

# Appendix A

## Water Governance – Tribal, State & Federal Agency Water Roles & Responsibilities

## Water Governance

In Oregon, all water belongs to the public and no single agency or entity has sole jurisdiction when it comes to water management. There are many public and private organizations with specific responsibilities and authorities related to the management of water resources. These organizations reside at the state, federal, and local level, and with tribal governments within Oregon, and each has a different mission, funding base, and constituency. The 2025 Strategy recognizes the importance of Oregon's legal, scientific, and institutional foundation and commits to continue to improve it.

## Tribal Governments

### Tribes in Oregon

Archaeological science has documented Tribes in Oregon since time immemorial.<sup>i</sup> Creation stories and other ethnographic information tells of the people being created in their homelands, not coming from somewhere else. At the time of colonial exploration in the 1790's, more than 60 Tribes were documented.<sup>ii</sup> Today, there are only nine federally recognized Tribes and the Chinook Indian Nation is fighting to regain federal recognition.<sup>iii</sup> Federally recognized Tribes are recognized as sovereign with control of their governance, land, and resources. This recognition establishes a formal government-to-government relationship between Oregon and these Tribes. Unless otherwise specified, references to Tribes in this document pertain to those federally recognized.

### Historical Context of Sovereignty

It is critical to understand the history surrounding sovereignty of federally recognized Tribes as independent nations, to understand the current state of water management in Oregon. Oregon's tribal history encompasses the ceding of land, reservation establishment, the loss of sovereignty during the 1950s termination era, and the subsequent efforts to reinstate sovereignty from the 1970s onwards. The impact of these events varied among Tribes, with some facing challenges in fully restoring their sovereignty. There are currently at least 14 modern indigenous tribal nations in Oregon. The summary, below, provides an overview of the general history surrounding tribal sovereignty.

Excerpted from the [Oregon Blue Book, Introduction to Native Peoples of Oregon](#)<sup>iv</sup>:

*"Tribal governments are separate and unique sovereign nations with powers to protect the health, safety and welfare of their enrolled members and to govern their lands. This tribal sovereignty predates the existence of the U.S. government and the State of Oregon. The members residing in Oregon are citizens of their tribes, citizens of Oregon, and since 1924, citizens of the United States of America.*

*The U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, oversees tribal interests and administers the federal government's trust obligations. At times, the federal government has been supportive of tribal self-determination, and in other periods, has adopted policies and passed legislation having a negative impact on the ability of tribes to govern as sovereigns. "Termination," one such policy in the 1950s, was an attempt to sever federal trusteeship and support for tribal sovereignty. Of the 109 tribes and bands terminated nationwide, 62 were in Oregon. In 1975, the federal government recognized the failure of its termination policy and passed the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, and later, the Tribal Self-Governance Act.*

*Several tribes began the process to restore their status as sovereign nations. In 1977, The Confederated Tribes of Siletz was the second tribe in the nation to achieve restoration. Following Siletz was the Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe of Indians in 1982, the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde in 1983, the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw in 1984, the Klamath Tribes in 1986 and the*

*Coquille Indian Tribe in 1989. Another three federally recognized tribal governments exist in Oregon: The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs (Treaty of 1855), the Confederated Tribes of Umatilla (Treaty of 1855) and the Burns Paiute Tribe (1972 Executive Order). Fort McDermitt Paiute Shoshone Tribe is a federally recognized tribe with reservation lands straddling Oregon and Nevada, but the tribe's population center is in Nevada. Celilo Village is a federally recognized tribal entity near The Dalles, jointly administered by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, the Confederated Tribes of Umatilla, and the Yakama Indian Nation (Washington).*

*All Oregon tribal governments have reservation or trust lands created by treaties, statutes or executive branch actions. Tribal governments have regulatory authority over these lands, unless that authority has been removed by Congress. Nearly 904,000 acres, or at least 1.6% of land within Oregon's boundaries, are held in trust by the federal government or are designated reservation lands. Tribal governments have the authority to decide their own membership qualifications and have a right to exclude individuals from their reservations.*

*Public Law 280 gave the state certain civil and criminal jurisdiction over tribes with the exception of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, the Confederated Tribes of Umatilla and the Burns Paiute Tribe, which are "non Public Law 280" tribes. Notwithstanding Public Law 280, all Oregon tribes have the authority to elect their own governments and adopt laws and ordinances. Oregon tribal governments have their own departments dealing with governmental services, including law enforcement and tribal court systems. In addition, each tribal government operates programs in the areas of natural resources, cultural resources, education, health and human services, public safety, housing, economic development and other areas to serve their members."*

