



OREGON
WATERSHED
ENHANCEMENT BOARD



Jeremy Bochart BLM, cc

2025-2028 Strategic Plan

Quarterly Report to the Board | April 2026



Mission: To help protect and restore healthy watersheds and natural habitats that support thriving communities and strong economies.

Each quarterly report describes key accomplishments under Strategies that have been identified for each of the six Strategic Plan priorities. See the last page for the full list of Strategies, and a summary of when accomplishments were reported throughout the calendar year.



Priority 1

Build awareness of the relationship between people and watershed protection and restoration.



Executive Director Marko Bey and Tribal Partnerships Director Belinda Brown of Lomakatsi, Jaime Stephens, Director of Conservation at Klamath Bird Observatory, and CalLee Davenport of Oregon Habitat Solutions accepted the award on behalf of KSON.

Strategy 1.1 OWEB staff continue to share **updates on the website and social media**, including recent highlights on the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation's long-term watershed scale monitoring and restoration effort in [Meadow Creek via their GIS story map](#) and [Klamath Siskiyou Oak Network's award in DC](#).



View of Sun Creek reconnection.

Strategy 1.1 Two new **Telling the Restoration Story** projects completed.

- [Restoration in the Upper and Middle Rogue Basin's](#) storymap and restoration report cards tell the collective story of hundreds of restoration projects including 27 fish barriers removed, 46 stream miles restored, and 200 riparian miles restored.
- [Restoring Sun Creek's](#) storymap follows the reconnection of Sun Creek to the Wood River and resurgence of native bull trout.



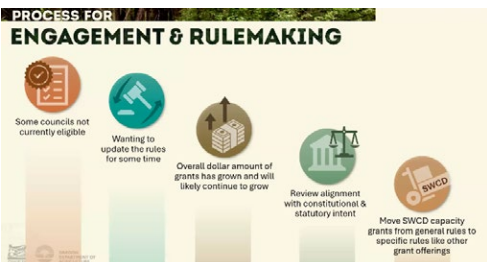
Priority 2

Engage the diversity of Oregonians in watershed enhancement work.



Replanting in the reservoir footprint post-dam removal.

Strategy 2.2 The **Oregon Lottery is running an outreach campaign** to highlight lottery-funded post-dam removal restoration work along the Klamath River that includes a [dedicated webpage](#), video, and social media posts.



Slide from kickoff webinar showing process of engagement and rulemaking.

Strategy 2.2 OWEB is partnering with ODA on **pre-rulemaking outreach for Watershed Council and Soil and Water Conservation District capacity grants**. Outreach efforts include a [kickoff webinar](#) about the process in early February; a combination of in-person and virtual [listening sessions](#) in March, April, and May; a presentation at the Connect+ conference; [FAQ guidance](#); and a [survey](#). Feedback gathered through this outreach work will help influence the rulemaking proposals.



Priority 3

Strengthen and leverage people and organizational capacity to achieve healthy watersheds.



Mary Halbleib, OSU, presents the keynote speech.

Strategy 3.2 OWEB’s Technical Assistance grant is helping to fund the **Oregon Conservation Partnership’s Connect+ Conference** where SWCDS, WCs, Land Trusts, and other conservation implementers learn from each other about techniques to successfully assess watershed conditions, implement restoration projects, and monitor the results to inform future work.



Priority 4

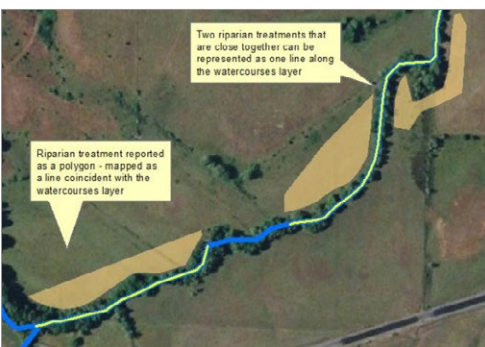
Advance learning about watershed restoration effectiveness through coordinated monitoring.



