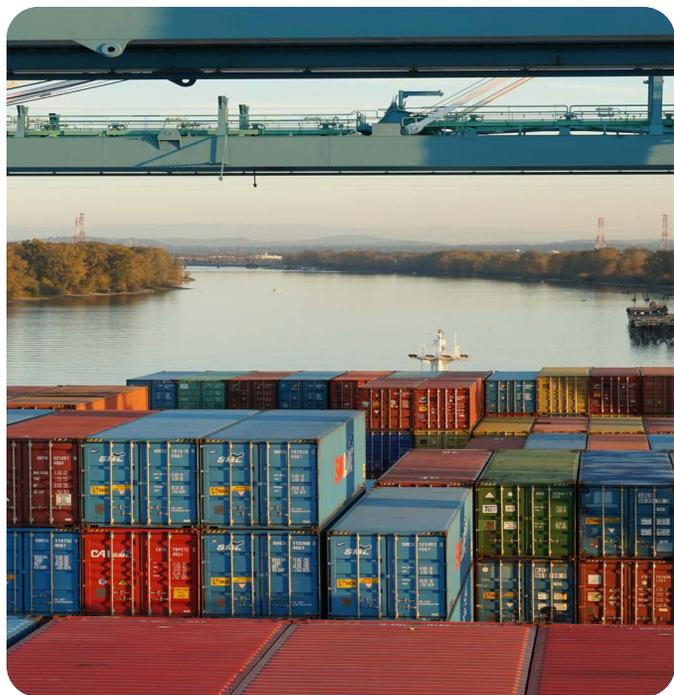
That's why I have been reaching out to business, labor, and community stakeholders as continued federal uncertainty and projected budget cuts have come to the forefront in recent months. I directed Business Oregon and my Regional Solutions team to do the same. This roadmap reflects the collective wisdom from hundreds of businesses and business organizations, data and research, and our current state revenue picture. It also builds on my work to combat homelessness, increase housing supply, improve public education, and expand access to mental health and addiction treatment – all of which are critical factors that will continue to improve the livability and welfare of our state.

One thing is immediately clear: we already have a strong foundation. Oregon is known for innovation, entrepreneurship, diverse industries, and thriving businesses of every size. With a highly skilled workforce, a world-class research university network, established industry clusters, and a collaborative business culture, Oregon is uniquely equipped to achieve sustainable growth.

Oregon's lower-cost West Coast location, offering direct access to the Pacific Rim, further strengthens its appeal as a hub for advanced manufacturing, clean energy, and global trade. Our exceptional quality of life, marked by clean air, abundant fresh water, and a stunning natural environment, makes it not only a smart place to do business but also a desirable place to live, work, and raise a family.

Now we must bring our full potential to bear. By uniting around a statewide vision and coordinating our talents and assets, we can ensure Oregon doesn't just keep up but leads in sustained economic growth.

As we put this roadmap into action, we must lead with data to inform our approach and reality test our overall goals.



The most recent Economic and Revenue Forecast provides three key areas of focus for our work:

- **Hiring:** Projected job creation has been revised downward over the medium term.
- **Unemployment:** Oregon's unemployment rate is expected to remain elevated through 2026, given moderate GDP growth and cooling labor market conditions.
- **Population:** Oregon's population growth is projected to average just 0.5% annually, with recent estimates showing a downward revision in migration and retention.

Two recent studies by the University of Oregon and ECONorthwest echo these concerns and shed light on the factors driving people and businesses to leave the state:

- [External Business Recruitment: Why are businesses leaving Oregon—and what can we do to keep them?](#)
- [2025 State of the Economy: The Value of Jobs: What kinds of jobs are we creating, and for whom?](#)

In response to this data and research, I directed my office to develop a statewide economic strategy built around three overarching goals and a set of strategic initiatives designed to achieve those goals.

These strategies are just the beginning. Just as we relied on creative, ambitious leaders and everyday Oregonians to craft this roadmap, I'm counting on Oregonians across the state to help make it real. We are all partners in building an Oregon where entrepreneurs are eager to start businesses - where economic opportunity and good-paying jobs are within reach for every Oregonian, in every corner of our state. Together, we can and will create an economy that works for everyone. An economy where innovation thrives, families prosper, and no one gets left behind. So let's get to work!

# STRATEGIC GOALS FOR OREGON'S ECONOMY



**1. Accelerate Oregon's Economic Growth:** Achieve a sustained state Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate – meaning an increase in the state's economic output – that outpaces the national average. A real-world example of this would be a business expanding its operations, e.g., manufacturing more products, hiring additional workers to meet increased demand, and ultimately generating more revenue from higher sales. This goal reflects Oregon's commitment to building a dynamic, resilient, and inclusive economy, one that drives innovation, supports high-quality living-wage jobs, and delivers long-term prosperity for all Oregonians.

- **Goal:** Grow Oregon's GDP in alignment with our historical pattern of outpacing national activity. To facilitate this outcome, the roadmap establishes a near-term target of growing GDP from 1.7 to 2.2 which could increase general fund resources by more than \$4 billion through the 2029-31 biennium.



**2. More living wage jobs, now:** Catalyze job growth by investing in high-opportunity sectors, expanding workforce development programs, strengthening regional economic ecosystems, and leveraging public-private partnerships. A real-world example of this kind of strategy is a coordinated, two-pronged approach. First, a post-secondary education institution partners with local businesses and the state to create a new training or certificate program tailored to emerging industry needs. Second, once the program is in place, employers launch a hiring process for newly created positions that specifically require the training, ensuring a direct pipeline from education to employment. This approach not only addresses current labor market demands but also prepares Oregon's workforce for the jobs of the future, equipping Oregonians with the skills and credentials needed to thrive in a rapidly evolving economy. Oregon will foster the conditions necessary to generate meaningful employment across all communities – urban, rural, and underserved.

- **Goal:** Move from #23 in the CNBC Workforce Rank into the top 10 states in the country. America's Top States for Business Workforce category measures the availability, quality, and productivity of the state's labor pool. It evaluates several metrics, including worker availability/shortages, education levels, worker training and development, net migration, labor force participation rate, productivity, and health.



**3. Retain and Grow Oregon Businesses:** Set up Oregon businesses to thrive by expanding access to capital, technical assistance, and critical infrastructure. A real-world example of this is establishing a pool of public funds that businesses can apply for, paired with technical assistance and accelerated permitting. This support allows companies to expand their operations here at home – online through streamlined approvals and on the ground through growth that spans city blocks or even acres. Through targeted support and strategic investment, the state will help to empower businesses to scale, innovate, and deepen their roots in Oregon’s economy.

- **Goal:** Move from #39 in the CNBC Top States for Business Overall Rank into the top 10 states in the country. America’s Top States for Business is an annual, data-driven analysis that ranks all states on the factors that matter most to companies when making site selection decisions. The study is designed to identify which states are best at creating a competitive and prosperous environment for business and economic growth.

## NEXT STEPS

### 1. Recruit Additional Leadership and Expertise to Grow and Drive this Roadmap

- Establish in my office the position of Chief Prosperity Officer to refine and expand on the above strategic goals, such as establishing clear timelines and deliverables, coordinating cross-agency efforts, and serving as a central point of contact for business and community stakeholders.
- Establish the Governor’s Prosperity Council to provide guidance to my office and the Chief Prosperity Officer. The Council will be a nimble, diverse group of experts representing every corner of the state, critical sectors, and labor and will be responsible for supporting economic and workforce initiatives and advising on additional or enhanced recommendations in alignment with the strategic goals.

### 2. Establish a new FastTrack Program

- My office will introduce legislation in 2026 to remove barriers to growth and incentivize investment. This bill will establish a new FastTrack Program tasked with supporting large projects that have the potential to create jobs and grow Oregon’s GDP. The FastTrack program will be modeled after “FAST 41” at the federal level and similar programs in Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Michigan.



### 3. Reduce Barriers to Investment and Growth

- Direct relevant state agencies to submit permit inventories and identify opportunities to streamline and/or accelerate existing permitting, licensing, or certification processes.
- Invest in and expedite critical infrastructure like energy, broadband, transportation, and water and wastewater systems so business and industry can expand and break ground faster. Specifically, the roadmap seeks to increase investment in the industrial site readiness fund.
- Amplify regional economic development strategies and support local efforts to utilize unique regional resources, talent pools, and market opportunities to build economic strength around the state.

### 4. Modernize and Strengthen Oregon's Economic Development Tools

- Review and update existing tools, such as enterprise zones and the Strategic Investment Program, to improve flexibility, transparency, and administrative functionality.
- Direct Business Oregon to complete a state economic development strategy to address key topic areas such as Capital Access and Entrepreneurship, Business Retention and Expansion, Business Recruitment, Workforce Development, Sector Alignment, Infrastructure, and Incentive Modernization.

### 5. Explore Targeted Tax Changes to Spur Living Wage Job Creation, Increase GDP

- Direct the Chief Prosperity Officer and Governor's Prosperity Council to develop recommendations for consideration in the 2027 legislative session in alignment with strategic goals.

### 6. Partner with Businesses and Communities for Results

- Create a Global Trade Desk to expand opportunities for global commerce, deliver better customer service, and actively promote Oregon as a premier destination for foreign investment and long-term trade partnerships.
- Enhance business outreach with major employers to gather ongoing feedback and stay ahead of emerging challenges and opportunities.
- Direct state agencies to prioritize economic development and support key projects through the Governor's Office Regional Solutions Program.





*Office of Oregon Governor*  
**TINA KOTEK**



**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 25-26**

**DIRECTING STATE AGENCIES TO TAKE URGENT ACTION TO  
PROMOTE THE RESILIENCE OF OUR COMMUNITIES AND NATURAL  
AND WORKING LANDS AND WATERS**

**WHEREAS**, the lands and waters that comprise the State of Oregon have supported people since time immemorial, contributing to clean air and water, food, fiber and shelter, rich biodiversity and ecosystems, recreation, livelihoods, and enhanced quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, Oregon is at an inflection point as changing climate and ocean conditions are impacting Oregon's landscapes, waters, communities, and local economies with increased temperatures, warming surface waters, changing precipitation patterns, reduced snowpack, hotter and drier summers, sea-level rise, diminishing water supplies, habitat constraints to iconic species, and more frequent and damaging wildfires and extreme weather events; and

**WHEREAS**, Oregon's natural and working lands and waters — including forests, grasslands, rangelands, farmlands, wetlands, rivers, lakes and coastal and marine waters, and the parks and open spaces in urban environments — provide a range of environmental, social, health, and economic benefits statewide, including opportunities to increase carbon sequestration to help address climate change; and

**WHEREAS**, Oregon can realize the promise and power of our natural and working lands and waters through proactive policies and actions that facilitate the management of natural landscapes and waterways in a way that enhances their ability to withstand and recover from climate change impacts; and

**WHEREAS**, the effects of our changing climate are resulting in direct health impacts from heat and wildfire smoke; damage to and often destruction of homes, businesses, and working landscapes; and economic losses across multiple sectors of the State's natural resource economy; and

**WHEREAS**, communities have the knowledge, ability, and desire to participate in climate solutions and increase local disaster resilience through collaborative planning and action in partnership with state agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, the Oregon State Legislature established a definition of climate resilience in House Bill 3409 (2023) as "the capability to anticipate, prepare for, respond to and recover from significant climate-related threats while minimizing damage to social wellbeing, the economy and ecosystem functions"; and



**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 25-26**  
**PAGE TWO**

**WHEREAS**, meeting Oregon’s resilience goals at scale requires bringing everyone together — Tribes, landowners, communities, business, and government — in partnership to support our lands, waters, and communities; and

**WHEREAS**, meeting Oregon’s resilience goals requires a coordinated, outcome-focused effort to implement actions that will meaningfully mitigate and adapt the State’s lands and waters to the increasing pace and scale of impacts from the changing climate, so they continue to contribute to the social, environmental, and economic well-being of Oregonians.

**NOW IT IS HEREBY DIRECTED AND ORDERED THAT AGENCIES SHALL FURTHER THE ACTIONS IDENTIFIED BELOW.**

**I. FOSTER RESILIENT LANDS, WATERS AND COMMUNITIES**

- 1. Define Key Resilience Attributes for Land and Waters.** Agencies shall use existing plans and strategies and the best available science to define key resilience attributes appropriate for Oregon with the goal of identifying characteristics of lands and water that are: (1) currently resilient to impacts from climate change and therefore able to deliver multiple benefits that are likely to persist under future climate conditions; or, (2) capable of achieving multiple benefits of high resilience in the face of changing conditions if supported by focused actions that promote restoration, enhancement or reconnection of those lands and/or waters.
  - a.** The Executive Director of the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (“OWEB”) will partner with the Director of Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (“ODFW”) (collectively “Lead Agencies”) to lead a natural resource interagency team to undertake the work associated with development of resilience attributes anticipated by Section 1, including determining baseline conditions against which progress will be measured. The Lead Agencies shall collaborate closely with the Director of the Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE), who oversees the Natural and Working Lands Program, to ensure consistency across efforts.



**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 25-26**  
**PAGE THREE**

**2. Keep Oregon's Working Lands and Waters Working.**

- a. Executive branch agencies identified in Section II of this Order ("Agencies") are directed to utilize the resilience attributes along with other relevant information to identify and improve programs, processes, and practices that protect and promote stewardship of working lands and waters to adapt to impacts from a changing climate. These include but are not limited to the following:
  - i. Existing programs, tools and incentives that support the stewardship of working lands and waters in order to provide more diverse agricultural, forest and ocean-reliant products while also supporting co-benefits such as clean water, healthy soils and improved resilience to changing climate conditions.
  - ii. Partnerships to increase the pace and scale of adoption of sustainable stewardship and climate resilient practices by landowners including federal, local and tribal governments, businesses, non-profit organizations and private citizens.
  - iii. Application and review processes for grantmaking, loan, and financing programs to improve partner engagement on resilience projects including exploration of opportunities to leverage and expand access to capital and administrative capacity through partnership with third party service providers.
  - iv. Permitting processes for restoration projects on working lands and waters.
- b. The Department of State Lands, Department of Land and Conservation Development and Department of Fish and Wildlife, shall work with the Oregon Ocean Policy Advisory Council, the Oregon Ocean Science Trust and Oregon Sea Grant to evaluate opportunities to support long-term resilience of nearshore resources in Oregon, and incentivize and promote globally competitive ocean-reliant products derived through sustainable practices.



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 25-26  
PAGE FOUR

3. **Conserve Natural Lands and Waters to Act as Resilience Anchors in the Face of Climate Change Impacts.**
  - a. **Ten Percent in Ten Years.** Agencies are directed to protect, conserve, connect or restore ten percent of lands and waters in Oregon within ten years as compared to baseline conditions established for 2025.
  - b. **Prioritize Key Lands and Waters.** Agencies subject to this Order will utilize resilience attributes developed in Section I (1) to prioritize implementation of programs, policies and projects seeking to advance protection, conservation, restoration, or connection of lands and waters in support of the goal of ten percent in ten years. Durability and effectiveness of actions to conserve, protect, restore, or connect lands and waters must be considered in determining whether proposed actions further this directive. Agencies shall seek to maximize implementation of actions with co-benefits such as increased carbon sequestration and biodiversity, improved community health and cultural well-being, enhanced ecosystem health, and/or reduced fire and flood risk.
  - c. **Develop Innovative Mitigation Solutions.** The natural resources inter-agency team established in Section II (3) of this Order shall collaborate with Business Oregon as appropriate to explore innovative mitigation tools to support the long-term protection and resilience of land and waters that contain key resilience attributes while ensuring that the economic benefits of mitigation investments support local communities. Consideration shall be given but not be limited to the following potential solutions:
    - i. Advanced Mitigation Banks: which proactively conserve or restore ecological values in anticipation of future development impacts; and
    - ii. In-Lieu Fee Programs: which allow project developers to meet mitigation obligations by paying into a state-managed or authorized fund used for strategic conservation, restoration, and landscape resilience projects.
    - iii. These programs must be designed to:



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 25-26  
PAGE FIVE

1. Maximize ecological outcomes aligned with the protection of lands and waters with key resilience attributes.
  2. Retain mitigation revenue within Oregon, ensuring that funds support in-state projects.
  3. Allow for creative mitigation portfolios that ensure “no net loss” of lands and waters with key resilience attributes while supporting “net benefit” programs and organizations that protect lands and waters from catastrophic wildfire and/or flooding.
  4. Benefit Oregon’s agricultural families and rural communities through partnerships with local landowners, land trusts, and conservation districts.
  5. Create durable and locally beneficial conservation outcomes through transparent governance, science-based site selection, and robust monitoring/accountability requirements
  6. Leverage private investment and market-based tools in ways that complement existing public funding and programs.
4. **Lead by Example: State-Owned and Managed Lands and Waters.** Agencies subject to this Executive Order that own or manage lands or waters (including, but not limited to, those identified below) are directed to develop and implement strategies to enhance climate resilience as a co-benefit of current management objectives and to ensure present and future impacts of climate change are explicitly considered in planning for the management of those lands and waters.
- i. State Parks
  - ii. State Forests, including the Elliott State Research Forest
  - iii. State Wildlife Management Areas
  - iv. State Fish Hatcheries
  - v. State-Owned Properties/Lands (including Trust lands) not principally owned, operated, or managed in support of structures, offices, or facilities serving state agency programs.
  - vi. State Held Conservation Easements and/or Leases
  - vii. State owned submerged and submersible lands and waters, including the Territorial Sea
  - viii. State-Held Water Rights



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 25-26  
PAGE SIX

**5. Ensure a Livable Oregon.**

**a. Support and Enhance Local Resilience Efforts through Planning and Action in Collaboration with Communities.** The Oregon State Resilience Officer shall lead an effort to create a Plan for a Resilient Oregon (“PRO”) that identifies and offers funding pathways for strategies to help communities adapt and thrive in the face of increasingly severe climate risks, and to support communities in long-term recovery from climate-driven disasters. The following actions shall be taken to implement this directive:

- i. Extensive and meaningful outreach with communities shall occur in every region of the State and shall inform the development of the PRO.
- ii. Agencies participating in PRO planning and implementation efforts shall utilize existing and available staffing resources.
- iii. The PRO will integrate with existing strategies and plans, including those related to wildfire and flood protection, energy resilience, and directives of this Order.