Websites for each of the nine federally recognized tribal nations in Oregon provide additional information about the Tribes' history, culture, and current projects:

- [Burns Paiute Tribe](#)
- [Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw](#)
- [Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon](#)
- [Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon](#)
- [Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation](#)
- [Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon](#)
- [Coquille Indian Tribe](#)
- [Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe](#)
- [Klamath Tribes](#)

It is important to note that there are Tribes that have pursued, but not received, federal recognition. Without formal recognition, these Tribes are not able to engage in government-to-government processes or benefit from some federal resources.

## **Tribal Relations with the State of Oregon**

Oregon was the first state to adopt a legal government-to-government relationship with Tribes through both executive action and legislation. Even so, Tribes have historically been left out of water planning and water rights decisions in Oregon. State agencies are continuing efforts to collaborate and consult with Tribes on water issues. Each state agency has a staff person assigned to the role of Tribal Liaison, and as part of this role, is tasked with identifying changes and initiatives in the agency which may impact Tribes and/or tribal members, and then to engage early and appropriately with Tribes. Each agency's Tribal

Liaison is responsible for developing an annual Government-to-Government (G2G) report that outlines the agency's efforts and actions during the past year to consult, coordinate, collaborate, and enhance relations with tribal nations. These reports are submitted to the Legislative Commission on Indian Services.

### **Legislative Commission on Indian Services (LCIS)**

LCIS was created by statute in 1975 to improve services to Indians in Oregon. Its 13 members are appointed jointly by the Senate President and the Speaker of the House to a two-year term. LCIS members select their own officers to serve one-year terms. Prior to its establishment, there was no suitable mechanism in state government to consider Indian concerns directly. LCIS serves as the main forum in which Indian concerns are considered. It serves as a conduit through which concerns are channeled through the network to the appropriate entity; it serves as a point of access for finding out about state government programs and Indian communities.

### **Working Groups**

There are several topic-specific working groups established between Tribes and state agencies. Two groups that frequently discuss water-related work include the Cultural Resources Cluster and the Natural Resources Working Group.

### **Tribal Water Task Force**

In September of 2021, the nine sovereign Tribes of Oregon wrote to the Governor addressing Oregon's 100-year Water Vision. The letter shared tribal perspectives on water and noted the importance of tribal engagement in any water planning process. The letter requested the establishment of a Tribal Water Task Force, which would serve two primary functions:

- Educate Oregon's nine Tribes to the full complement of state agencies that touch upon water and that have a bearing on one or more of Oregon's water resources
- Educate Oregon's nine water-related agencies on the full complement of Tribal interests/issues that "Oregon's Water Vision" needs to acknowledge and address

The Task Force met five times during the summer and fall of 2022, and the 2023 Legislature has allocated funding for future facilitation. The Task Force released a [summary report](#) of their findings and recommendations from the 2022 meetings, also identifying a number of shared values about water that were agreed upon between both the Tribes and the State of Oregon:

1. The foundational and inherent importance of water for life and culture;
2. The need to plan for and invest in water with a long-term vision. The Tribes have an important value of making decisions with seven future generations in mind and the State has embarked on a 100-year water vision. It is clear that all parties understand the importance and need for long term visioning and planning;
3. Importance of Tribal engagement in water planning in Oregon at all levels;
4. Recognizing and emphasizing the urgency of the current and ongoing impacts of climate change on our environment and the effect climate change has on water; and
5. Understanding that we will all be better and stronger if we work together moving forward.

### **Task Force on Tribal Consultation**

House Bill 2069 (2025) establishes the Task Force on Tribal Consultation through the end of 2026 to identify and clarify the requirements of state agencies to engage in tribal consultation. The 2025

legislation requires the task force to submit a report, which may include recommendations for legislation, to the Legislature in September 2026.

### **Tribal Water Authorities**

As sovereign entities, tribal rights and authorities may be derived, retained, or defined from treaties, Congressional Acts, or Executive Orders, and are often further clarified through case law and adjudications. The right to hunt, fish, and gather is an important right to Northwest Tribes, and may extend to areas outside of reservation lands. The ability to fulfil a right to hunt, fish, and gather is notably dependent on ecosystem health, including water quality and quantity conditions necessary to sustain populations of culturally significant species.

