

OWEB Priorities Refresh (DRAFT 11-14-2023)

Woven through the plan is an emphasis on equity and climate.

Priority 1: Build awareness of the relationship between the people of Oregon and their watersheds

Shift this priority toward elevating success of watershed restoration. What we mean:

- Tell the restoration story clearly and compellingly, building awareness of the work we do
- Elevate the success of watershed restoration and the benefits to the people of Oregon
- Inform expectations about the long-term horizon of watershed outcomes
- Emphasize our commitment to partners in watershed work

Priority 2: Engage the diversity of Oregonians in watershed work

Shift this priority toward engagement of all communities. What we mean:

- Pursue diverse representation in watershed work through engagement grant offerings, just and equitable practices, and continued internal pursuit of inclusion (incorporating our DEI resolution)
- Thoughtfully pursue board and staff diversity
- Increase engagement with non-traditional partners on working lands and in urban and rural communities
- Engage communities disproportionately impacted by climate change
- Reduce barriers in grantmaking

Priority 3: Strengthen and leverage community capacity to achieve healthy watersheds

Shift this priority toward strengthening community organizations to enhance the health of watersheds in their region.

What we mean:

- Champion best practices in watershed work
- Provide training and technical support to increase internal capacity of organizations
- Incentivize and increase strategic partnerships among people, organizations, and agencies
- Contribute to a stable funding portfolio for sustained watershed work

Priority 4: Advance learning about watershed restoration effectiveness through coordinated monitoring

Shift this priority toward communication of data, emerging insights, and promising practices. What we mean:

- Facilitate the use and development of science-based planning tools, indigenous knowledge, and different ways of knowing
- Facilitate the exchange of information and insight from monitoring while being respectful of tribal ownership of data
- Promote tools and best practices to connect all forms of ecological knowledge to the practitioners
- Monitor the effectiveness of actions in pursuit of climate objectives
- Invest in long-term monitoring efforts

Priority 5: Increase connection of working lands to watershed health

What we mean:

- Improve the engagement of working lands in coordinated watershed strategy
- Increase adoption of best practices among landowners
- Advance economic benefits of healthy watersheds for working lands
- Promote collaboration of working lands and restoration work

Priority 6: Take bold and innovative action toward climate resilience

Shift this priority toward important interventions to respond to climate change and emerging issues. What we mean:

- Design action to respond and mitigate the effects of climate change on watershed health
- Make room to try new techniques in restoration to promote climate resilience
- Identify and develop new and innovative ways of pursuing watershed health and communicating climate benefits.
- Pursue and support experimental programs