**b. Protect Oregon from Catastrophic Wildfire.**

**i. Implement Oregon’s 20-year Landscape Resiliency Plan.**

Agencies are directed to leverage partnerships and use available programs and resources to reduce the risk of wildfire and public health impacts of smoke by creating resilient natural and working landscapes. The following actions shall be taken to implement this directive:

1. Prioritize landscapes for restoration and resilience treatments and identify pathways to increase the extent and scale of treatments.
2. Maximize dedicated funding to promote partnerships through Good Neighbor Authorities to accomplish large scale landscape resilience treatments.
3. Identify pathways to increase the extent and scale of prescribed burns and cultural burning while minimizing smoke impacts to public health.



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 25-26

PAGE SEVEN

4. Support the development and implementation of community smoke response plans. Identify additional measures for timely dissemination of air quality information and alerts during wildfire and prescribed fire events.
- ii. **Create Fire-Adapted Communities.** To safeguard lives, property, and critical infrastructure from the growing threat of wildfires, agencies are directed to support efforts to build Fire-Adapted Communities across the state. The following actions shall be taken to implement this directive:
    1. Further defensible space education and establishment across the state. Defensible space is the buffer between a building and the surrounding vegetation that slows or stops the spread of wildfire.
    2. Promote increased use of fire-resistant building materials (home hardening) and community design features to reduce structural vulnerability.
    3. Promote community risk reduction efforts through volunteer programs such as Firewise, local evacuation route planning, and partnerships to increase community survivability during urban wildfire conflagrations.

II. ACCOUNTABILITY, COORDINATION, AND IMPLEMENTATION

1. **Executive Branch Agencies Subject to this Order.** Progress on the direction and commitments of this Order will take focused and coordinated planning and execution by Oregon's natural resource agencies, each of which has its own Board or Commission. The following state agencies and their Boards or Commissions are subject to the goals and directives outlined in this Order as they may apply section by section:
  - i. Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD);
  - ii. Department of State Lands (DSL);
  - iii. Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation (OPRD);
  - iv. Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ);
  - v. Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA);
  - vi. Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE);



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 25-26  
PAGE EIGHT

- vii. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW);
  - viii. Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI);
  - ix. Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF);
  - x. Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT);
  - xi. Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Environmental Public Health;
  - xii. Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD);
  - xiii. Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB);
  - xiv. Public Utility Commission of Oregon (PUC); and
  - xv. Oregon Climate Action Commission (OCAC).
2. **Reporting and Accountability.** State agencies must deliver transparent, accurate reporting on public programs, maintain accountability to citizens and stakeholders, and establish clear feedback loops that enable public input and demonstrate responsive government action, using the following:
- a. **Develop Biennial Plans.** Each agency shall develop (or incorporate into an existing planning process) a biennial plan that includes targets and metrics appropriate to the agency's intersection with this Order with the goal of focusing existing and new resources, programs, and incentives to advance the goals and actions in Sections I and II of this Order as applicable:
    - i. **Public Feedback and Oversight.** Agencies will present their biennial plans to their respective board or commission for discussion, review, and comment at a public meeting where public testimony can be received.
    - ii. **Recommendations for Governor's Recommended Budget ("GRB").** Biennial plans will be developed on a schedule and in a format to inform the development of the GRB starting with the 2029-2031 Agency Request Budget ("ARB") biennial cycle. Actions for consideration for the development of the 2027-2029 GRB will be expedited as needed.
    - iii. **Implementation Workplan.** Agencies shall immediately begin developing implementation timelines and pathways to comply with this Order. The following existing reporting requirements





EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 25-26  
PAGE TEN

include both policy and budget needs related to the successful implementation of this Order.

- ii. Develop recommendations to address critical gaps or barriers (e.g., programs, administrative rules, statutory changes) to the state's implementation of this Order.
  - iii. Assess and implement as practicable a State of Oregon Climate Action and Resilience Dashboard to serve as source of information on the work of agencies on this Order.
- b. **Board & Commission Oversight Team.** A subgroup of relevant Board and Commission members will be assembled under the auspices of the Governor's Natural Resources Cabinet. The subgroup will work parallel to the Agency Leadership Team to support the implementation work of the Order.
- c. **Legislative & Public Engagement.** As requested, agencies shall provide updates and presentations on implementation work to relevant Boards, Commissions, Councils, Local Governments, Federal Agencies, and the Oregon State Legislature.

Done at Salem, Oregon, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2025.

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Tina Kotek  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

---

Tobias Read  
SECRETARY OF STATE



**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 25-29**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER ON REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND  
ADVANCING OREGON'S CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE**

**WHEREAS**, Oregon faces increasing risks from climate change, including extreme weather events, wildfires, water scarcity, and rising energy costs, which threaten public health, safety, outdoor recreation, and economic stability; and

**WHEREAS**, affordable, abundant, and reliable clean energy is key to Oregon's economic future, and the state needs to deploy new energy infrastructure to enable sustained economic growth and to meet rising energy demands; and

**WHEREAS**, Oregon has adopted ambitious climate goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and transition to a clean energy economy, including targets established under House Bill 2021(2021) and other legislative and executive actions; and

**WHEREAS**, energy efficiency improvements across all sectors are among the most cost-effective strategies to reduce emissions and lower energy bills while maintaining economic productivity; and

**WHEREAS**, ensuring access to affordable, abundant, and reliable clean energy requires accelerated investment in electricity infrastructure, including renewable energy, energy storage, and grid modernization; and

**WHEREAS**, grid resilience is increasingly vital to support public safety in the face of climate-related disruptions, and investments in microgrids, battery storage, and grid hardening have a role to play in building greater resilience in Oregon's energy future; and

**WHEREAS**, Oregon can help reduce energy development costs and accelerate deployment of clean energy infrastructure needed to grow the economy by streamlining permitting, siting, and interconnection processes for clean energy projects; and

**WHEREAS**, public-private partnerships can mobilize investment, spur innovation, and create jobs that will be key to Oregon's growing clean energy economy; and

**WHEREAS**, a coordinated, statewide approach to planning and designating transmission corridors is essential to long-term infrastructure development that will support economic growth and ensure clean energy can be delivered efficiently and reliably to consumers.



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 25-29  
PAGE TWO

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DIRECTED AND ORDERED:

**I. FOSTER THE TRANSITION TO A CLEAN ENERGY ECONOMY**

**1. Prioritize Implementation of the Oregon Energy Strategy Pathways.**

Executive branch agencies listed in Section II.1.a (“Agencies”) are directed to adopt and implement greenhouse gas reduction strategies and align their decisions, activities, and investments as appropriate to advance the five least-cost pathways identified in the Oregon Energy Strategy. As appropriate, agencies will modify or add to current work plans and performance indicators to track and report on implementation activities to achieve the following objectives:

- a. Advance Energy Efficiency Across All Sectors.** Agencies shall take appropriate actions within existing authorities and budgets to align decisions, activities, and investments to increase cost-effective energy efficiency in new and existing buildings, including providing cost savings through retrofits of building appliances and equipment.
- b. Support Investment in Clean Electricity Infrastructure.** Agencies shall take appropriate actions within their existing authorities to accelerate investment in and deployment of least-cost and least-risk renewable energy resources, energy storage, demand response, and grid infrastructure in order to maintain and expand access to affordable and reliable clean electricity for Oregon ratepayers.
- c. Increase Strategic Electrification of Vehicles and Buildings.** Agencies shall take appropriate actions necessary within their existing authorities to align programs, decisions, and investments to advance the state’s interest in increasing cost-effective, strategic electrification of vehicles, buildings, and water heating systems while also supporting affordable and reliable energy for Oregon ratepayers.
- d. Increase Supply and Use of Low-Carbon Fuels.** DEQ and the EQC shall evaluate the status and projected growth of the clean fuels market and update Oregon Clean Fuels Program rules to strengthen the Low-Carbon Fuels Standard (LCFS) to establish a reduction in carbon intensity of not less than 50% by 2040. DEQ is directed to evaluate the scope and stringency of the LCFS programs in neighboring states in proposing the new targets and



**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 25-29**  
**PAGE THREE**

propose additional rule revisions if needed to better align the Oregon Clean Fuels Program with those neighboring jurisdictions based on that evaluation. DEQ shall establish an agreed upon workplan within three months of this Order that sets forth a timeline for completing the required rulemaking.

- e. Strengthen Resilience Across all Levels of the Energy System.** The PUC shall exercise its existing authority to evaluate and value grid resiliency benefits in electric utility resource planning processes. The PUC shall establish transparent criteria or processes for appropriately valuing the enhanced resiliency benefits from utility investments at all levels of the energy system, such as microgrids, energy storage, flexible loads, virtual power plant resources, and grid hardening, while also avoiding shifting costs from high-income ratepayers to energy burdened ratepayers.
- 2. Get Clean Energy Projects Built.** Agencies are directed to develop and implement a coordinated, proactive approach to streamline land use and environmental reviews, siting and permitting, and interconnection processes for clean energy projects, energy storage, and associated transmission and distribution infrastructure, with particular focus on those that contribute to energy affordability and reliability. This includes but is not limited to the following initiatives:

  - a. Reduce Barriers to Clean Energy Deployment.** The Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE), in coordination with the PUC and the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD), shall inventory, assess, and analyze barriers to the permitting, construction and interconnection of clean energy projects and associated infrastructure. ODOE will recommend actions to overcome those barriers while balancing opportunities for public participation with the state's interest in accelerating deployment of clean energy infrastructure that benefits Oregon ratepayers. Recommended actions will be brought for discussion by ODOE to the Energy Facility Siting Council. ODOE will report its findings and recommendations to the Governor no later than September 1, 2026.
  - b. Accelerate Clean Energy Deployment Through Oregon's Land Use Planning Framework.** The Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) shall evaluate opportunities and barriers to clean energy development under Oregon's land use planning goals. DLCD will review existing rules and practices, including best practices from other



**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 25-29**  
**PAGE FOUR**

jurisdictions, and recommend actions and rule changes as needed to accelerate deployment of clean energy resources and grid infrastructure needed to deliver reliability and clean energy to Oregon consumers. Recommended actions will be brought for discussion and direction by DLCD to the Land Conservation and Development Commission. DLCD will report its findings and recommendations to the Governor no later than July 1, 2026.

- c. Streamline Clean Energy Siting.** Agencies identified in Section II.1.b of this Order shall evaluate and recommend actions to update siting and permitting processes to facilitate deployment of renewable energy, energy storage, and grid infrastructure needed to deliver reliable and affordable clean energy to Oregon consumers.
- i.** Agencies shall evaluate existing authorities, rules, and practices to identify opportunities to streamline or increase the efficiency of siting and permitting processes within their jurisdiction for projects that:
    - 1.** Benefit Oregon ratepayers and enable clean energy projects to interconnect onto the grid; and/or
    - 2.** Involve upgrades to existing grid infrastructure and transmission expansion or co-location of renewable energy resources in existing rights of way.
  - ii.** Where opportunities are found to exist, agencies shall recommend actions to:
    - 1.** Streamline existing processes;
    - 2.** Establish parallel paths that enable required studies, reviews, and approval processes to occur contemporaneously; and/or
    - 3.** Facilitate or accelerate interconnections for projects that reduce emissions, improve reliability, and benefit Oregon ratepayers.
  - iii.** Agencies shall bring recommended proposed actions for discussion with their Boards or Commissions and will report their findings and recommendations to the Governor no later than September 1, 2026.
- d. Identify Pathways to Facilitate Development of Clean Energy Infrastructure.** PUC staff, in partnership with ODOE and the Governor's Office, shall convene utilities, key agency leaders, local permitting authorities, and other interested parties to review progress toward achieving HB 2021's clean energy targets and explore opportunities for public-private partnerships



**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 25-29**  
**PAGE FIVE**

to facilitate development of clean energy infrastructure that is needed to achieve clean energy targets and will provide benefits to Oregon ratepayers.

- e. Develop a Framework for Strategic Transmission Siting.** ODOE, in coordination with the PUC and the Governor's Office, shall undertake a process to evaluate and propose a framework to strategically accelerate:
    - i.** Identification and designation of transmission corridors, including on public lands (state and federal);
    - ii.** Streamlined partial siting and permitting approvals for future projects in those corridors or within existing transmission rights-of-way; and
    - iii.** Targeting direct financial support for projects that are determined to benefit the public interest.
  - f. Deploy Energy Storage.** To support grid reliability and resilience, this Order establishes a goal of deploying 8 gigawatts of energy storage capacity in Oregon by 2045.
- 3. Build a Resilient Clean Energy Economy:** Agencies listed in Section II.1.c of this Order shall align programs, decisions, and investments to advance the state's interest in growing a resilient clean energy economy that attracts and supports climate-friendly industries, creates jobs, and aligns with Oregon's climate goals. This includes but is not limited to the following initiatives:
- a. Develop Public-Private Partnerships.** Agencies shall explore and prioritize opportunities for public-private partnerships to support development and deployment of clean energy technologies that align with Oregon's carbon-free energy and economic development priorities. Agencies will highlight those opportunities for the Governor's Office for review and consideration on a quarterly basis.
  - b. Evaluate Emerging Clean Energy Technologies.** ODOE, DEQ, Business Oregon, the PUC, the Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI), and the Governor's Office, shall collaborate to identify and assess opportunities for advanced and emerging carbon-free energy technologies to play a role in Oregon's clean energy future; evaluate risks and barriers; and propose cross-agency frameworks to support development and deployment of advanced technologies that increase access to affordable, safe, and reliable clean energy. ODOE will report progress and key findings in its



**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 25-29**  
**PAGE SIX**

Biennial Energy Reports, including the Report that must be submitted to the legislature by December 1, 2026, and in each subsequent iteration of the Report.

**II. ACCOUNTABILITY, COORDINATION, AND PROGRESS ON IMPLEMENTATION**

- 1. Executive Branch Agencies Subject to this Order.** Progress on the direction and commitments of this Order will take focused and coordinated planning and execution by Oregon's natural resource agencies and their respective Boards or Commissions.
  - a. The following state agencies are subject to the goals and directives outlined in Section I.1 of this Order:
    - i. Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS);
    - ii. Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE), including the Oregon Climate Action Commission and the Energy Facility Siting Council;
    - iii. Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ);
    - iv. Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD);
    - v. Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT); and
    - vi. Oregon Public Utility Commission (PUC).
  - b. The following state agencies are subject to the goals and directives outlined in Section I.2.c of this Order:
    - i. Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE), including the Oregon Climate Action Commission and the Energy Facility Siting Council;
    - ii. Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ);
    - iii. Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI); and
    - iv. Oregon Public Utility Commission.
  - c. The following state agencies are subject to the goals and directives outlined in Section I.3 of this Order:
    - i. Business Oregon;
    - ii. Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE), including the Oregon Climate Action Commission;
    - iii. Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ);



**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 25-29**  
**PAGE SEVEN**

- iv. Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI); and
  - v. Oregon Public Utility Commission.
- d. The following state agencies shall provide information and consultation to assist other agencies with the implementation of this Order as needed:
- i. Business Oregon;
  - ii. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW);
  - iii. Oregon Department of State Lands;
  - iv. Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT);
  - v. Oregon Parks and Recreation Department; and
  - vi. Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD).
2. **Reporting and Accountability.** State agencies must deliver transparent, accurate reporting on public programs, maintain accountability to citizens and stakeholders, and establish clear feedback loops that enable public input and demonstrate responsive government action.
- a. **Agency plans.** Each of the following agencies shall develop (or incorporate into an existing planning process) a biennial plan that includes targets and metrics appropriate to the agency's intersection with this Order with the goal of focusing existing and new resources, programs and incentives to advance the goals and actions in Part I of this Order as applicable:
- i. Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE), including the Oregon Climate Action Commission and the Energy Facility Siting Council;
  - ii. Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ); and
  - iii. Oregon Public Utility Commission (PUC).
- b. **Public Feedback and Oversight.** Agencies will present their biennial plans to their respective board or commission for discussion, review, and comment at a public meeting where public testimony can be received.
- c. **Recommendations for Governor's Recommended Budget.** Biennial plans will be developed on a schedule and in a format to inform the development of the Governor's Recommended Budget starting with the 2029-2031 Agency Request Budget biennial cycle. Actions for consideration for the development of the 2027-2029 Governor's Recommended Budget will be expedited as needed.



EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 25-29  
PAGE EIGHT

- d. **Implementation Workplan.** Agencies shall immediately begin developing implementation timelines and pathways to comply with this Order.
3. **Coordination and Oversight of Implementation.** The Governor's Office will take a leadership role in advancing the efforts associated with this Order. It is the responsibility of each respective agency director to ensure appropriate coordination and implementation contemplated by this Order is integrated into agency programs and initiatives.
4. **Legislative & Public Engagement.** As requested, agencies shall provide updates and presentations on implementation work to relevant Boards, Commissions, Councils, Local Governments, Federal Agencies, and the Oregon State Legislature.
5. **Engagement with Oregon's Nine Federally Recognized Sovereign Tribal Governments.** The State, through the Governor's Office and the State Agencies, shall collaborate with Oregon's nine federally recognized sovereign tribal governments to build, sustain, and enhance relationships to find common ground in support of the implementation of this Order.

Done at Salem, Oregon, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025.

Handwritten signature of Tina Kotek in black ink.

Tina Kotek  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Handwritten signature of Tobias Read in black ink.

Tobias Read  
SECRETARY OF STATE



# Oregon Capital Chronicle

POLITICS ENVIRONMENT EDUCATION ECONOMY HEALTH CRIMINAL JUSTICE ELECTION 2026

ENVIRONMENT

## Public invited to share input, ideas for getting Oregon back on track to meet climate targets

### The public can weigh in on 48 possible actions the state can take to get back on track to reduce greenhouse gas pollution at least 45% by 2035

BY: ALEX BAUMHARDT - MARCH 17, 2026 6:00 AM *UPDATED MARCH 20, 2026 2:58 PM*



Portland General Electric's Boardman energy complex in the distance, as seen from Crow Butte across the Columbia River in 2019. Electricity demand from data centers has grown so quickly it could derail the state's 2035 and 2050 climate targets, according to the Oregon Department of Energy. (Photo by Tom Banse)

Energy demand from data centers and rollbacks in federal clean energy policies knocked Oregon off track to meet its climate goals. Now, Oregon energy officials are sharing ideas to meet those targets.

The Oregon Department of Energy on Monday shared 48 possible "gap measures" that could help the state reach 2035 and 2050 greenhouse gas pollution reduction targets. Oregonians have roughly three weeks to comment, provide more ideas and propose scenarios that could impact forecasted pollution levels. Officials will model the impact of each measure and in June, publish a report showing which actions could have the greatest effect.

Then-Gov. Kate Brown established Oregon's targets to reduce planet-warming greenhouse gas emissions via [executive order](#) in 2020. It requires state leaders and agencies to take action and adopt policies to get Oregon's greenhouse gas emissions to 45% below 1990 levels by 2035 and 80% below 1990 levels by 2050.

Until recently, the state was on track to meet those targets, according to 2023 energy department [modeling](#). But in October, department officials [reported](#) that given the massive rise in energy demand for data centers and Trump administration rollbacks of federal clean energy policies and fuel economy standards for cars, the state wouldn't hit its 2035 goals until 2037.

Alan Zelenka, assistant director for energy planning and innovation at Oregon's energy department, said the 2023 report didn't model the impacts of data centers on statewide energy demand.

"It's kind of a good metric of how fast this conversation is going with data centers, and how fast the AI conversation is going – when we were talking about this two and a half years ago it wasn't even in the conversation, now it's a big part of it," he said. "We've seen growth in data centers, but the explosion is going to happen in the next five to 10-year period. We've got over 150 data centers in Oregon already."

Zelenka said it's likely the impacts of clean energy rollbacks from the Trump administration will be temporary on Oregon's long term climate planning and pollution targets.

"I say that with confidence, because climate change is going to get worse and we're going to see the impacts of that against the rhetoric coming out of the federal administration," he said. "Secondly, it's the economics that are driving this. The cheapest resources we have are solar, wind and batteries, not nuclear power, not gas, not coal."

Email [OCAC@energy.oregon.gov](mailto:OCAC@energy.oregon.gov) by 5 p.m. on April 10 to comment on the energy department's ideas to help the state meet targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

GET THE MORNING HEADLINES. [SUBSCRIBE](#)

#### Closing the gap

Among the ideas for closing the gap are reducing livestock methane emissions, reducing the use of nitrogen-based fertilizer, adopting more hydrogen-fueled trains and ships, getting electric heat pumps and water heaters in all newly built homes by 2045 and reducing Oregonians' beef and pork consumption 50% by 2050, shifting instead to seafood.

"Some of them are more ambitious in terms of their goals, but this is also sort of why we're looking for feedback over the next couple of weeks," said Jamshed Suntoke, head of the energy department's Climate Team. "We're looking for experts from across the state to weigh in."

Any action that would require changes to state laws or require bigger budgets for state agencies will be up to lawmakers. Most of the options build on existing climate programs and policies, Zelenka said, and many build on the state's new 25-year [Energy Strategy](#). That strategy prioritizes investment in building, transportation and industrial energy efficiency, as well as growing existing clean energy infrastructure, instead of massive new investments in new energy infrastructure, such as nuclear reactors.

Energy department officials solicited the 48 ideas during the fall from staff at other state agencies. They also received hypotheticals to model, such as: what would happen if far fewer people buy electric vehicles than previously predicted during the next 10 years? They invited the public to submit possible future scenarios for modeling as well.

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MARCH 20, 2026 2:58 PM

*Updated with extended public comment period announced by the Oregon Department of Energy.*

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**ALEX BAUMHARDT**

Senior reporter Alex Baumhardt covers education and the environment for the Oregon Capital Chronicle. Before coming to Oregon, she was a national radio producer and reporter covering education for American Public Media's documentaries and investigations unit, APM Reports. She earned a master's degree in digital and visual media as a U.S. Fulbright scholar in Spain, and has reported from the Arctic to the Antarctic for national and international media and from Minnesota and Oregon for The Washington Post.

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BY ALEX BAUMHARDT  
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## MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture  
From: Board Coordinator  
Subject: Agenda Item Number 11A: *ODA Pesticide Licensing and Certification Program Updates: Spanish Training and Testing Materials*

### I. Introduction

The Board of Agriculture will hear updates from ODA's Pesticide Licensing and Certification Program about ongoing efforts to translate training and testing materials for pesticide applicator licenses.

### II. Background

At the December 2025 Board Meeting, the Board received public comments relating to the licensing and testing processes for folks who do not speak English as their primary language.

ODA's Pesticide Licensing and Certification Program manages 27 pesticide applicator exams, 23 study manuals, and 29 other study resources. Over recent years, the Program has developed a statistical approach to identify problematic exam questions to improve question quality and address accessibility concerns. Currently, two exams are available in Spanish: the Private Applicator and the Laws and Safety Exams. ODA is targeting improvements based on exam and study material demand and need. The Spanish-language Private Applicator exam has historically had a low pass rate and has been the primary focus for translation and revision efforts.

The Pesticide Educational Resources Collaborative (PERC) entered a five-year cooperative agreement with the University of California, Davis, and the EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs in collaboration with Oregon State University to develop national pesticide application materials. Due to federal funding cuts, nationally developed manuals and study materials have not been published in Spanish. However, ODA has completed:

- Statistical analyses to eliminate or revise poorly performing exam questions.
- Ensuring continuity and equivalency between Spanish and English versions of the exams.
- Internal reviews of exams by native Spanish-speaking ODA staff members for appropriateness and accuracy.

### III. Program Updates

One of the Program's goals is to ensure that licensed applicators understand their responsibilities, state regulatory requirements, and how to minimize risks to themselves, others, and the environment. With this in mind, the Program has been updating exams and study materials to balance competency standards, accessibility, and staffing resources.

The Program recruited and filled a position within the Certification & Licensing Team that will focus on creating and updating Spanish-language materials, including exams and outreach materials.

The Program also worked with OSU PSEP and SWCDs to make funding available allow the translation of the National Core Manual and its companion exam to move forward.

The Spanish-language Private Applicator Exam has been a particular focus due to historically low pass rates. While awaiting a national manual and its translation (see below), the Program has completed the following for both Spanish-language Private Applicator and Laws and Safety exams:

- Conducted statistical analyses to eliminate or revise poorly performing questions.
- Ensured English and Spanish versions of the exams are equivalent in content and difficulty.
- Reviewed study materials for alignment with exam content and consistent terminology.
- Native Spanish speaking staff have reviewed the exams for appropriateness and accuracy.
- The Program is currently in discussions with its exam contractor and conducting internal planning to offer paper-based exams on a trial basis, due to the additional resource demands. The initial rollout will focus on the Private Applicator License Exam (English and Spanish), with an evaluation of demand, pass rates, and travel patterns to determine future expansion, if needed.

# ODA Board of Agriculture

*Pesticides Program – Spanish Language Exam Updates*



1

## Presentation Outline

- Introduction
- Program Overview
- ODA Exams & Manuals
- Exams in Spanish
- Ongoing and Planned Work



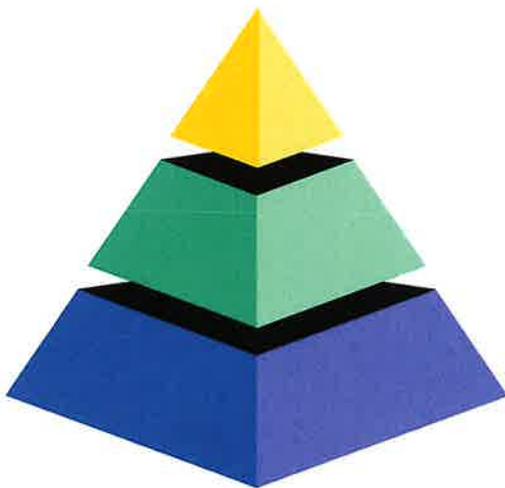
2

# ODA Pesticides Program



3

## Pesticide Regulation



- < **OAR Chapter 603 Division 57**  
Additional rules for Oregon's pesticide program that govern ODA's enforcement and education activities
- < **ORS Chapter 634**  
Foundational statute for Oregon's pesticide program that governs ODA's enforcement and education authorities
- < **EPA & ODA Cooperative Agreement**  
Legal agreement that outlines the delegated authorities from EPA to ODA
- < **EPA & FIFRA**  
Foundational federal law and authority that governs all pesticide use, manufacturing, and sales in all 50 states



4

## ODA Pesticides Program

### Program Manager

- Investigations & Enforcement
  - 1 Citizen Liaison
  - 1 Lead Investigator
  - 4 Case Reviewers
  - 11 Investigators Across The State

### Program Manager

- Pesticide Product Registration
  - 3 Specialists
- Certification & Licensing
  - 4 Specialists
- Pesticide Analytical & Response Center (PARC)
  - 1 Coordinator
- Pesticide Stewardship Partnership (PSP)
  - 1 Coordinator
- Worker Protection Standard (WPS) Compliance Assistance
  - 1 Outreach Specialist



5

## ODA Pesticides Program

- **Pesticide Product Registration**
  - Assist with label and product review for compliance
  - Assist with registration of products, including Special Local Need (SLNs)
- **Certification & Licensing**
  - Handles Oregon's certification, licensing, exams, study materials, recertification events & credits
- **Pesticide Analytical & Response Center (PARC)**
  - Coordinates a state response to pesticide incidents alleging effects on people, animals, or the environment.
- **Pesticide Stewardship Partnership (PSP)**
  - Goal is to keep pesticides out of surface waters through education and voluntary adoption of mitigations
  - Organizes Pesticide Waste Collection Events throughout Oregon
- **Worker Protection Standard (WPS) Outreach**
  - Provides compliance assistance to employers, handlers, and workers on WPS



6

# ODA Pesticide Exams & Manuals



7

## Pesticide Exams Overview

- 28 pesticide licensing exams
- Over 5,700 computer-based exams offered in 2025 at multiple locations



Pesticide Licensing Exams

Exam	2025 Calendar Year			
	Total Attempts	No. of Unique Individuals	Avg. Attempts per Individual	Pass Rate (Score of 70% or higher)
Aerial	56	54	1.0	96.4%
Agriculture Herbicide	191	140	1.4	54.5%
Agriculture Insecticide/Fungicide	112	95	1.2	75.0%
Agriculture Livestock Pest	0	0	N/A	N/A
Agriculture Soil Fumigation II	20	12	1.7	50.0%
Agriculture Vertebrate Pest	36	28	1.3	55.6%
Aquatic	89	74	1.2	69.7%
Consultant	92	58	1.6	39.1%
Demonstration & Research	17	14	1.2	70.6%
Forest Pest	135	86	1.6	54.1%
IHS General Pest	716	385	1.9	37.2%
IHS Moss Control	47	40	1.2	78.7%
IHS Space Fumigation	17	16	1.1	82.4%
IHS Structural Pest	241	152	1.6	41.1%
IHS Wood Treatment	28	25	1.1	82.1%
Laws & Safety (English)	2350	1674	1.4	64.0%
Laws & Safety (Spanish)	100	54	1.9	26.0%
Marine Antifouling	0	0	N/A	N/A
Ornamental & Turf Herbicide	411	273	1.5	47.9%
Ornamental & Turf Insecticide/Fungicide	202	142	1.4	48.0%
Private Applicator (English)	273	242	1.1	75.5%
Private Applicator (Spanish)	30	24	1.3	20.0%
Public Health	103	74	1.4	55.3%
Regulatory Predator	0	0	N/A	N/A
Regulatory Weed	37	24	1.5	40.5%
Right-of-Way	399	281	1.4	58.4%
School IPM	46	38	1.2	69.6%
Seed Treatment	9	8	1.1	77.8%

\*Industrial, Institutional, Health, and Structural (IHS)

8

# Manual Revisions/ Development

## Implemented

- Seed Treatment (2019)
- Non-Soil Fumigation (2021)
- Oregon Core Manual Addendum – Spanish (2025)

## In Development/ To Be Implemented

- Ag. Herbicide (collaboration with OSU)
- Ag. Soil Fumigation (national manual, est. 2028)
- IIHS: General Pest (collaboration with OSU)
- Laws and Safety – English (national manual, est. 2027)
- Laws and Safety – Spanish (national manual, est. 2027)
- Public Health (collaboration with OSU)
- Ag. Insecticide/Fungicide (collaboration with OSU)
- Right-of-Way (collaboration with OSU)
- Public Health (collaboration with OSU)
- Private Applicator – English (national manual, est. 2027)
- Private Applicator – Spanish (national manual, est. 2027)

## Remaining

- Aerial
- Ag. Livestock Pest
- Ag. Vertebrate Pest
- Aquatic
- Consultant
- Demonstration & Research
- IIHS Wood Treatment
- Marine Antifouling
- T&O Herbicide
- T&O Insecticide/Fungicide
- Regulatory Weed



# States Offering Pesticide Licensing Exams in Spanish



## 8 States offer Spanish Exams

- OR, WA, CA, MI, NC, NV, PA, VA
- Five states offer the private applicator exam in Spanish.
- Four states offer the commercial core and/or a laws and safety exam in Spanish.
- Two other states have some category exams in Spanish

Source: Unpublished AAPSE Survey



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11

## 42 States Do Not offer Spanish Exams

- Seventeen states indicated that because labels are in English, applicators need to understand English.
- Two states indicated these requirements were in their state requirements.
- Two states indicated their laws require an English-only exam.
- One state indicated that having a Spanish exam would need to be required by either state/federal law or requested enough that if offered, the exam would be cost effective.



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12

# Exams in Spanish In Oregon



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13

## Updates to Exam Questions

### Laws and Safety

Language	Administered (yearly average)	Exam Question Updated (%)
Spanish	106	0
English	2385	29

- Adjustment to questions focused on clarity

### Private Applicator

Language	Administered (yearly average)	Exam Question Update (%)
Spanish	53	57
English	309	4

- Adjustments to questions in Spanish is focused on alignment across languages



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14

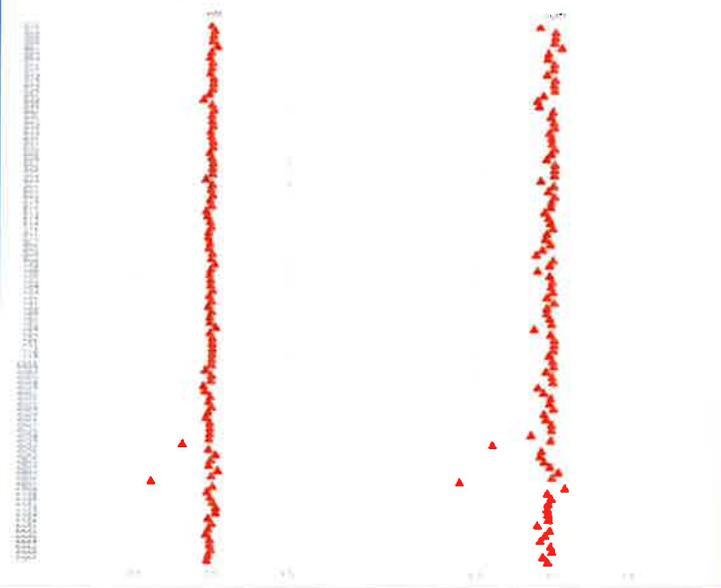
# Updates to Exams



15

## Targeted Statistical Approach

Item Infit and Outfit Statistics



16

EXAM	LANUGAGE	NUMBER OF QUESTIONS CHANGED	TOTAL QUESTIONS	PERCENT CHANGE
Private Applicator	English	4	100	4%
Private Applicator	Spanish	57	100	57%
Laws and Safety	English	29	100	29%
Laws and Safety	Spanish	0	100	0%
Aerial	English	4	75	5%
Ag: Soil Fumigation II	English	4	70	6%
Ag: Insecticide/Fungicide	English	12	100	12%
Ag: Vertebrate Pests	English	4	100	4%
Ag: Herbicide	English	4	100	4%
Ag: Livestock Pests	English	4	44	9%
Aquatic	English	6	50	12%
Consultant	English	15	125	12%
Demonstration and Research	English	1	50	2%
Forest	English	5	100	5%
IHS: Moss Control	English	2	50	4%
IHS: Wood Treatment	English	16	50	32%
IHS: Space Fumigation	English	100	100	100%
IHS: General Pest	English	3	100	3%
IHS: Structural Pest	English	1	100	1%
Marine Fouling Organism	English	1	50	2%
OT: Insecticide/Fungicide	English	1	100	1%
OT: Herbicide	English	3	100	3%
Public Health	English	2	100	2%
Regulatory Weed	English	10	100	10%
Right of Way	English	0	100	0%
School IPM	English	0	75	0%
Seed Treatment	English	50	50	100%

17

## Reasons For Updates

- Clarity of language
- Removing question interdependency
- Updated Labels
- Updated Manuals
- Aligning exam and manual terminology
- Aligning English and Spanish exam questions



18

## Spanish Language Exam Question Updating Process

- Maintain equity with English exam.
- Review distribution of topics.
- Review terminology and language appropriateness for the audience.
- Review terminology for alignment with study materials.



