

OREGON ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION COUNCIL

PROGRAM UPDATE

STAFF REPORT | SEPTEMBER 16, 2026



REPORT PURPOSE

This report provides an overview of the Program Manager's update at the September 16, 2026 Oregon Environmental Restoration Council (OERC or Council) meeting.

OVERVIEW

At a September 16, 2026 OERC meeting, the Council will hear updates on the Oregon Environmental Restoration Program, including highlights from a program team effort currently underway to revisit timelines and workplans and a brief financial report on the Oregon Environmental Restoration Fund (OERF).

PROGRAM WORK PLANNING UPDATES

With design and implementation of the Tribal Nation Natural Resource Fund and the 2025-2027 biennium interim allocation of the State Agency Program Fund well underway, staff recognize the importance of revisiting timelines and workplans developed in 2025. The proposed next phase of work will prioritize design and launch of the Community Impact Fund, as well as Council adoption of strategic priorities.

For the Community Impact Fund, the goal will be to allocate funds within the 2027-2029 biennium while also ensuring opportunities for robust community engagement around key program design elements. Staff anticipate retaining consultant support to lead engagement with potential applicants and disproportionately impacted communities. A rules advisory committee is also planned for 2027- early 2028.

Work is currently underway to summarize feedback on strategic priorities received so far from the Council and public. At the Council's November meeting, staff will present these results and propose a set of draft strategic priorities for Council discussion and feedback. The next phase of outreach will include consultation with the Environmental Justice Council and state agencies, synthesis of relevant scientific information and data, and additional opportunities for public feedback on the draft strategic priorities. The goal is for the Council to formally adopt strategic priorities for OERF investments in summer 2027.

In addition to these priorities, program staff and interagency partners will continue work on:

- Completing agency transfers and developing a reporting approach for the interim State Agency Program Fund;
- Developing permanent rules for the State Agency Program Fund;
- Continued implementation of intergovernmental agreements and payments through the Tribal Nation Fund; and
- Ongoing fund administration activities.

OERF REPORT AS OF JUNE 30, 2026

Fund Balance

Cash Balance	\$93,561,943
Investment Balance	\$507,394,672
Total Fund Balance	\$600,956,615

Income & Expenses

Interest earned fiscal year-to-date	\$25,968,135
Investment income (loss) fiscal year-to-date	(\$2,605,327)
Investment expenses fiscal year-to-date	(\$31,218)
Net Earnings	\$23,331,590

Historical Balances & Distributions

Fund balance at end of prior fiscal year (2025)	\$609,232,631
2025 Distribution	\$30,000,000