



Oregon Environmental Restoration Council

October 9, 2025 Meeting Minutes

MINUTES APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL AT THE DECEMBER 18, 2025, MEETING

October 9, 2025 Hybrid Council Meeting

Land Board Room in the State Lands Building, 775 Summer St NE, Salem, OR 97301 & Zoom Webinar
Recording on [YouTube](#)

All meeting materials can be found on oregonerf.org under the specific meeting date.

ATTENDEES

OERC MEMBERS

Debbie Colbert
Michael Dembrow
Leah Feldon
Rep. Ken Helm
Cheyenne Holliday
Geoff Huntington
Molly Kile
André Ourso
Alaí Reyes-Santos
Chuck Sams
Sen. David Brock Smith
Leslie Wu

OWEB STAFF

Nicole Bettinardi
Clare Lanusse
Nicole Maness
Sara O'Brien
Miriam Scharer

OTHERS

Troy Abercrombie
Josh Alpert
Alex Barton
Kelley Beamer
Matthew Bearden
Jenn Bildersee
Crystalyn Bush
Jennifer Butler
Karl Cheng
Darlene Chirman
Megan Christian
Shaun Clements
Gretchen Dubie
Elijah Dwokskin
Morgan Franke
James Fraser

OTHERS

Karen Hall
Delani Herb
Jessica Howell
Raneen Jalajel
Sristi Kamal
Michael Lang
Alexis Larsen
Jamie McCreary
Terri Preeg Riggsby
Holly Purpura
Sarah Reif
Taylor Sarman
Neil Schulman
Alison Shane
Jenna Smith
Ashley Woeste

AGENDA

Timestamp	
	The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by Co-Chair Michael Dembrow: Recording
00:03:18	Roll Call, Opening Remarks, Meeting Overview, and Objectives Co-Chair Dembrow opened the meeting and provided an overview of the agenda.
00:05:39	Agenda Item 1 – Informational Items <i>Introduction of Council Members</i> Each member of the Oregon Environmental Restoration Council introduced themselves.
00:33:03	<i>Oregon Environmental Restoration Fund (OERF) History, Present, and Future: Settlement background, SB 1561 (2024), Program of work</i> Oregon Environmental Restoration Program Manager Nicole Maness presented a brief history of the Monsanto settlement, Senate Bill 1561, an overview of the Fund and Program and key milestones, the charge of the Oregon Environmental Restoration Council and Oregon Environmental Restoration Program staff's support role and outlined the three subfunds (Tribal Nation Natural Resource Fund, Agency Program Fund, Community Impact Fund).



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<u>01:06:34</u>	Agenda Item 2 – Public Comment This time was reserved for the Council to hear public comments and review any written public comment submitted for the meeting. All written public comments can be viewed on our website here. The following individuals provided verbal comments: • James Fraser, Trout Unlimited • Michael Lang, Wild Salmon Center • Dr. Sristi Kamal, Western Environmental Law Center • Terri Preeg Riggsby, Network of Watershed Councils • Jenna Smith
<u>01:43:50</u>	Agenda Item 3 – Action Items • <i>Adoption of Distribution Policy</i> Staff from Oregon State Treasury introduced themselves, provided background information on working with staff and Council leadership, and introduced their secondary general consultants, Aon Investments. Aon presented distribution policy options and different scenarios for Council consideration. Motion #1. Chuck Sams moved the Oregon Environmental Restoration Council recommend a long-term distribution policy of 5% to the Oregon Investment Council for inclusion in the Oregon Environmental Restoration Fund’s Investment Policy Statement [Scenario 5a: 5% spend with a \$30 million annual spend ceiling and \$15 million floor]. Motion seconded by Geoff Huntington. Debbie Colbert, Michael Dembrow, Leah Feldon, Cheyenne Holliday, Geoff Huntington, Molly Kile, André Ourso, Alai Reyes-Santos, Chuck Sams, and Leslie Wu voted in favor. Motion passed.
<u>02:37:47</u>	• <i>Initiate Rulemaking on Tribal Nation Natural Resource Program Fund</i> Co-Chair Dembrow provided overview of the Tribal Nation Natural Resource Program Fund, engagement with the nine Federally recognized Oregon Tribes, and the proposed timeline for the Tribal Nation Natural Resource Program Fund Rulemaking. Motion #2. Chuck Sams moved the Council initiate rulemaking for the Tribal Nation Natural Resource Program Fund. Motion seconded by Leah Feldon. Debbie Colbert, Michael Dembrow, Leah Feldon, Cheyenne Holliday, Geoff Huntington, Molly Kile, André Ourso, Alai Reyes-Santos, Chuck Sams, and Leslie Wu voted in favor. Motion passed.
<u>02:47:33</u>	Next Steps, Reminders & Wrap Up Co-Chair Dembrow provided a preview of topics for the next Council meeting. Oregon Environmental Restoration Program Policy Analyst/Council Liaison Clare Lanusse provided a summary of Agenda Item 3’s Action Items.
	The meeting was adjourned at 3:57 pm by Co-Chair Michael Dembrow.