19

## Three-hour Exams



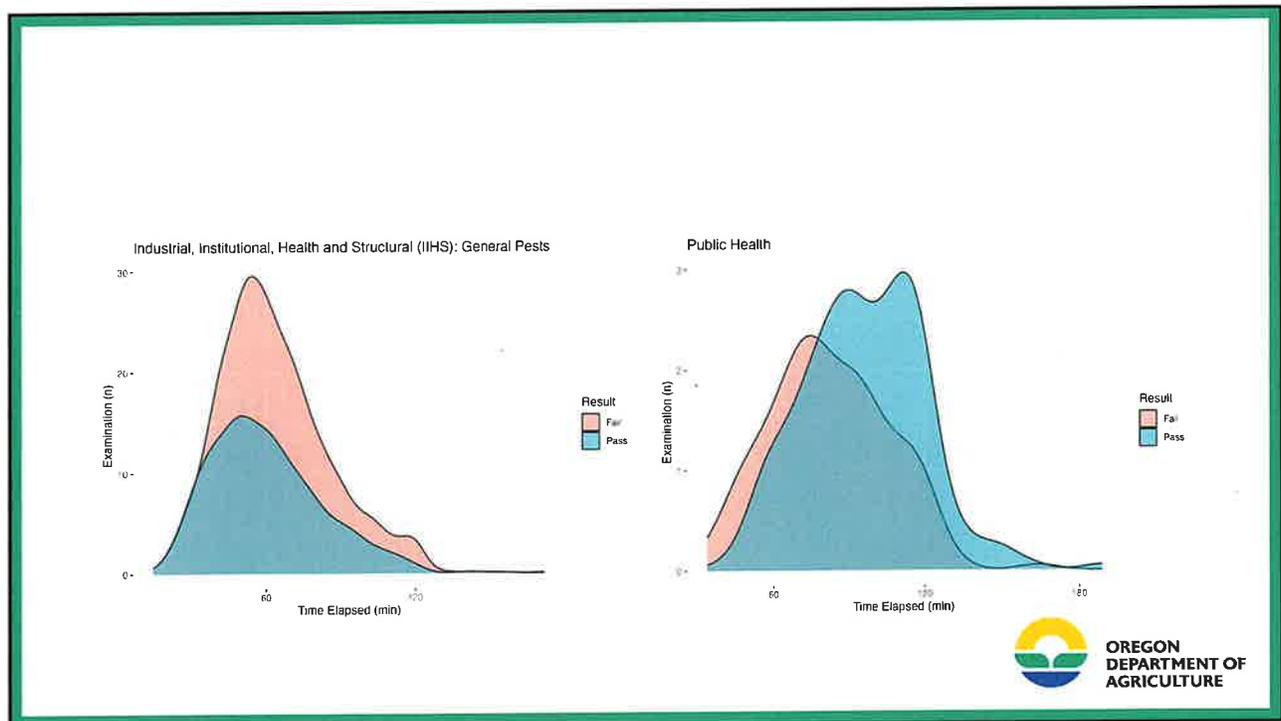
20

# Roles

- **Metro Institute**
  - Exam contractor
- **Testing Center**
  - Locations where examinees can take exams
- **Proctor**
  - Person who administers exam to examinees
- **ODA**
  - Owner of exams



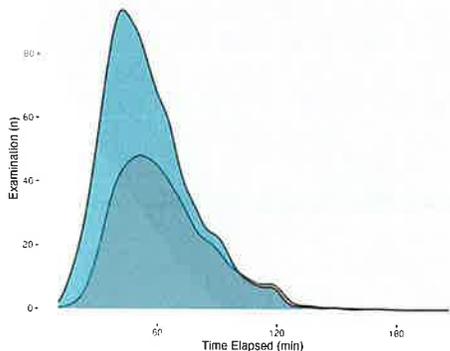
21



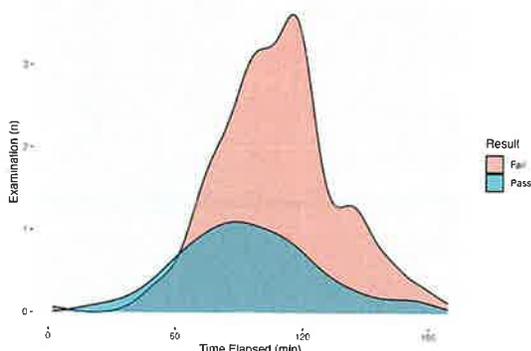
22

# Time to Complete Exam Plots

Laws and Safety - English



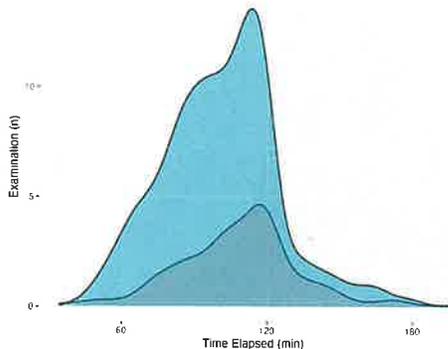
Laws and Safety - Spanish



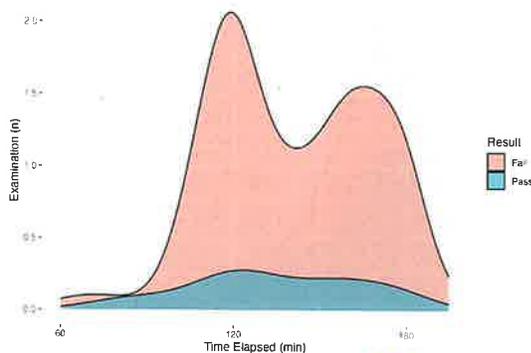
23

# Time to Complete Exam Plots

Private Applicator: English



Private Applicator: Spanish



24

## How do we offer more time, efficiently?

### What we do now:

- Test-takers can schedule more time in advance.
- Proctors can provide more time if a test-taker needs it (with limitations).

### Possible changes:

- Dedicated 3-hour session time slots
- Easier selection during registration.



25

## Paper-based Exam



26

## Phased Pilot Implementation

- Understand Demand & Needs
- Logistics
  - Contracts
  - Exam security
  - Exam Scoring



27

## Phase I

- **Metro**
  - Facilitates registration
- **Testing Center**
  - Provides space to administer exam
- **ODA**
  - Prints, delivers, collects, and grades exams



28

## Phase II

- **Metro**
  - Facilitate registration
  - Automate question randomization based on exam blueprint categories
- **Testing Centers**
  - Expand locations based on feedback and demand
- **ODA**
  - Prints, delivers, collects, and grades exams



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29

## Phase III

- **ODA:**
  - Implement automated scanning and grading technology
- **Metro:**
  - Set up secure data transfer portal



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30

## Changes In Progress from Metro

- Improving Spanish-language customer support on registration site.
  - On call support
- Improving the practice exam and possibly making it available prior to the exam.
- Ensuring test takers have the correct study material.
- Clock visibility



31

## New Core Manual – English & Spanish

- English manual and exam bank available now
- Spanish manual and exam bank available in August
- Implement the new exams January 1, 2027.



32

## Incorporate Outside Feedback In The Development of New Exams

- What are the priority learning objectives?
- Which concepts are important for industry?
- Which concepts are important for regulators?
- Create exams that meet both needs.
  - Giving weight to higher priority topics, etc.
  - Esp. for state-specific topics and requirements



33

## Current Exam Breakdown

### Private Applicator Exam: English & Spanish

- Application or Control Techniques: 1 question
- Calibrations, Calculations, and Equipment: 13 questions
- Environment: 11 questions
- Integrated Pest Management: 6 questions
- Label Comprehension: 22 questions
- Laws & Regulations: 16 questions
- Pest Characteristics: 7 questions
- Pesticide Characteristics: 5 questions
- Safety and Handling: 13 questions
- Terminology: 6 questions



34

# Front and Back End Support

- Forms and guidance documents
  - Help get licensed
- Compliance assistance materials
  - Help stay in compliance
- Continuing Education Course Availability
  - Maintain license



35

**Aviso sobre pesticidas de ODA**

La EPA publica la decisión provisional sobre la revisión del registro del clorotalonil:

**ODA Pesticide Advisory**

EPA Publishes Chlorothalonil Interim Registration Review Decision: What Label Changes Can I Expect?

June 2, 2025

**Aviso sobre el uso de Pesticidas**

19 de marzo 2025

Uso de pesticidas para el control de las moscas de las cebollas:

**ODA Pesticide Advisory**

March 19, 2025

Use of Pesticides for Onion Maggot Control in Onion Cull Piles Awaiting Burial

¿Va a estar usted asistiendo a las Conferencias de los Curso Educativos donde se reciben créditos de educación?

**Are You Attending a Continuing Education Event for Oregon Pesticide Applicator License Credit?**

Before attending a pesticide continuing education event, please review the following reminders to ensure that you satisfy the requirements to receive credit:

**Boletín de Pesticidas**

Recordatorio

**Pesticide Bulletin**

Pesticide Use Reminders for Landscapers

**Privado**

**Private**

Private Pesticide Applicator Responsibilities

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36



37

## MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture  
From: Board Coordinator  
Subject: Agenda Item number 11B: *Public Comment - ODA Pesticide Program*

### I. Introduction

The Board will hear Public Comments related to the Pesticide Program.

As of the date of this memo, the Board received the following written public comments:

- None

As of the date of this memo, the following individuals have signed up to provide verbal public comment:

- None

## MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture  
From: Board Coordinator  
Subject: Agenda Item number 12: *Oregon Native Seed Strategy*

### I. Introduction

The Board of Agriculture will hear updates from Troy Abercrombie on Oregon’s Native Seed Strategy and how it relates to recent Executive Orders.

### II. Oregon Native Seed Strategy

The [Oregon Native Seed Strategy](#) is a guidance document that supports ecological restoration and conservation through the procurement, preservation, and production of native seed in Oregon.

This Strategy serves to coordinate and expand Oregon’s native seed supply chain in response to increasing environmental challenges and restoration demands. As wildfire regimes change, the need for resources for landscape-scale restoration has intensified. Without stable, ready-to-deploy native seed supplies, areas disturbed by natural disaster become infested with non-native and invasive species.

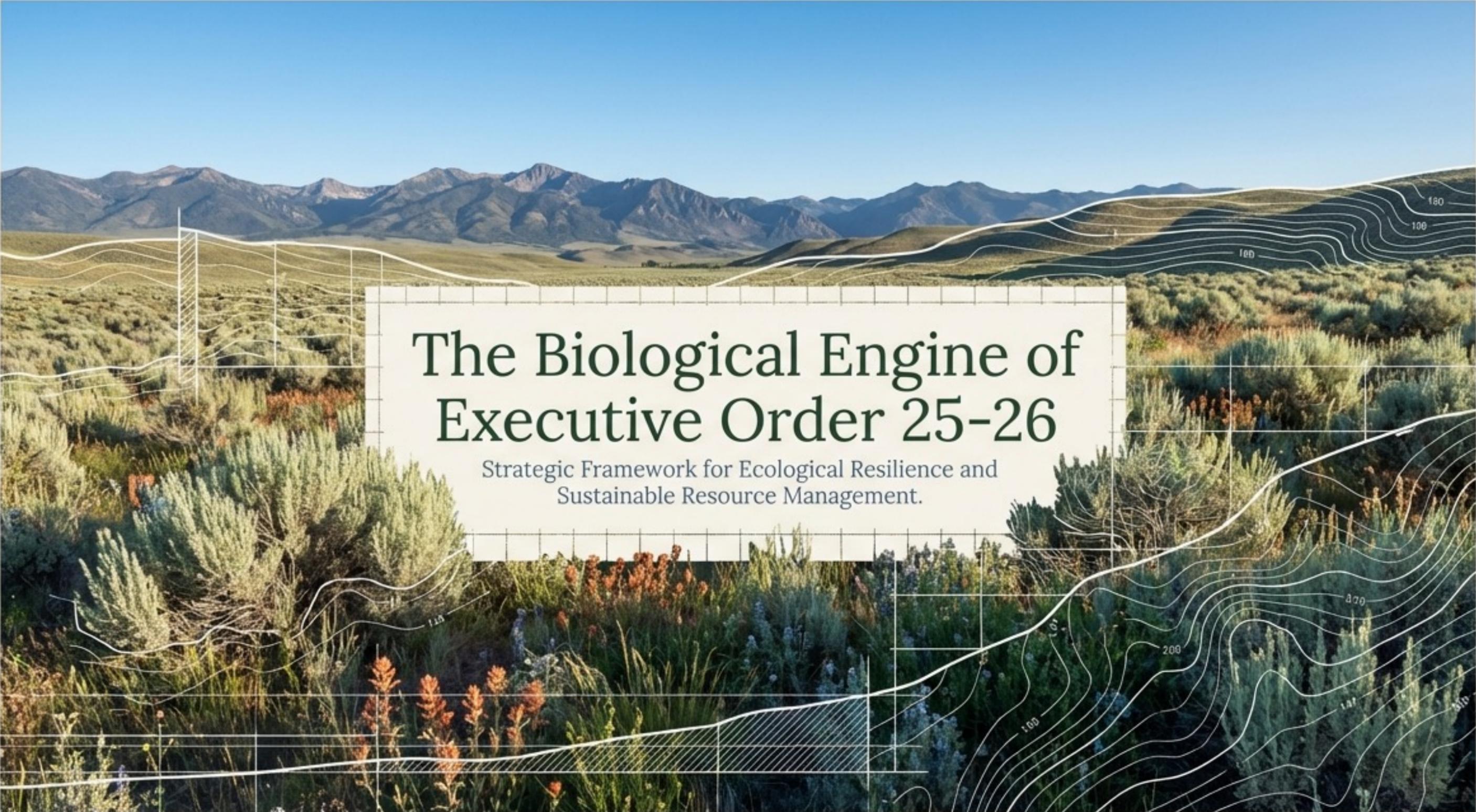
Native seeds are crucial for restoring damaged landscapes because they maintain biodiversity, provide habitat for pollinators and wildlife, help ensure healthy waters and soils, and provide culturally significant materials for indigenous peoples. Thousands of pounds of seed are used annually in Oregon for post-disaster revegetation efforts, but relatively few of Oregon’s more than 3,500 native plants are used. This loss of diversity reduces ecosystem resilience and makes landscapes more vulnerable to future disturbance and climate change impact.

### III. Oregon Native Seed Collective

The **Oregon Native Seed Collective (ONSC)** is a partnership of organizations working collectively to increase the availability and use of native seed for restoration, rehabilitation, and mitigation projects statewide. Partners include representatives from tribal nations, state and federal agencies, and private entities who share common critical ecological objectives.

The **Oregon Native Seed Collective** and regional network partners will collectively implement the Native Seed Strategy by:

- Expanding seed collection and production efforts.
- Facilitating research.
- Developing grower-support mechanisms.
- Improving seed cleaning and storage capacity.
- Coordinating efforts between land managers and seed producers.
- Implementing conservation seed banking programs.



# The Biological Engine of Executive Order 25-26

Strategic Framework for Ecological Resilience and  
Sustainable Resource Management.



# Executive Order 25-26 mandates a resilient future for Oregon.

The EO sets ambitious, necessary targets for the state's natural and working lands:



Conserve, connect, or restore 10% of Oregon's lands and waters in 10 years.



Enhance climate resilience across working lands.



Protect communities from catastrophic wildfire.



Ensure durable conservation outcomes with multiple co-benefits.



# Policy alone cannot grow plants.



A critical dependency threatens the success of the Executive Order:

- You cannot restore or rehabilitate degraded lands without plant materials.
- These goals cannot be achieved at the required scale without adequate native seed supply.



# The foundation for landscape-level restoration is ready.

The Oregon Native Seed Strategy (2025) provides the critical infrastructure required to physically achieve the mandates of EO 25-26. It ensures ecologically appropriate native seed is available at the scale needed for true landscape resilience.



# Oregon Native Seed Strategy

## The Vision & Mission

“Return Oregon lands to diverse, functional, and resilient ecosystems by using the **right seed** in the **right place** at the **right time.**”

To ensure the availability of ecologically appropriate seed to conserve and restore diverse native plant communities and sustainable landscapes.



