



Oregon Water Resources Department

2015 Instream Accomplishments

- Oregon is a leader in flow restoration, with more than 495 current instream leases, instream transfers, and allocations of conserved water, restoring almost 1,840 cubic feet per second (cfs) of streamflow for fish and wildlife, recreation, and pollution abatement.
- During 2015, 50 percent of instream leases came directly from customer transactions with the Water Resources Department. The instream leasing program also benefits greatly from active partnerships with The Freshwater Trust, Deschutes River Conservancy, and Klamath Basin Rangeland Trust.
- The Department has completed 137 permanent and long-term instream transfers, representing approximately 366 cfs.
- The Department has approved 68 applications for allocations of conserved water, resulting in approximately 182 cfs permanently protected and reserved temporarily instream.
- The majority of water put instream on a permanent basis through allocations of conserved water and instream transfers in Oregon is senior water, with certificates pre-dating Oregon's 1909 water law.
- As part of the 2009 removal of Savage Rapids Dam on the Rogue River, 800 cfs was placed instream through the conversion of hydroelectric rights to instream rights (not reflected in the graphs to right).
- In 2015, 62 percent of streams regulated in Oregon were regulated to protect instream water rights.
- Since the adoption of Oregon's 1987 Instream Water Right Act, the Water Resources Department has converted to instream rights more than 500 of the state's minimum perennial stream flows and has issued more than 900 state agency-applied instream water rights.