Tribal reserved water rights are generally determined through an adjudication or settlement agreement. While several Tribes are working closely with the Water Resources Department to resolve historic water right claims, many Tribes hold water rights associated with the purchase of land. The priority date associated with a water right is maintained, even after the land changes ownership. Therefore, some Tribes hold senior water rights based on the priority date of the water right they acquired through land purchase.

Tribes may apply to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for authorization to administer water quality standards under the Clean Water Act. This means they may obtain similar authority to the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, referred to as “primacy.” The Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, and the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians have established such authority.

Refer to the section “Water Laws, Policies, and Regulations,” in Appendix B, for a more holistic description of water quantity, quality, and ecosystem regulations, including roles of tribal, state, and federal governments.

## **State Government**

There are several agencies in Oregon with responsibilities related to water resources. The following text provides a brief description of each agency’s role, to enhance coordination and help illustrate how they might best participate in the Strategy.

### **State Interagency Project Team**

Many state agencies contributed to the 2025 Strategy. Led by the Oregon Water Resources Department, five additional agencies served an interagency project team from 2022 to 2025 and significantly supported its development. Agencies are listed in alphabetical order.

#### **Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA)**

ODA’s mission is to “ensure healthy natural resources, environment, and economy for Oregonians now and in the future through inspection and certification, regulation, and promotion of agriculture and food.” ODA oversees many programs that protect water quality and habitat. The Agricultural Water Quality Program implements a compliance and enforcement program, identifies Strategic Implementation Areas needing additional water quality improvement, and supports water quality monitoring. The Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) program administers grants to SWCDs to provide technical assistance, for education and outreach, and for voluntary water quality projects. The Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) and Pesticide Programs led by ODA also focus on collaboration and strategies to

protect water quality. The Insect Pest Prevention & Management Program supports invasive species eradication.

### **Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ)**

ODEQ's mission is to "be a leader in restoring, maintaining, and enhancing the quality of Oregon's air, land, and water" and is responsible for implementing the federal Clean Water Act and state water quality law in the state. ODEQ has four Divisions: Air Quality, Land Quality, Water Quality, and Laboratory Administration. The Land Quality Division oversees programs that address pollutant management and cleanup, while the Laboratory performs various tasks in support of the agency mission, including many that are related to the Strategy, such as overseeing water quality monitoring programs. The Water Quality Division implements state and federal laws to protect and restore Oregon's rivers, lakes, streams, oceans, estuaries, and groundwater. This work plays a critical role in ensuring that Oregon's water resources are safe and available for both instream and out-of-stream beneficial uses, such as drinking water, fish and other aquatic organisms, recreation, the ability to consume fish safely, and irrigation. Programmatic and regulatory responsibilities within the Water Quality Division include developing and issuing permits for wastewater treatment systems and industrial, construction, and municipal stormwater discharges that protect land, surface, and ground waters.

ODEQ coordinates with other state and federal agencies on actions that may affect Oregon waters including partnering with other state agencies to support water quality programs and implement water-related regulations.

### **Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)**

ODFW's mission is to "protect and enhance Oregon's fish and wildlife and their habitats for use and enjoyment by present and future generations." ODFW is responsible for implementing Oregon's Endangered Species Act (ORS 496.171-496.192). ODFW has three main Divisions - Fish, Habitat, and Wildlife - all of which provide some level of support for the Strategy. Fish Division programs include fish passage/screening, engineering, public education, conservation, and recovery. The Habitat Division programs collect and share data, identify conditions needed to support aquatic and terrestrial species including instream flow, and support restoration activities. The Wildlife Division includes a conservation program that implements the State Wildlife Action Plan and a habitat program that oversees 16 ODFW Wildlife Areas. ODFW also co-manages an Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program with OSMB.

### **Oregon Department of Land, Conservation, and Development (DLCD)**

DLCD's mission is to "help communities and citizens plan for, protect and improve the built and natural systems that provide a high quality of life." DLCD fosters sustainable and vibrant communities and protects Oregon's natural resources legacy. DLCD's work is guided by Oregon's 19 Statewide Land Use Planning Goals, requiring each city and county to adopt and maintain a comprehensive plan addressing these goals. DLCD has been leading Oregon's [Climate Change Adaptation Framework](#) and Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment. Additionally, DLCD administers a variety of grants for comprehensive plan updates, public facilities plan updates, natural hazard mitigation planning, and climate change adaptation and mitigation. DLCD provides annual funding to Portland State University (PSU) to update county-level population forecasts. DLCD's work on housing production is relevant to the Strategy's focus on meeting water resource needs. Within the coastal zone – defined as the crest of the coast range out to three nautical miles offshore – the Oregon Coastal Management Program within DLCD uses its Federal Consistency authority under the Coastal Zone Management Act to review federal permits, licenses, and federal agency-led activities against the enforceable policies of the coastal program. These include state policies related to water quality, water appropriation, submerged land uses, archaeological resources, and

species and habitat protection. Proposed projects found inconsistent with these policies may be subject to conditions or a formal objection that can prevent the action from proceeding.