# The 5 Core Goals



## 1. Ensure Seed Availability

Provide ecologically appropriate native seed for restoration, rehabilitation, and mitigation.



## 2. Facilitate Research

Address scientific gaps in native seed production, seedling establishment, and species interactions.



## 3. Develop Resources

Build tools and inventory systems that enable land managers and growers to make timely, informed decisions.



## 4. Conservation Seed Banking

Prioritize and implement long-term storage programs to enhance the recovery of sensitive species.



## 5. Secure Funding & Communications

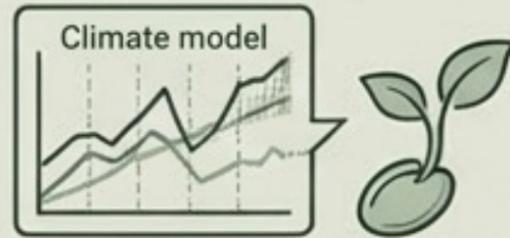
Develop business plans for stable funding and coordinate broad education and outreach across networks.



# Operationalizing the EO definition of climate resilience.

The Strategy directly executes the four pillars of resilience required by the Executive Order:

## Anticipate



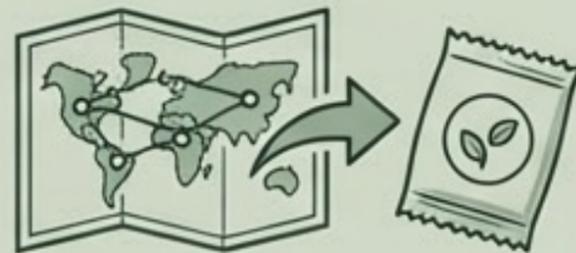
Seed forecasting systems predict restoration needs based on wildfire projections and climate models (Objective 1.1).

## Prepare



Strategic expansion of seed collection, production, and storage capacity ensures availability before disasters occur (Goal 1).

## Respond



Emergency seed reserves and regional coordination networks allow for rapid deployment post-disturbance (Actions 1.1.3, 1.4.3).

## Recover



Dedicated research on climate-adapted seed sources supports long-term ecosystem recovery (Action 2.3.2).

# Ten percent in ten years requires industrial scale.

Conserving and restoring 10% of Oregon's lands demands a volume of raw plant materials that currently does not exist in the commercial market. Achieving this requires moving from reactive purchasing to proactive, statewide production.



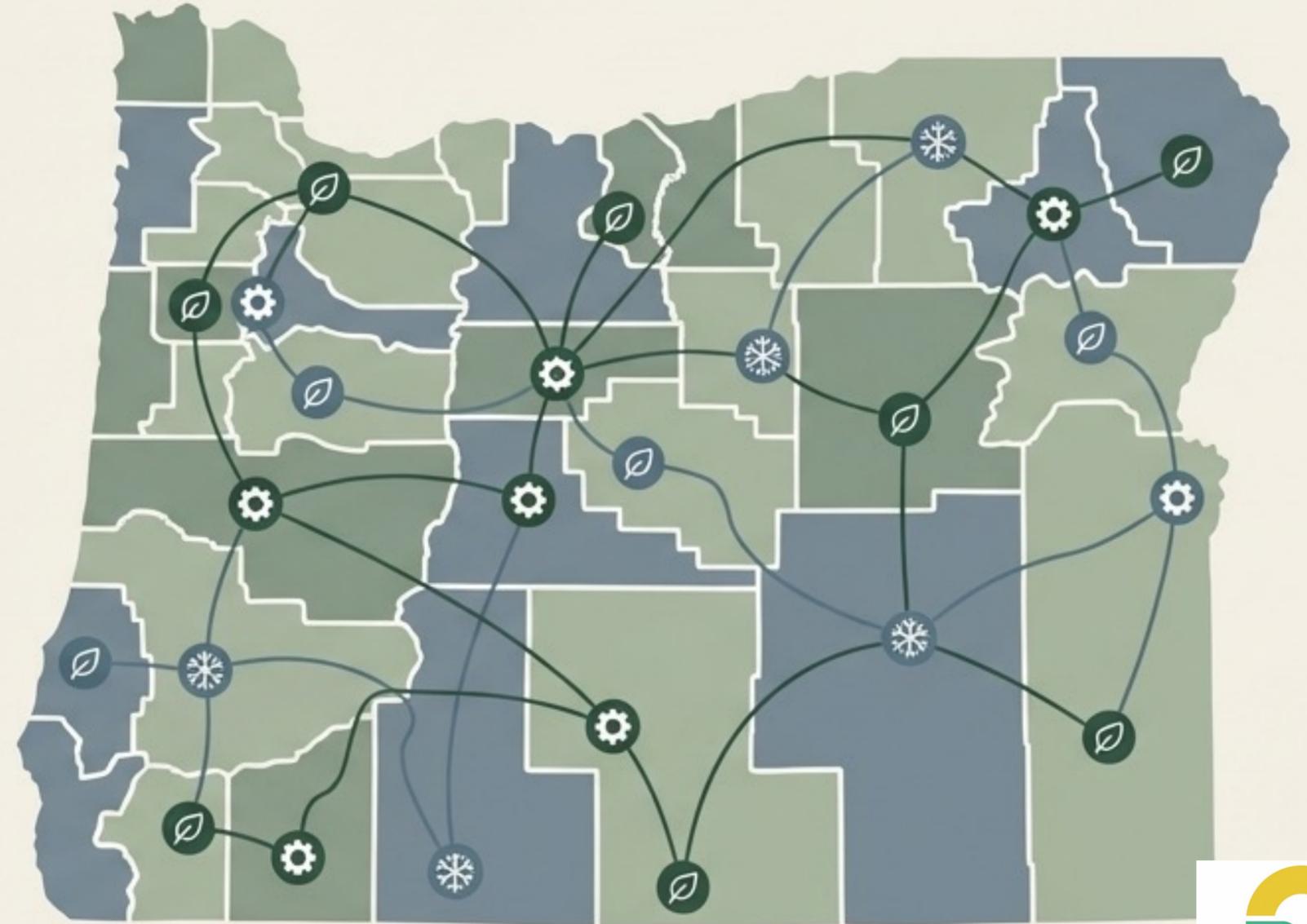
Current Commercial Supply

Required Supply for 10% Goal

# Forecasting and meeting the massive demand.

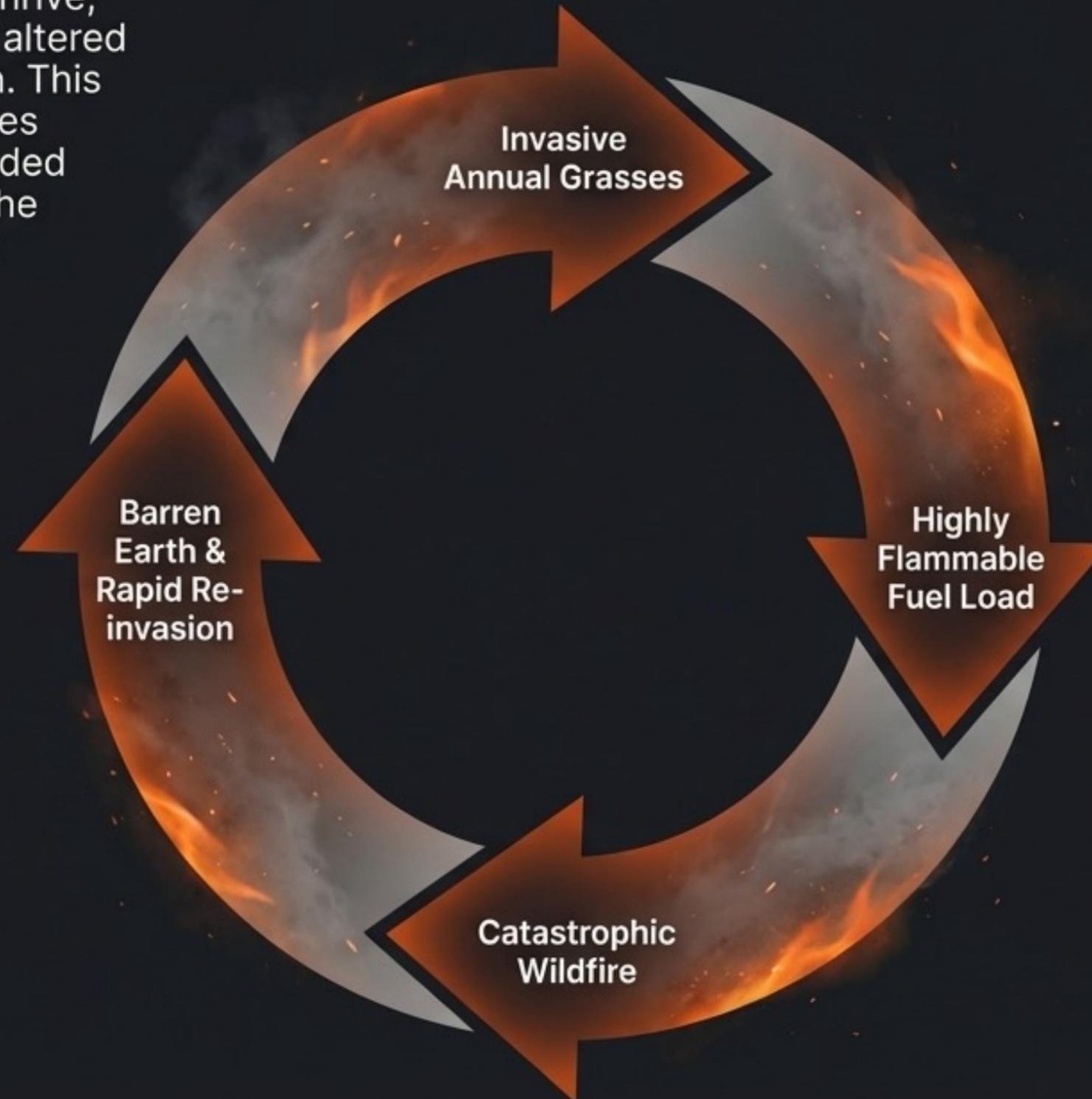
The Strategy builds the supply chain required for the 10% goal:

- Establishes 10-year seed demand forecasts and regional production goals.
- Expands geotagged native seed collection across Oregon's nine distinct ecoregions.
- Massively expands warehouse and refrigerated storage capacity to ensure seed is available precisely when and where it is needed.



# The devastating loop of the Fire-Seed Cycle.

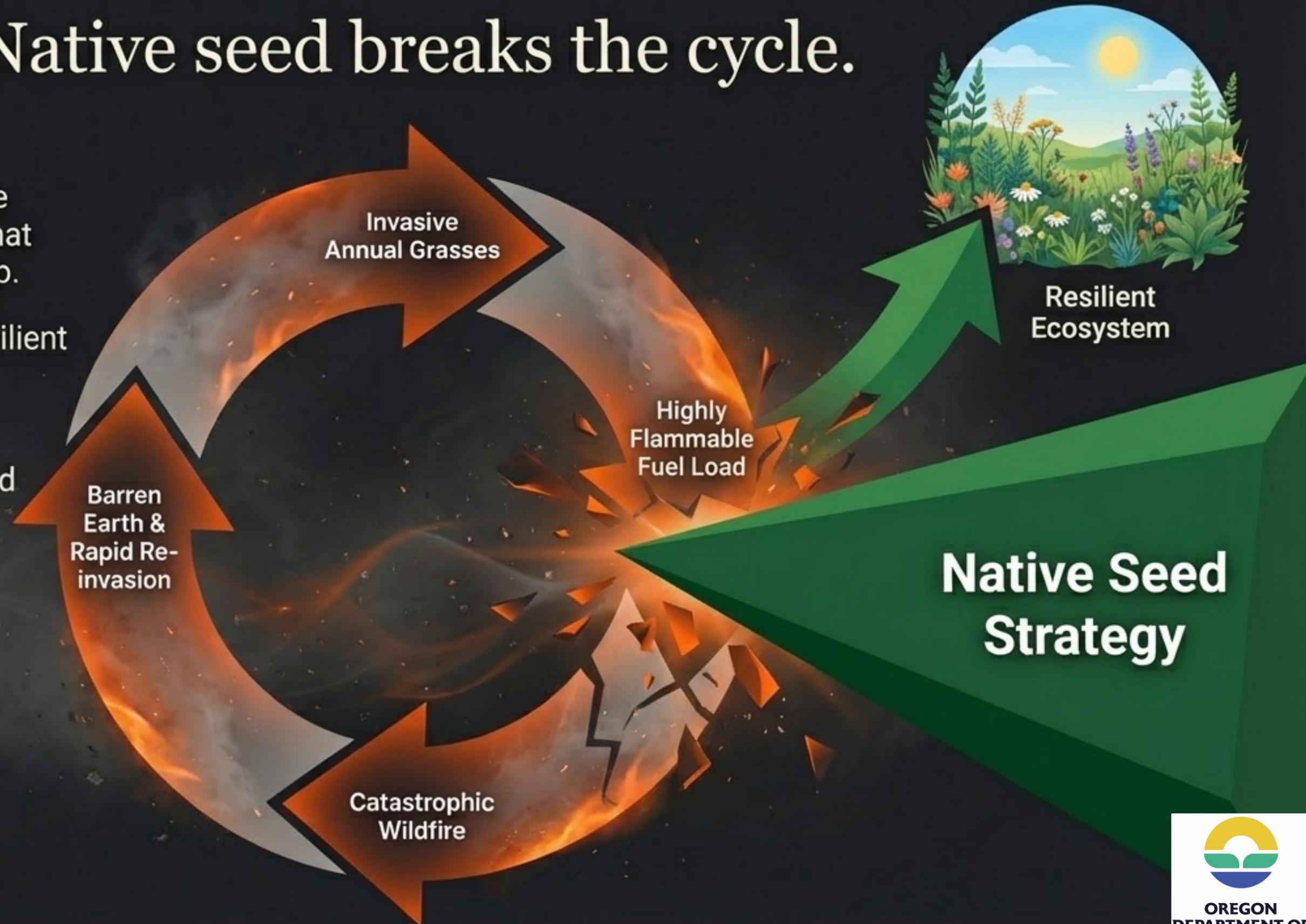
Where invasive annual grasses thrive, landscapes do not recover from altered fire regimes without intervention. This creates a vicious cycle where fires repeatedly burn the same degraded areas, permanently preventing the re-establishment of native plant communities.



# Native seed breaks the cycle.

Ecologically appropriate native seed is the only mechanism that can break the invasive fire loop.

- Establishes diverse, fire-resilient plant communities.
- Integrates seamlessly with Emergency Stabilization and Burned Area Emergency Response plans.
- Directs specific research (Action 2.2.2) on site preparation and seeding strategies specifically for wildland fire and invasive grass environments.



# Building robust seed economies supports rural agriculture.

Achieving landscape resilience must make economic sense for Oregonians.

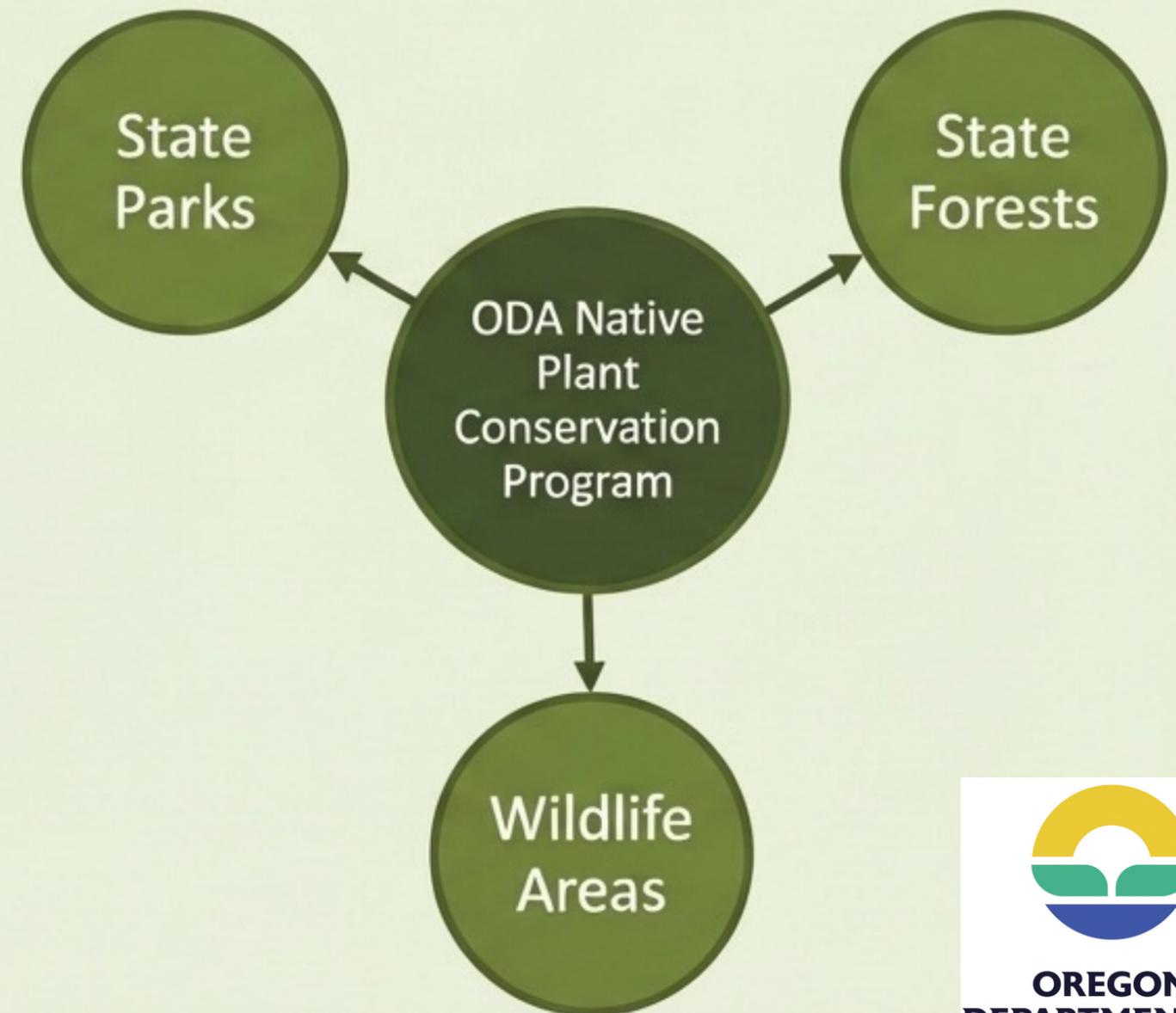
- Builds a viable native seed market that increases economic activity and supports rural agricultural families.
- Develops innovative contracting methods to stabilize markets and streamline procurement for Oregon growers.
- Subsidizes native seed costs for underfunded projects, ensuring working lands can access vital restoration materials.



