



LAND ACQUISITION GRANT PROGRAM

Pre-Application Consultation

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

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Salem, Oregon 97301-1290

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www.oregon.gov/oweb

Purpose

Land acquisition grant applicants are required to consult with OWEB staff before submitting an application, to discuss: (i) the project's opportunities, benefits, potential challenges, and schedule; (ii) the applicant's community engagement to date and strategy for future engagement; and (iii) the grant application and review processes.

The pre-application consultation is an informal conversation and an opportunity for applicants to get advice on successfully competing for grant funds and an understanding of what to expect if funds are awarded. An OWEB funding decision is not made during the consultation and applicants do not need to convey information as a presentation or proposal.

Scheduling

To schedule a consultation, please contact Miriam Forney, Acquisitions Coordinator, at miriam.forney@oweb.oregon.gov or 971-345-7023.

Pre-application consultations are held via conference call and attended by a group of OWEB staff. Consultations for the 2025 grant cycle will be held **July 31-August 25, 2025**. Applicants are encouraged to request a consultation early.

Preparation

The following items must be received by OWEB at least three business days before the scheduled consultation:

- A map of the property, prepared from an aerial photo with the property boundaries depicted; and
- If the property has not been purchased: a preliminary title report or status of record title report that is no more than **one year** old and includes vesting information that is consistent with the current ownership of the property; or
- If reimbursement is being sought for a completed property purchase: the title insurance policy issued at the time of purchase.

Consultation Topics

OWEB's Program

- [Templates, forms, guidance materials, and application](#) – available August 11, 2025
- Q&A

Your Project

Transaction and Long-term Protection

- Property interest intended for purchase
- Intended long-term holder
- Match funder

- Timing of match
- Project budget, including estimated purchase price
- Project team and expertise
- Community engagement, including local government, to date and planned
- Tribal engagement, to date and planned

Conservation Values

- Consistency with OWEB's priorities
 - Acquisition principles
 - Protecting a large, intact area
 - Stabilizing an area on the brink
 - Securing a transition area
 - Restoring function
 - Protecting exceptional biodiversity
 - Complementing existing networks
 - Improving connectivity
 - Priority ecological systems and species
- Consistency with local, regional, or state conservation plans for land acquisitions

Proposed Use and Management

- Actions
- Funding
- Partners

Due diligence

- Land use
- Historic and current property uses
 - Property improvements
 - Known contamination issues
 - History of public use, or trespass
 - Tenants
 - Other
- Constraints on any intended restoration
 - Impacts to neighboring properties
 - Concerns of diking or irrigation districts
 - Other
- Property boundaries
- Use of adjacent properties
- Access
- Rights intended for reservation by seller, either in deed reservation (fee title project) or in conservation easement
- Deeds of trust and other liens

- Rights of third parties
 - Easements
 - Resource extraction
 - Other
- Tax deferrals
- Water rights