

Strategic Implementation Areas

Ensuring Compliance with Agricultural Water Quality Regulations



OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE

Oregon is taking a coordinated streamside management approach to address priority water quality concerns and improve streams for fish and wildlife. The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) and other state agencies, local partners and stakeholders are coordinating expertise, funding, and resources to improve water quality throughout Oregon.

ODA's Strategic Implementation Areas (SIA) initiative was selected to implement the coordinated approach. The SIA process includes:

- Evaluating conditions on agricultural lands.
- Engaging landowners to address water quality concerns on their land.

- Monitoring to effectively evaluate outcomes.
- Throughout the SIA process ODA ensures compliance with Oregon's Agricultural Water Quality Area Rules (Area Rules) by working with landowners where water quality concerns persist.

SIA's Include Three Key Components

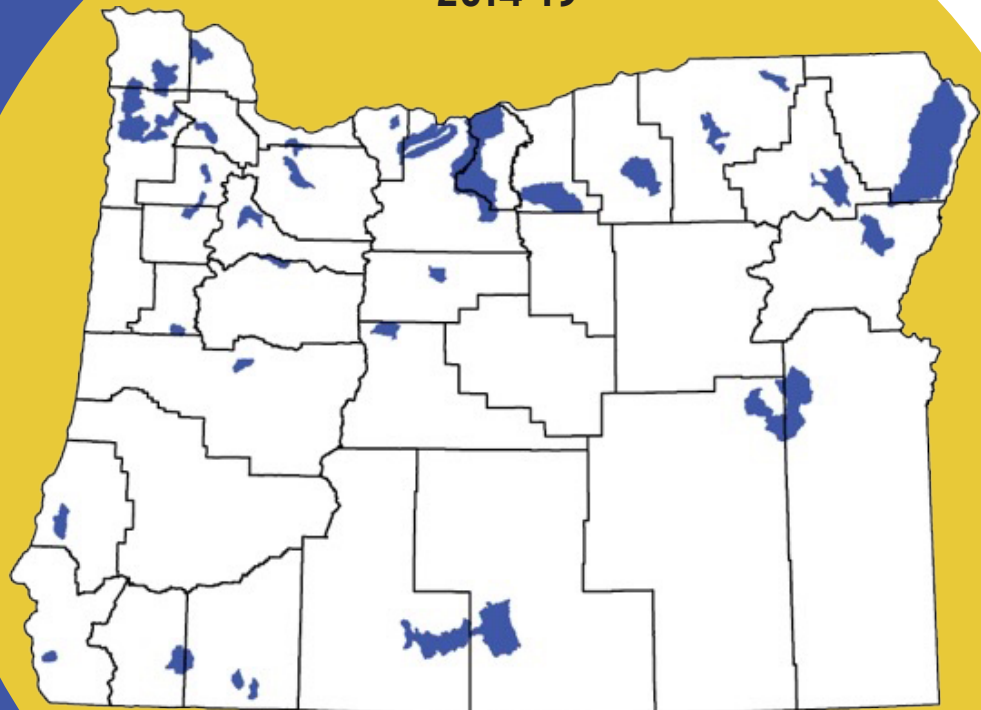
1. Compliance with Oregon's agricultural water quality program and regulations.
2. Voluntary, incentive-based conservation.
3. Monitoring to track water quality and land conditions.

What are the Area Rules for my Area?

Visit: <https://oda.direct/AgWaterQualityPlans>. Click on the administrative rules for your area.

Questions? Call ODA's Ag Water Quality Program at 503.986.4700

Strategic Implementation Areas 2014-19



■ Strategic Implementation Areas
— County Lines

What's next?

Landowner Engagement

- ODA sends introductory information and results to evaluated properties.
- The Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) works to engage landowners in voluntary incentive-based conservation.

Technical Assistance

The SWCD and local partners are available to:

- offer technical assistance to help address water quality concerns,
- assist you in conservation planning,
- support on-the-ground project design, and
- assist in applying for available incentive-based funding.

Compliance

- ODA ensures compliance where potential water quality concerns remain. If a compliance investigation is opened, ODA's compliance process is followed.

Monitoring

- The SWCD, along with ODA and other local partners, will develop a locally-led monitoring strategy to evaluate landscape conditions and water quality parameters of concern. Monitoring may continue for up to ten years.

What should I do?

The Agricultural Water Quality Program focuses on land conditions and management that supports clean water and healthy watersheds. You should evaluate your agricultural activities to determine whether they may be:

- polluting streams, canals, and/or groundwater and or,
- preventing the ongoing growth and establishment of streamside vegetation, which is needed to stabilize stream banks, provide shade, and filter potential pollutants.

Runoff from farms and ranches can pollute water. Examples include:

- Sediment from eroding croplands, pasture lands, and streambanks.
- Erosion and runoff from farm roads.
- Pesticides and fertilizers.
- Nutrients from animal waste and fertilizers.
- Bacteria from animal manure.

Questions?

Please Contact Oregon Department of Agriculture, Water Quality Program
635 Capitol St. NE, Salem, OR 97301
503.986.4700, www.oregon.gov/Pages/Index.aspx