# State agencies are mandated to enhance resilience

## ODA's NPCP is a key facilitator:

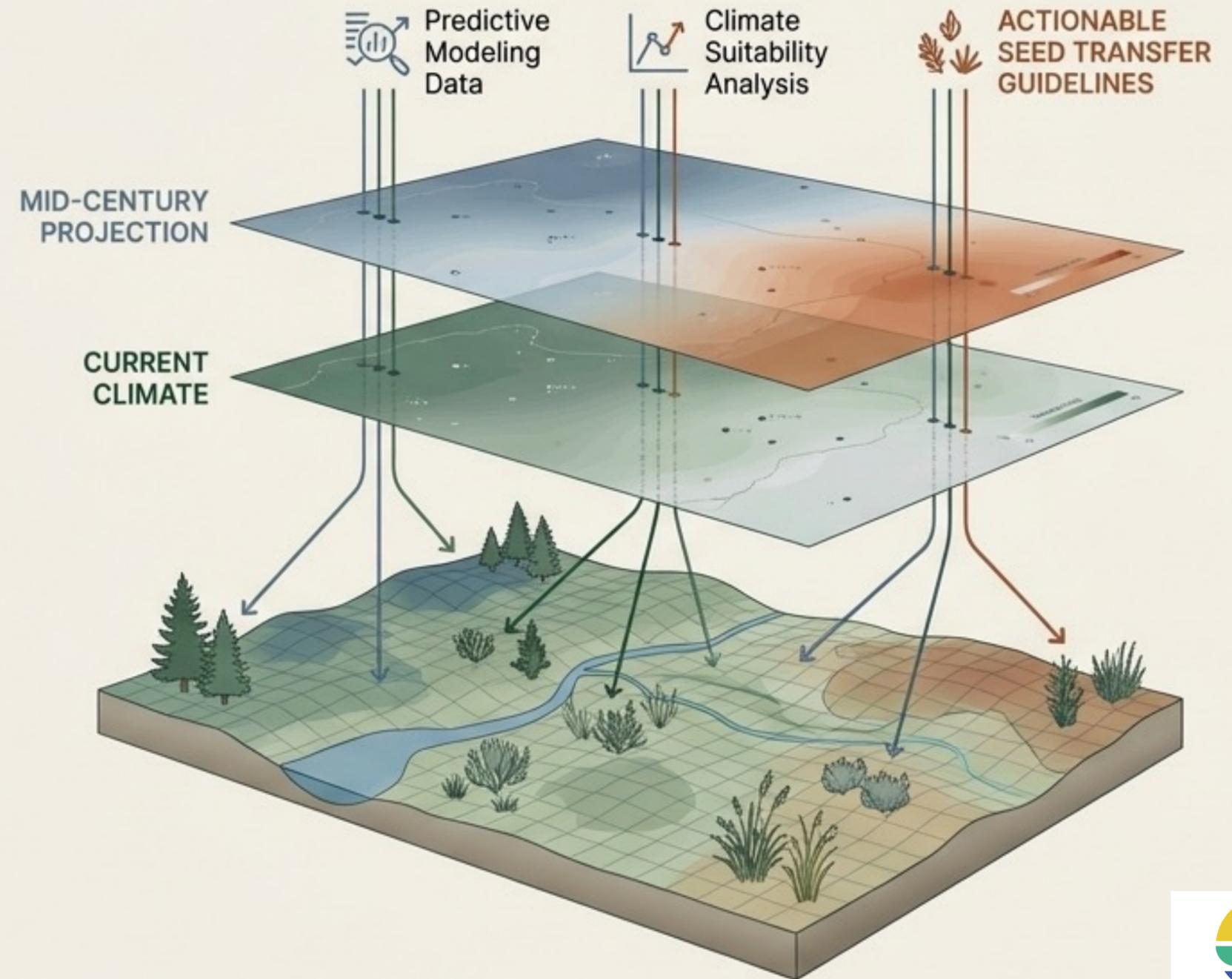
- Provides comprehensive decision-making frameworks and protocols.
- Maintains a central portal for restoration resources and tools.
- Delivers webinars and in-person training on best practices for seed collection, production, and deployment.



# The scientific foundation for climate adaptation.

OWEB and ODFW are tasked with defining resilience attributes. Goal 2 of the Strategy generates the scientific data required to make those those definitions accurate:

- Develops predictive models of climate change effects on restoration species using mid-century climate projections.
- Creates decision-making frameworks for seed transfer zones that explicitly account for future climate scenarios.



# Deep alignment on meaningful Tribal partnerships.

Both EO 25-26 and the Native Seed Strategy mandate strong government-to-government relations with Oregon's nine federally recognized sovereign tribal nations. The Strategy actively operationalizes this by:

- Enforcing tribal data sovereignty protocols in all database development.
- Prioritizing culturally significant species in seed production.
- Subsidizing native seed for tribal-led restoration projects.
- Supporting continued and increased access to appropriate gathering areas.



# The implementation architecture is already built.

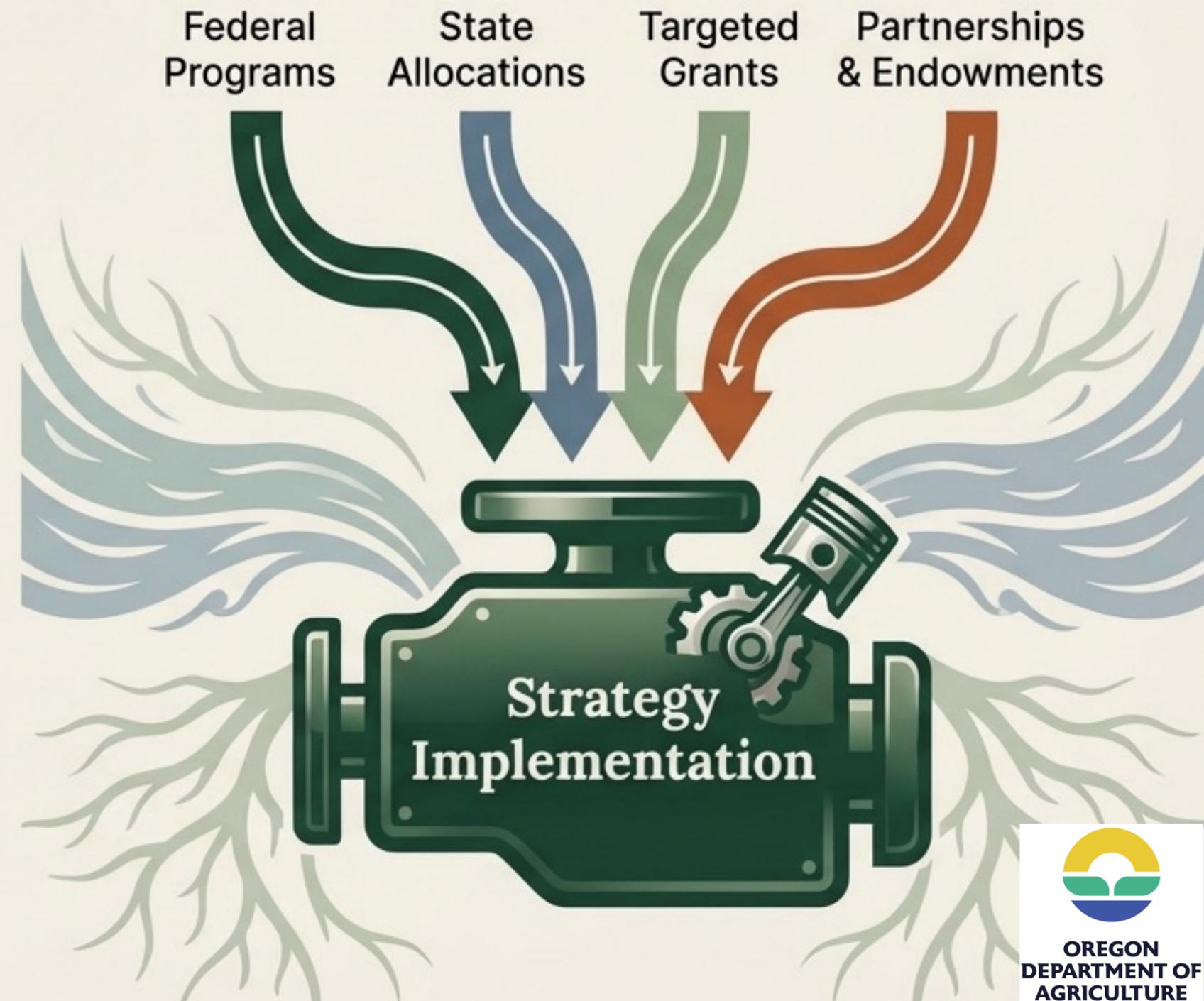
The EO requires coordinated, outcome-focused execution. The Strategy provides the exact organizational infrastructure needed:



# Dedicated resources are required to activate the strategy.

Goal 5 of the Strategy recognizes that operationalizing this scale of resilience requires dedicated, sustained funding.

- Developing a comprehensive business plan with exact cost estimates for all required actions.
- Leveraging existing federal and state programs (BLM, USFWS, OWEB, HB 3409).
- Pursuing dedicated state resources, including grants specifically targeting underserved communities.



# Priority Actions to Achieve EO Goals



Recognize the **Native Seed Strategy** as critical infrastructure in all EO implementation and biennial agency plans.



Secure **dedicated funding** for Strategy implementation through the 2027-2029 and 2029-2031 budget cycles.



Ensure ODA's **Native Plant and Rangeland Health** programs are integrated into the EO's Natural Resource Interagency Team.



Integrate the Strategy's **10-year seed demand forecasts** into agency agency planning for the 10% conservation goal.



# The biological prerequisite for Oregon's future.

*"The right seed in the right place at the right time."*

Executive Order 25-26 and the Oregon Native Seed Strategy are not competing priorities. They are inseparable frameworks. We cannot build the resilient, diverse, and functional ecosystems mandated by the Governor without the foundational raw materials to grow them.

## How the Oregon Native Seed Strategy Implements Executive Order 25-26

<b>Date:</b>	February 11, 2026
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Oregon Department of Agriculture, Native Plant Conservation Program
<b>Subject:</b>	Integration of Oregon Native Seed Strategy with Executive Order 25-26

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Executive Order 25-26 sets ambitious targets for climate resilience across Oregon's natural and working lands. The Oregon Native Seed Strategy (2025) provides critical infrastructure to achieve these mandates by ensuring ecologically appropriate native seed is available at the scale needed for landscape-level restoration.

### KEY FINDING

The Executive Order cannot be achieved at the required scale without adequate native seed supply. The Native Seed Strategy is foundational infrastructure for implementing the EO's 10% conservation goal and landscape resilience mandates.

### STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

#### Climate Resilience Definition Alignment

The EO defines climate resilience as 'the capability to anticipate, prepare for, respond to and recover from significant climate-related threats while minimizing damage to social wellbeing, the economy and ecosystem functions.' The Native Seed Strategy operationalizes this definition through:

- Anticipate: Seed forecasting systems (Objective 1.1) that predict restoration needs based on wildfire projections and climate models
- Prepare: Strategic expansion of seed collection, production, and storage capacity (Goal 1) to ensure seed availability when disasters occur
- Respond: Emergency seed reserves and regional coordination networks (Actions 1.1.3, 1.4.3) for rapid deployment post-disturbance
- Recover: Research on climate-adapted seed sources (Action 2.3.2) and restoration techniques (Objective 2.2) to support long-term ecosystem recovery

## HOW THE SEED STRATEGY SUPPORTS EO SECTION I: FOSTER RESILIENT LANDS, WATERS AND COMMUNITIES

### 1. Define Key Resilience Attributes (EO Section I.1)

#### EO Requirement:

OWEB and ODFW will lead natural resource agencies to define resilience attributes for Oregon lands and waters.

#### Strategy Support:

- Goal 2 (Research) generates the scientific foundation for understanding which native plant species, populations, and genetic diversity contribute to resilient ecosystems
- Action 2.3.2 specifically develops predictive models of climate change effects on restoration species using mid-century climate projections
- Action 3.1.2 creates decision-making frameworks for seed transfer zones that consider climate adaptation and future scenarios

### 2. Keep Oregon's Working Lands Working (EO Section I.2)

#### EO Requirement:

Agencies must improve programs supporting stewardship of working lands to provide diverse products while supporting co-benefits like clean water, healthy soils, and climate resilience.

#### Strategy Support:

- Goal 1 ensures rangelands, grasslands, and farmlands can be restored after disturbance with ecologically appropriate seed
- Objective 1.3 creates partnerships with growers and prioritizes supporting rural agricultural economies while building native seed supply chains
- Action 1.3.2 subsidizes native seed costs for under-funded projects, ensuring working lands can access restoration materials
- Actions 3.3.1 & 3.3.2 develop innovative contracting methods that stabilize markets for Oregon growers and streamline procurement

**Economic Benefit:** *The Strategy recognizes 'robust seed economies' as a guiding principle, noting that building a viable native seed market increases economic activity in Oregon while supporting agricultural families and rural communities.*

### 3. Conserve Natural Lands as Resilience Anchors (EO Section I.3)

#### EO Requirement: Ten Percent in Ten Years

Agencies must protect, conserve, connect or restore 10% of Oregon's lands and waters within ten years, prioritizing areas with key resilience attributes and maximizing co-benefits (carbon sequestration, biodiversity, community health, ecosystem health, reduced fire/flood risk).

#### CRITICAL DEPENDENCY

**This goal cannot be achieved at the required scale without adequate native seed supply. You cannot restore or rehabilitate degraded lands without plant materials.**

#### Direct Strategy Support:

- Objective 1.1 establishes regional coordination to quantify and meet seed needs across Oregon with 10-year seed demand forecasts
- Action 1.2.2 expands geotagged native seed collection across Oregon's nine ecoregions
- Action 1.3.1 identifies regional seed production goals aligned with the EO's conservation timeline
- Action 1.4.3 expands warehouse and refrigerated storage capacity to ensure seed availability when and where needed

#### Co-Benefits Alignment:

The Strategy's guiding principles directly address the EO's required co-benefits:

- Carbon Sequestration & Biodiversity: 'Species diversity in native plant communities and the genetic diversity within those species provides greater resilience to our changing climate'
- Ecosystem Health: 'Native plant communities...provide essential habitat and food sources for wildlife, including pollinators'
- Fire/Flood Risk Reduction: Research on restoration techniques (Objective 2.2) addresses 'challenging restoration situations such as wildland fire [and] invasive annual grasses'

### 4. State-Owned and Managed Lands (EO Section I.4)

#### EO Requirement:

State agencies managing lands (State Parks, Forests, Wildlife Areas, Fish Hatcheries, etc.) must enhance climate resilience as a co-benefit of management objectives.

**Strategy Support:**

ODA's Native Plant Conservation Program is specifically positioned to support these state land managers through:

- Goal 3: Decision-making frameworks, guides, protocols, and comprehensive resources for land managers
- Objective 3.2: Central website providing access to all restoration resources and tools
- Action 3.2.3: Webinars and in-person training for land managers on best practices in native seed collection, production, and use

**5. Wildfire Protection (EO Section I.5.b)**

**EO Requirement:**

Implement Oregon's 20-year Landscape Resiliency Plan to reduce wildfire risk and protect from catastrophic wildfire.