Before and after restoration at Camp Creek.

Strategy 4.1 Ken Fetcho, OWEB’s Effectiveness Monitoring coordinator, co-authored **two journal articles describing outcomes from the Intensively Monitored Watersheds efforts** that were published February 2026. Both articles have a focus on the role of watershed science, adaptive management and partnerships. The articles can be found online here:

[Frontiers | Intensively Monitored Watersheds – A Tool to Help Us Understand How Ecological Processes Function and Are Effected by Stream and Watershed Restoration](#)



OWRI map guidance.

Strategy 4.3 In March, OWEB opened the **annual call for data for the Oregon Watershed Restoration Inventory (OWRI)**. OWRI celebrates 30 years of data collection under the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds. Managed by OWEB staff, OWRI is the single largest restoration information database in the Western United States with submissions on over 20,000 projects completed since 1995.



Priority 5

Increase connection of urban and working lands to watershed health.



City of Port Orford Mayor Ann Vileisis (right) and OWEB DWSP Specialist Audrey Squires (left) touring the North Fork Hubbard Creek Watershed.

Strategy 5.1 [OWEB social media](#) highlighted the **Port Orford Drinking Water Source Protection grant**, which helped purchase 160 acres of the North Fork Hubbard Creek Watershed to protect the drinking water source.



Priority 6

Take bold and innovative action toward climate resilience.



Herb Winters, District Manager of Gilliam SWCD talks about using remote sensing technology for monitoring at Connect+.

Strategy 6.1 OWEB staff facilitated a session at [Connect+](#) where grantees presented about their use of remote sensing technology for monitoring restoration impacts and resilience following major disturbances.





[Recordings of the three-day design workshop](#) are available on OWEB's website and YouTube channel.

Strategy 6.2 OWEB and ODFW hosted a 3-day design workshop to define the climate resilience attributes under [EO 25-26](#). The intention is that the attributes of Oregon's lands and waters will become the "north star" for prioritization and coordination across natural resource agencies. OWEB and ODFW are now incorporating feedback from the public for submission to the Governor's Office in early May and from there, agencies will use the attributes to inform their 2027-2029 work planning.



Strategies Chart

July 2025 - April 2026











 accomplishments
 highlighted in quarterly update

 July
 October
 January
 April

1 Through our grantmaking, build awareness of the relationship between the people of Oregon and watershed protection and restoration

1.1 Elevate the story of how protection and restoration promote healthy watersheds				
1.2 Connect people around watershed work				
1.3 Increase use of OWEB's engagement grant offering to support grantees doing community engagement				

2 Leverage our position as an anchor funder to engage the diversity of Oregonians in watershed enhancement

2.1 Enhance OWEB presence throughout Oregon				
2.2 Increase diversity and inclusion through improving access to our programs				
2.3 Engage organizations, entities, and communities that have not traditionally been involved in watershed restoration work				

3 Use our funding to strengthen and leverage people and organizational capacity to achieve healthy watersheds

3.1 Support diverse funding opportunities to sustain the capacity of partners				
3.2 Expand training for partners				

4 Advance learning about watershed restoration effectiveness through coordinated monitoring

4.1 Facilitate learning through monitoring				
4.2 Learn, share and support efforts to integrate indigenous knowledge				
4.3 Communicate data-driven outcomes to guide restoration investments				

5 Increase investment connecting urban and working lands to watershed health

5.1 Promote value of multi benefit watershed projects				
5.2 Increase investment connecting of urban and working lands to watershed health				
5.3 Support and fund grantees building or expanding partnerships with urban constituencies				

6 Take bold and innovative action toward funding projects that advance climate resilience

6.1 Increase support for bold and innovative grant making in service to watershed restoration and protection				
6.2 Articulate the benefits of watershed protection and restoration for climate resiliency				