**Wildfire Context in the Strategy:**

Year	Acres Burned	Impact
2012	1.0+ million	Devastating
2020	1.0+ million	Devastating
2024	1.0+ million	Devastating

*The Strategy notes: 'Thousands of pounds of seed are used in Oregon each year in an effort to revegetate or enhance burned lands.'*

**Direct Strategy Support:**

- Objective 1.1 coordinates seed needs based on past and predicted wildfire areas
- Action 2.2.2 conducts research on site preparation and seeding strategies for challenging restoration situations including wildland fire and invasive annual grasses
- Emergency Response Integration: The Strategy explicitly notes Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation/Burned Area Emergency Response plans are ideal for integrating research

**The Fire-Seed Cycle Problem:**

*The Strategy identifies a critical issue: 'Where invasive annual grasses thrive, landscapes often do not recover from altered fire regimes without intervention, creating a cycle where fires repeatedly burn the same areas and prevent the re-establishment of desirable native plant communities.'*

**Solution: Ecologically appropriate native seed can break this cycle by establishing diverse, fire-resilient plant communities.**

### 6. Tribal Partnership and Cultural Significance

Both documents emphasize meaningful tribal engagement and government-to-government relations.

Executive Order 25-26	Native Seed Strategy
Collaboration with Oregon's nine federally recognized sovereign tribal nations to build, sustain, and enhance relationships in support of Order implementation	Comprehensive Land Acknowledgment, tribal data sovereignty protocols, culturally significant species prioritization, support for tribal seed production, and action to subsidize native seed for tribal-led restoration projects

#### Key Strategy Commitments:

- 'Supporting Sovereignty and Self-determination' as a core guiding principle
- Culturally significant species prioritized throughout (Goal 4, Action 1.3.2)
- Tribal data sovereignty explicitly respected in all database development
- Support for 'continuing and increasing access to appropriate gathering areas'

### IMPLEMENTATION ARCHITECTURE: MAKING THE EO OPERATIONAL

The EO requires coordinated, outcome-focused implementation across agencies. The Native Seed Strategy provides the organizational infrastructure to operationalize the EO's mandates.

#### Coordination Structure

Entity	Role
Oregon Native Seed Collective (ONSC)	Multi-agency partnership including ODA, ODFW, OWEB, ODF, BLM, USFWS, Tribes, NGOs, universities
Regional Coordinators	Half or full-time positions in each ecoregional partnership to coordinate local implementation (Action 1.1.4)
Natural Resource Interagency Team	Directly aligns with EO's coordination structure—led by OWEB/ODFW with ODA as key partner

## Funding Strategy (Goal 5)

The Strategy recognizes that EO implementation requires dedicated resources:

- Action 5.1.1: Develop comprehensive business plan with cost estimates for all Strategy actions
- Action 5.1.2: Secure funding through existing federal and state programs (BLM, USFWS, OWEB, HB 3409)
- Actions 5.1.3-5.1.4: Pursue state policy changes and dedicated resources including grants for underserved communities
- Action 5.1.5: Explore non-traditional revenue sources (partnerships, endowments, citizen donations)

## CONCLUSION

### **The Oregon Native Seed Strategy is Integral to Achieving EO 25-26**

Executive Order 25-26 sets ambitious, necessary targets:

- 10% of Oregon lands/waters protected, conserved, or restored in 10 years
- Enhanced climate resilience across working lands
- Protection from catastrophic wildfire
- Durable conservation outcomes with multiple co-benefits

***None of these goals can be achieved at the required scale without adequate supplies of ecologically appropriate native seed.***

**Key Mechanism:** The Strategy ensures 'the right seed in the right place at the right time'—which is the biological prerequisite for creating the resilient, diverse, functional ecosystems the Executive Order mandates.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### **For Successful EO Implementation:**

- **Recognize the Native Seed Strategy as critical infrastructure in all EO implementation planning and biennial agency plans**
- **Secure dedicated funding for Strategy implementation through the 2027-2029 and 2029-2031 budget cycles**
- **Ensure ODA's Native Plant Conservation Program is included in the Natural Resource Interagency Team established by the EO**

- **Coordinate resilience attribute development (EO Section I.1) with Strategy research priorities (Goal 2)**
- **Integrate 10-year seed demand forecasts (Objective 1.1) into agency planning for the 10% conservation goal**
- **Support regional native plant partnerships as the ground-level implementation mechanism for both EO and Strategy goals**

**For More Information:**

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Oregon Department of Agriculture, Native Plant Conservation Program

*Oregon Native Seed Strategy (2025) and Executive Order 25-26 (2025) are complementary frameworks for achieving climate resilience across Oregon's natural and working lands.*

## MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture  
From: Board Coordinator  
Subject: Agenda Item Number 13: *Board Business - continued*

### I. Ag Quarterly

At the December 2025 Board Meeting, the Board decided to suspend production of the Board Newsletter and to instead include brief updates in the Ag Quarterly, a quarterly publication produced by ODA currently. The Board will discuss what content to include in the March's Ag Quarterly.

### II. Board Resolution Review

The Board of Agriculture will review all active Resolutions and identify Resolutions to re-evaluate in 2026, per Board Resolution 000.

## Active Board Resolutions – Oregon State Board of Agriculture

#	Title	General Description
000	Policy & Procedures for Resolutions	Outlines the general process the Board uses to create, review, adopt, and make publicly available its policy resolutions
024	Pesticide Use for Pest Control	Supports the use of pesticides as a necessary tool within an integrated pest management system when applied per federal law to protect people and the environment
029	Reservation of Columbia River Water for Irrigation	Recommends reserving water from the Columbia River for future irrigation and agricultural needs
107	Priority for Agricultural Use of Water	Asserts that agricultural water needs should be equitably considered in statewide water planning and supports water infrastructure investments that benefit agriculture
124	Trade Policy that Promotes Free and Reciprocal Access	Endorses US trade policies that reject protectionism and ensure fair, reciprocal market access for Oregon agricultural products
155	Position on Farm Tax Deferral & Urban Growth Boundaries	Advocates for maintaining farm-use tax deferrals within urban growth boundaries and limiting boundary expansion until urban densities are reached
162	Buildable Lands Inside Urban Growth Boundaries	Opposes mandates for a fixed 20-year supply of buildable lands within urban growth boundaries, favoring local control to protect farmland
169	Need for Documented Agricultural Workforce	Calls for immigration reform that provides paths to legal status for agricultural workers and improvements to guest worker programs
266	Collective Bargaining for Agricultural Workers & Employers	Supports extending collective bargaining protections to Oregon’s agricultural workers under equitable rules
274	Collaboration with Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board	Encourages continued partnership between the Board/ODA and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board to support watershed health and water quality
275	Cougar Management Plan	Supports Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife’s cougar management plan to address predator threats to livestock
281	Conservation Plan for the Oregon Coast Coho	Endorses efforts to help recover Oregon Coast coho salmon populations and coordinate agricultural contributions
295	Protection of Oregon Agriculture	Reaffirms support for protecting viable farming operations and agricultural land from certain development and land-use changes
298	Coexistence of Wolves & Livestock	Supports science-based wolf management that includes nonlethal deterrents and, when necessary, lethal control to protect livestock, plus full funding for compensation programs
300	Siting of Aggregate Mining in the Willamette Valley	Sets conditions for siting aggregate mining to avoid conversion of prime agricultural soils and require meaningful mitigation and reclamation if unavoidable

## Active Board Resolutions – Oregon State Board of Agriculture

301	Minimizing Conflicts of Coexistence in Agriculture	Promotes stewardship, communication among producers, choice of legal technologies, and best management practices to reduce conflicts across farming systems
305	The Native Plant Conservation Program	Recognizes the importance and statutory authority of the ODA Native Plant Conservation Program in protecting threatened and endangered plants
307	Farmworker Housing	Emphasizes the need for adequate, affordable housing for agricultural workers, urges flexible implementation of housing rules, and supports increased funding and collaboration on housing solutions
309	Coordinated Streamside Management Approach to Water Quality	Affirms the Board’s support for strategic, multi-agency streamside managements to improve water quality and habitat through coordinated implementation areas
310	Siting of Agri-tourism and Entertainment Activities	Provides policy guidance on siting agri-tourism and related activities on agricultural lands to support farming viability (generally aimed at balancing economic use with agricultural land protection)
313	Water Quality Strategic Implementation Areas & SWCD Focus Areas	Supports the use of strategic implementation and focus areas to address serious water quality issues on agricultural lands and recommends periodic MOA review
314	Permitted Uses on Lands Zoned Exclusive Farm Use & High-Value Farmland	Offers the Board’s stance on permitted land uses to preserve the purpose of exclusive farm use and protect high-value farmland
315	Workings Lands Conservation Easements	Advocates for conservation easements that protect productive working lands from conversion
316	Federal Minimum Wage Parity	Supports aligning federal minimum wage provisions with conditions in Oregon to ensure parity and fairness for agricultural workers
317	ODA’s Role in FSMA Produce Safety Rule	Affirms ODA’s role in implementing the federal Food Safety and Modernization Act (FSMA)
318	Siting of Energy Transmission & Generation Facilities on Agricultural Land	Provides guidance to minimize impacts when locating energy infrastructure on agricultural land
319	Climate Change Policy Considerations	States the Board’s position on considering climate change impacts in agricultural policy and planning
320	Agriculture Overtime	Addresses the Board’s position on overtime pay policies as they apply to agricultural workers

<b>Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution</b>	
<b>Title:</b> Position on Farm Tax Deferral and Urban Growth Boundaries	<b>Number:</b> 155 <b>Effective Date:</b> 06/15/2023
<b>Workgroup B:</b> Boyer, Harper, Johnson, Miller, Svaty <b>ODA Staff Contact:</b> Jim Johnson	<b>Next Review Date:</b> 00/00/2026 <b>Date of Last Review/Revision:</b> 06/15/2023 <b>Original Resolution Date:</b> 12/09/1994
<b>Board Chair:</b> Luisa Santamaria	Signature on file, 06/15/2023

**Background**

Whereas the State Board of Agriculture recognizes that it is not uncommon to find commercial farming operations located inside of many urban growth boundaries throughout Oregon;

Whereas, while awaiting future urbanization, many “vacant” urban lands are rented and leased by farmers and ranchers and put into production;

Whereas farm use special assessment is currently available for all lands in Oregon regardless of zoning designation;

Whereas, lands not zoned for exclusive farm use (EFU) must meet the same requirements as those zoned EFU and meet minimum income requirements established in ORS 308A.056.;

Whereas, unlike EFU lands which qualify automatically when they meet the definition of “farm use,” non-EFU lands may qualify only after justification through application;

Whereas regardless of tax status, all lands located within an urban growth boundary (UGB) are considered to be urban land and must be considered in any evaluation of available “buildable land” before justification of an expansion of any UGB and upon a “change of use,” the subject land is disqualified from farm value assessment;

Whereas, elimination of farm property tax deferrals within Urban Growth Boundaries could place legitimate farming operations on land not yet needed for development at a competitive disadvantage potentially leading to the dissolution of these operations and resulting in premature low-density development in conflict with land use planning goals;

Whereas the location of many important components of Oregon’s agricultural industry are found in and near urban areas and specifically, inside urban growth boundaries.

## **Resolution**

Be it resolved that the State Board of Agriculture supports the Farm Use Special Assessment (Tax Deferral) program remaining available and being maintained within Urban Growth Boundaries.

Be it further resolved that expansion of urban growth boundaries be considered only after desirable urban densities have been reached on lands within existing boundaries.

## **Summary**

Asserts the farm-use tax deferral should be maintained within urban growth boundaries. Expansion of urban growth boundaries should only be considered after urban density has been reached on land within existing boundaries.

# Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution

<b>Title:</b> The Supply of Buildable Lands Inside Urban Growth Boundaries	<b>Number:</b> 162 <b>Effective Date:</b> 06/15/2023
<b>Workgroup B:</b> Boyer, Harper, Johnson, Miller, Svaty <b>ODA Staff Contact:</b> Jim Johnson	<b>Next Review Date:</b> 00/00/2026 <b>Date of Last Review/Revision:</b> 06/15/2023 <b>Original Resolution Date:</b> 12/11/1998
<b>Board Chair:</b> Luisa Santamaria	Signature on file, 06/15/2023

## Background

Whereas Oregon agriculture produces a farm gate value in excess of \$5 billion dollars annually.

Whereas the Willamette Valley produces approximately one-half of Oregon's \$5 billion-dollar market value production.

Whereas Oregon's population growth is projected to increase by nearly 5% by 2023, primarily in the Willamette Valley.

Whereas Oregon cities are required by state law to maintain a 20-year supply of buildable lands within their established urban growth boundaries.

## Resolution

Be it resolved that the State Board of Agriculture finds that mandating a 20-year supply of buildable lands inside the urban growth boundaries is incompatible with the conservation of farmland for future generations.

Be it further resolved the Board of Agriculture supports the concept of cities and counties regaining local control by making the 20-year supply of buildable lands inside the urban growth boundary optional.

## Summary

Supports local control (by cities and counties) to optional development on 20-year land supplies within urban growth boundaries.

# Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution

<b>Title:</b> Protection of Oregon Agriculture	<b>Number:</b> 295 <b>Effective Date:</b> 08/17/2023
<b>Workgroup B:</b> Boyer, Harper, Johnson, Miller, Svaty <b>ODA Staff Contact:</b> Jim Johnson	<b>Next Review Date:</b> 00/00/2026 <b>Date of Last Review/Revision:</b> 08/17/2023 <b>Original Resolution Date:</b> 02/13/2009
<b>Board Chair:</b> Luisa Santamaria	Signature on file

## Background

WHEREAS, the State Board of Agriculture is committed to supporting viable operations of agriculture throughout Oregon;

WHEREAS, the establishment of Exclusive Farm Use Zones (EFU) have supported the viable operation of farming in Oregon;

WHEREAS, waivers and exemptions of the land use laws developed to protect agricultural lands will most likely lead to location of large-scale developments, new subdivisions, and other nonfarm uses in and amongst ongoing farm and ranch operations; and

WHEREAS, deliberations regarding designation and treatment of agricultural lands under the statewide land use planning program have included the consideration of actions that could designate or treat differently many lands currently zoned exclusive farm use based on soil quality without accounting for land important to the state's livestock, dairy and winegrape industries;

WHEREAS, the USDA NRCS agricultural capability classification system (Class I-VII) does not always adequately address the special and unique needs of certain high-value crops such as vineyards and orchards and is not designed to provide analysis on the value of range and pasturelands; and

WHEREAS many provisions currently found in state law provide opportunities to re-evaluate land use designations, and "rezone" lands when determined to be appropriate, and

WHEREAS irrigation is key element in maintaining the viability of the state's agricultural industry.

WHEREAS decisions involving urban growth, the development of transportation and other infrastructure can impact the long-term viability of agriculture, and

WHEREAS the state land use system can be complex and difficult to understand in many areas.

## Resolution

Be it resolved that the Oregon State Board of Agriculture:

1. Reaffirms its commitment to protect viable farming operations in Oregon as a valuable natural and economic resource for our state.

2. Urges that waivers and exemptions to land use regulations not be granted without giving due consideration to need and reasonable alternatives to impacting agricultural lands and operations.
3. Urges that programs dealing with compensation for land use limitations, such as the use of conservation easements supported by the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program, purchase of development rights and transfer of development rights, be developed to compliment the state land use program.
4. Supports protection of the state's viable grazing and vineyard lands and urges their continued protection as exclusive farm use lands and consideration as high-value farmland;
5. Urges consideration of other factors in addition to soils capability classification, when determining the value of land for high-value and specialty crops and range and pasture forage production.
6. Urges consideration of the impacts of nonresource related development on adjacent agricultural lands, including the sustainability of existing water rights in, any deliberations related to the definition, inventory, and designation of agricultural lands.
7. Supports the evaluation, through the periodic review process, of the adequacy of county agricultural lands inventories and agricultural land zoning.
8. Supports the development of a state strategic plan that integrates land use, transportation water supply and economic development priorities.

### **Summary**

Reaffirms commitment to protect viable farming operations in Oregon as a valuable natural and economic resource for the state.

<b>Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution</b>	
<b>Title:</b> Siting of Aggregate Mining Operations in the Willamette Valley	<b>Number:</b> 300 <b>Effective Date:</b> 06/15/2023
<b>Workgroup B:</b> Boyer, Harper, Johnson, Miller, Svaty <b>ODA Staff Contact:</b> Jim Johnson	<b>Next Review Date:</b> 00/00/2026 <b>Date of Last Review/Revision:</b> 06/15/2023 <b>Original Resolution Date:</b> 03/10/2011
<b>Board Chair:</b> Luisa Santamaria	Signature on file, 06/15/2023

**Background**

Whereas 45% of the total value of Oregon’s gross farm and ranch sales is produced in the Willamette Valley;

Whereas 49% of Oregon’s high-value farmland soils and 80% of the state’s prime farmland is located within the Willamette Valley;

Whereas prime farmland soils compose less than three percent of Oregon’s lands;

Whereas aggregate sand and gravel mines are consuming about 350 acres of largely high-value farmland soils a year in the Willamette Valley;

Whereas viable aggregate resources can be and are currently found on lands deemed less valuable to agriculture and other natural resources such as from “hard rock” quarries that are often located on soils less valuable to agriculture and other lands containing poorer quality agricultural soils;

Whereas farming poor soil is not an option for agriculture because agriculture is both land and soil dependent;

Whereas according to Oregon land use law it is only within the Willamette Valley that exceptions are provided to mine Class I and II agricultural lands;

Whereas state law permits reclamation of mining operations on lands zoned for exclusive farm use to either wildlife habitat or agricultural land;

Whereas most typical reclamation of mining operations is to wildlife habitat or “farm use” in the form of open ponds (for irrigation purpose) instead of to useable agricultural ground;

Whereas it is recognized that aggregate resources are important to many aspects of Oregon’s economy.

**Resolution**

Be it resolved that the Oregon State Board of Agriculture:

1. Does not support, in the Willamette Valley, the use and conversion of Class I, II prime or unique agricultural soils (as defined by the USDA Natural Resources Conversation Service) on lands zoned for exclusive farm use for the mining of aggregate unless it is shown that no reasonable alternative lands exist:

- (a) On land that is identified in an acknowledged comprehensive plans as an exception area or as non-resource land;
  - (b) On resource land that is determine to be irrevocably committed to non-resource uses;
  - (c) In an urban growth boundary; or
  - (d) On resource land or lower capability for agricultural production as classified by USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.
2. When reasonable alternatives do not exist and Willamette Valley Class I, II prime and unique soils are required for needed aggregate production, the Board supports aggregate mining on agricultural land only upon a determination that the proposed mining and associated operations do not or can be mitigated to not adversely impact other farming operations in the area; and
  3. When it is determined that mining operations are appropriate for siting on Willamette Valley Class I, II prime and unique soils, the Board supports requiring the reclamation of the subject lands back to farmland at the same quality as existed prior to mining activities.

**Summary**

Relates to aggregate mining on Class I & II soils in the Willamette Valley.

<b>Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution</b>	
<b>Title:</b> Siting of Agri-tourism, Entertainment Activities and associated activities on Agricultural Lands	<b>Number:</b> 310 <b>Effective Date:</b> 08/17/2023
<b>Workgroup B:</b> Boyer, Harper, Johnson, Miller, Svaty <b>ODA Staff Contact:</b> Jim Johnson	<b>Next Review Date:</b> 00/00/2026 <b>Date of Last Review/Revision:</b> 08/17/2023 <b>Original Resolution Date:</b> 09/19/2012
<b>Board Chair:</b> Luisa Santamaria	Signature on file

### **Background**

Whereas the appropriate siting of commercial activities associated with farm use can be beneficial to operators and help to educate the public about Oregon agriculture;

Whereas there is increasing interest in the development of rural tourism and entertainment activities, many times in relation to agriculture;

Whereas increasingly there are many cases of such activities presenting compatibility issues with farming practices and presenting implications to rural infrastructure and services

Whereas issues have been raised relating to the uneven application of the laws dealing with the siting of agri-tourism, rural entertainment and commercial facilities related to farm use which may provide unfair competitive advantages to like operations;

Whereas "agri-tourism" related land uses are being authorized in the exclusive farm use (EFU) zone by several ways including: farm use (u-picks), room and board facilities, commercial use in conjunction with farm use, home occupations, wineries, restaurant in conjunction with winery, agri-tourism events, farm stands, eastern Oregon guest ranch, cider business, farm brewery and outdoor mass gatherings. Unlike the detailed provisions developed for wineries, most of these land uses are poorly or not defined at all in statute or administrative rule.

Whereas the 2011 Legislature established land use laws dealing with some of these issues including SB 960 [ORS 215.213(11), (12) and (13) and 215.283(4), (5) and (6)] , and HB 3280 [ORS 215.452, 215.213(1)(p) and 215.283(1)(n)] issues remain relating to uneven application, definition and context of specific land uses and the continued use of laws that are set to sunset:

### **Resolution**

Be it resolved that the Oregon State Board of Agriculture:

1. Supports the use of agricultural lands for activities related to entertainment and tourism and other events only under strictly defined circumstances.
2. When defining circumstances, the Board supports the following considerations:

- a. The proposed agri-tourism use is determined to be directly related to commercial farm use or processing activities occurring on the subject farm or ranch operation;
  - b. The proposed agri-tourism use is determined to be incidental and subordinate to the farm use of the subject operation. An activity should be considered to be incidental and subordinate if found to be accessory to, supplement or be adjunct to the farm use (as defined in state statute) of the subject farm operation and if it supports farm use. Such a determination should be made on the basis of standards established that are similar to those enacted by the Legislature in SB 960 (2012) codified in ORS 215.213(4) and 215.283(4) and “defined by the Oregon Court of Appeals in *Friends of Yamhill County v. Yamhill County*, 301 Or App 726 (2020).
  - c. The proposed agri-tourism use is determined to be compatible or can be made compatible with other area farming and ranch operations. Compatibility evaluation should include all activities and events, including those that are not considered a “land use” under Oregon law. Such an evaluation needs to recognize the diversity of Oregon agriculture and the associated agricultural practices that are or may become common to area farms and ranches. Compatibility should also be based on an analysis of the cumulative impacts that existing and proposed activities could have on area farm and ranch operations.
3. Supports better definition of what comprises certain land uses established by law in the exclusive farm use zone that are currently being used to authorized agri-tourism related activities. Examples include “commercial use in conjunction with farm use,” “home occupation,” “private parks” and “mass gatherings.”
  4. Supports land use standards that assure that any food service related to bonafide, regular and ongoing agri-tourism events compliment and are accessory to the agri-tourism activity and associated farm use.
  5. Urges the department to work with community partners to better define the circumstances when commercial activities are appropriate on agricultural lands. The board recognizes that the development of criteria that best protects agriculture and the general public involves many complicated issues. The board advises a comprehensive evaluation and analysis, including an analysis of the cumulative impacts to agricultural operation, before any proposed actions are taken.
  6. Recommends that the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) consider the development of a detailed definition of what "agri-tourism" entails.
  7. Supports consistent and even application of land use standards relating to agri-tourism to and for all types of agricultural operations, similar to what was enacted by the Legislature in SB 960.
  8. This action repeals and replaces Resolution No. 304.

### **Summary**

Siting of agri-tourism, entertainment activities and associated activities on agricultural lands.

<b>Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution</b>	
<b>Title:</b> Permitted Uses on Lands Zoned Exclusive Farm Use and on High-Value Farmland	<b>Number:</b> 314 <b>Effective Date:</b> 12/19/2024
<b>Work group B:</b> Boyer, Harper, Kliewer, Miller, Orem <b>ODA Staff Contact:</b> Jim Johnson	<b>Next Review Date:</b> 00/00/2024 <b>Date of Last Review/Revision:</b> 12/19/2024 <b>Original Resolution Date:</b> 12/04/2014
<b>Board Chair:</b> Elin Miller	Signature on file

**Background**

Whereas in 1973 Oregon’s unique land use planning law was enacted to protect farmland by establishing exclusive farm use zones (EFUs);

Whereas since the law was enacted, the number of land uses permitted in EFUs has risen from the original five established by state law to over fifty;

Whereas an increasing number of nonfarm land uses and related activities present compatibility issues with farming practices and have implications for rural infrastructure and services, and such nonfarm uses are being permitted on lands zoned EFU and approved without adequate consideration of compatibility with surrounding farm practices;

Conversion of agricultural lands into nonfarm uses such as aggregate mining, wetlands development, public and private parks, short-term rental housing (STRs), schools, energy generation, and urban infrastructure like sewer and water treatment facilities creates urban expansion pressures and impacts farming viability, irrigation access, and local food systems.;

Whereas litigation is increasingly being used to define otherwise undefined land uses within EFU’s;

Whereas the 2022 Census of Agriculture shows that Oregon lost 4.17% (666,543 acres) of land in farms since 2017, for the first time a higher percentage than every western state except Washington state;

Whereas high-value agricultural soils compose less than 8% of Oregon’s total lands and less than 6% of the lands located outside of urban growth boundaries that are designated for agricultural use under state land use planning goals;

Whereas the total area of irrigated, agricultural land in the state comprises 10.3% of the total land in farms yet accounts for 74.3% of the total market value of agricultural products sold;

Whereas irrigation and the necessary delivery infrastructure is key to maintaining and growing the state’s agricultural industry;

A coordinated statewide policy is essential to balance the preservation of agricultural lands with supporting diversified rural economic and on-farm opportunities;

Whereas the Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) has initiated a multi-year effort to review the effectiveness of existing laws designed to protect agricultural lands and implement Exclusive Farm Use (EFU) zoning with a focus on improving consistency of application of standards and criteria to land use decisions across the state, reducing unnecessary appeals and identifying any policy improvements needed to achieve the objectives of Statewide Planning Goal 3 and ORS 215.243.

### **Resolution**

Be it resolved, the Oregon State Board of Agriculture supports careful siting of nonfarm uses on high-value agricultural land, ensuring they complement rather than conflict with local farming operations, and that adverse impacts are effectively mitigated;

Be it resolved that the Board recommends that a comprehensive analysis of the impacts of nonfarm development within the exclusive farm use zone on agricultural lands be conducted to include:

1. A reexamination of land uses currently permitted within EFUs determining which land uses should be permitted outright versus those that should be permitted subject to land use review;
2. Developing criteria to evaluate and ensure compatibility of nonfarm land uses, with a focus on minimizing disruptions to agricultural practices and infrastructure.
3. Better define nonfarm land uses, ensuring they align with the overarching goal of preserving agricultural production and supporting the economic viability of Oregon's agriculture.
4. Establishing land use regulations that provide for the recognition of high value agricultural areas, potentially including areas, such as productive rangelands, that currently are not considered to be high-value farmland under Oregon land use law and establishing requirements that provide a greater degree of protection for identified areas.
5. Conduct a comprehensive cumulative impact analysis of nonfarm uses on EFU-zoned lands, focusing on agricultural land conversion, irrigation access, and operational sustainability for surrounding farms and ranches.
6. Include long-term monitoring and an evaluation of the effectiveness of the land use laws established to implement Goal 3, Agricultural Lands.

<b>Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution</b>	
<b>Title:</b> Working Lands Conservation Easements	<b>Number:</b> 315 <b>Effective Date:</b> 09/12/2024
<b>Workgroup B:</b> Boyer, Harper, Kliewer, Miller, Orem <b>ODA Staff Contact:</b> Jim Johnson	<b>Next Review Date:</b> 00/00/2027 <b>Date of Last Review/Revision:</b> 09/12/2024 <b>Original Resolution Date:</b> 04/30/2015
<b>Board Chair:</b> Elin Miller	Signature on file

**Background**

Whereas, agricultural land is a finite natural resource that is threatened in Oregon by increasing urban expansion and by the cumulative conversion by nonfarm land uses.

Whereas, Oregon’s Statewide Planning Program has provided substantial protection to agricultural lands from development since its establishment in 1973 yet according to Oregon Department of Forestry data, between 1984 and 2009, approximately 147,000 acres of farm and rangeland was converted to nonfarm development. Continued threats to the conversion of agricultural land include expansion of urban growth areas and the cumulative impacts to agricultural lands from nonfarm uses authorized by exclusive farm use zoning.

Whereas, there is increasing interest from farmers, ranchers, land trusts and soil and water conservation districts in the use of working lands easements to *compliment* the statewide planning program to protect working agricultural lands from conversion.

Whereas, there is increasing concern about the succession of farmland to the next generation of farmers and ranchers and working lands easements can provide a tool that can help facilitate effective land succession.

Whereas, the use of working lands easements is voluntary, keeps land in private ownership and on the tax rolls.

Whereas, working lands easements can provide landowners with various financial incentives such as federal and state tax deductions, estate tax benefits and purchase of easement values.

Whereas, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has established a working lands easement program known as the Agricultural Conservation Easement Program (ACEP) that provides funding to states for acquisition for working lands easements. The ACEP program requires matching funds from a local source.

Whereas, there still is concern expressed by many farmers and ranchers as to who would be the best holder of an easement involving working agricultural lands. Entities with a history of working with farmers and ranchers to maintain viable agricultural operations are preferable in many cases. This has led several soil and water conservation districts to become active in promoting the use of easements either by the district itself or by another agency or nonprofit organization with funding support from the subject district. There is increasing interest in examining the ability of the Department of Agriculture to become an active player in the attainment and holding of agricultural lands easements.

## Resolution

Be it resolved that the Oregon State Board of Agriculture:

1. Recognizes that the protection and conservation of active agricultural operations and the land base and associated infrastructure needed to support them is a benefit to Oregon's social, ecological and economic health.
2. Supports a focused use of conservation easements that protect working agricultural lands and complement the Oregon Statewide Planning Program. Easements should protect lands that afford the following assets:
  - a) Are or may become highly productive agricultural lands.
  - b) Are significant to a region's agricultural industry
  - c) Have the ability to conduct long-term viable commercial agricultural operations.
  - d) Are under threat of conversion from agricultural use by urban and/or other nonfarm development.
  - e) As a complement to primary protection of working agricultural lands, help facilitate the protection of other natural resources such as water quality, fish and wildlife habitat and other natural areas.
3. Encourages state government, including the Department of Agriculture, to play a more active role in understanding and protecting agricultural lands through the use of working lands conservation easements.
4. Supports the establishment of a fund in state government that could be utilized to help maintain working agricultural lands through the attainment of conservation easements.

<b>Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution</b>	
<b>Title:</b> Siting of energy transmission and generation facilities on agricultural land	<b>Number:</b> 318 <b>Effective Date:</b> 06/06/2025
<b>Board members:</b> Allen, Boyer, Dill, Kliewer, Lopez, Maag, Miller, Norris, Orem, Zielinski <b>ODA Staff Contact:</b> Jonathan Sandau	<b>Next Review Date:</b> 00/00/2028 <b>Date of Last Review/Revision:</b> 06/06/2025 <b>Original Resolution Date:</b> 06/07/2018
<b>Board Chair:</b> Elin Miller	Signature on file

**Background**

WHEREAS, the State Board of Agriculture has heard from the agricultural community about concerns related to the location and development of power transmission facilities through agricultural lands, including underground and above ground transmission lines and land intensive generation facilities on highly productive agricultural lands.

WHEREAS, energy produced from renewable sources is an important part of the future for our state and nation.

WHEREAS agriculture is both land and soil dependent, while the siting of energy related facilities does not require soils with a high capability for agricultural production.

WHEREAS, deliberations regarding designation and treatment of agricultural lands under the statewide land use planning program have included consideration of actions that designate or treat differently lands zoned exclusive farm use based solely on soil quality without accounting for other factors that are conducive to the production of high-value agricultural products, including livestock.

WHEREAS numerous applications to develop solar energy generation have been approved or are under review throughout the state on highly productive agricultural lands.

WHEREAS the existing state “exceptions process” provides for the consideration and location of land uses otherwise not permitted when reasons merit

WHEREAS, the State Board of Agriculture has in the past been contacted by the State Soil and Water Conservation Commission regarding concerns it has related to the increased development of agricultural lands by solar energy generation facilities. In response to the letter from the Soil and Water Conservation Commission the Board discussed issues related to the siting of solar energy generation facilities on productive farmland and expressed several concerns related to location on productive agricultural lands. The discussion by the Board resulted in a written request to the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) asking that LCDC initiate an evaluation of the current administrative rules related the siting of solar facilities on lands zoned exclusive farm use.

WHEREAS the Department of Land Conservation and Development has since developed rules (see [OAR 660-033-0130\(37\)](#) and [\(38\)](#)) for solar energy siting on designated agricultural lands. These rules are intended to direct energy development to lands that have limited value to wildlife and farming. For example, in the

Willamette Valley solar panels are allowed up to 12 acres in areas with the best soil for farming. Up to 320 acres of land may be used for solar in areas with poor soils and no water rights. While these rules have had some impact in discouraging placement of large facilities in the Willamette Valley, they have not precluded the serial development of solar facilities. They have also not precluded the placement of solar facilities on productive irrigated cropland in Oregon outside the Willamette Valley.

WHEREAS the Oregon Legislature has directed LCDC to conduct rulemaking to identify suitable lands for utility-scale solar development in Eastern Oregon and adjusted the jurisdiction of the Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC), increasing the acreage threshold for solar development on high-value farmland from 160 to 240 acres, thereby shifting more decision-making authority to counties.

WHEREAS the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) has issued new guidance on solar facility development, emphasizing the need for early consultation to avoid and minimize adverse impacts to wildlife habitat.

### **Resolution**

Be it resolved that the Oregon State Board of Agriculture is concerned about the conversion of high-value and productive farmland and the implications to ongoing and future agricultural operations by energy facility development on lands zoned exclusive farm use.

The Board:

1. Recognizes that energy produced from renewable sources is an important part of the future for our state and nation. We support developing renewable energy facilities in locations that avoid the conversion of highly productive farmland and minimize disruption to working farm operations. .
2. Recommends the Land Conservation and Development Commission continue to evaluate and monitor the effectiveness of existing administrative rules related to the siting of energy facilities on land zoned exclusive farm use.
3. Supports establishing review criteria to evaluate not only the individual impact of proposed energy development on agricultural lands, but also the cumulative impacts of existing and potential similar nonfarm land use on agricultural operations.
4. Supports the evaluation of the impacts of proposed linear energy transmission facilities on agricultural operations that focuses on individual segments of a linear facility that are comprised of similar agricultural characteristics.
5. Supports better definition of highly productive farmland (instead of “high-value farmland”) based on multiple factors such as soils, crop types, operational characteristics, and developed agricultural infrastructure.
6. Supports land use regulations that afford greater protection for highly productive farmland including, land use requirements that preclude the location of energy facilities on highly productive or less valuable farmland when otherwise reasonable alternatives exist.
7. Supports evaluation and reconsideration of existing land use regulation that promotes serial development of energy facilities to skirt other more stringent review standards.
8. Encourages early and ongoing coordination between counties, DLCD, ODA, ODFW, and agricultural partners to improve the siting process and protect both agricultural production and ecological resources.