### **Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)**

OWEB's mission is "to help protect and restore healthy watersheds and natural habitats that support thriving communities and strong economies." The agency provides grants to a variety of public and private entities to accomplish habitat conservation, restoration, protection, land and water acquisition, and monitoring. OWEB currently offers more than 20 different grant programs. OWEB's work supports the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds, including the task of coordinating watershed monitoring data from a variety of private landowners, federal, and state agencies. OWEB maintains the [Oregon Watershed Restoration Inventory](#) (OWRI) database which quantifies conservation and restoration results to inform future efforts.

### **Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD)**

OWRD's mission is "to serve the public by practicing and promoting responsible water management through two key goals; one, to directly address Oregon's water supply needs, and two, to restore and protect streamflows and watersheds in order to ensure the long-term sustainability of Oregon's ecosystems, economy, and quality of life." Under Oregon law, all water belongs to the public, and with some exceptions, all water users must obtain a permit or license from OWRD to use water from any source. OWRD collects, analyzes, and provides water quantity data to other agencies and to water users. OWRD processes water rights transactions, adjudicates claims to water uses which predate Oregon Water Law and federal and tribal reserved water claims, distributes water under the water rights system of prior appropriation, and addresses unauthorized uses of water. OWRD also protects public safety through the well construction and dam safety programs. OWRD provides planning, technical assistance, and funding to address instream and out-of-stream water supply needs. OWRD is responsible for developing and updating the Strategy, in collaboration with other state agencies, Tribes, interested parties, and the public.

### **Other Water-Related State Agencies**

Many state agencies play a role in the Strategy and include natural resource agencies in addition to agencies that support economic development and public health. Agencies are listed in alphabetical order.

### **Business Oregon (BizOR)**

BizOR is the state's economic development agency, with a mission to "invest in Oregon businesses, communities, and people to promote a globally competitive, diverse, and inclusive economy." BizOR administers a variety of loan and grant programs that support site assessment, remediation, and water infrastructure planning, design, and implementation. The types of water infrastructure projects that receive funding include drinking water supply, stormwater conveyance, wastewater treatment, water storage, and levees.

### **Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI)**

DOGAMI's mission is to "provide earth science information and regulation to make Oregon safe and prosperous." DOGAMI works to increase understanding of Oregon's geologic resources and hazards through science and stewardship. There are two main programs at the Agency: Mineral Land Regulation and Reclamation (MLRR) and Geological Survey and Services (GS&S). The MLRR Program oversees the state's mineral production and works to minimize impacts of natural resource extraction and to maximize the opportunities for land reclamation. This includes extensive interagency coordination to enforce mining permits that protect water quality, among other environmental concerns. The GS&S program has much more extensive interaction with the Strategy, including earth science data collection, information sharing,



natural hazard mapping, and identification of risk reduction strategies. Staff in the GS&S program lead the [Oregon Lidar Consortium](#) which organizes the collection of lidar data in coordination with dozens of local, state, and federal partners.

### **Oregon Department of Energy (ODOE)**

ODOE's mission is to "help Oregonians make informed decisions and maintain a resilient and affordable energy system." The agency accomplishes this through a combination of data collection/analysis, education, technical assistance, regulation, oversight, and administration of energy programs. ODOE offers a variety of incentive programs to encourage energy and water conservation. ODOE ensures the [Oregon Climate Action Commission](#) meets administrative and statutory requirements.

### **Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF)**

ODF's mission is to "serve the people of Oregon by protecting, managing, and promoting stewardship of Oregon's forests to enhance environmental, economic, and community sustainability." The Forest Practices Act (FPA) guides ODF's management of private and federally owned forests. Publication of the Private Forest Accord Report and legislation passed in 2022 has guided modifications to the FPA and ODF administrative rules, providing additional protections to habitat and water quality. ODF's Fire Protection Program protects 16 million acres of forest, on private and public lands. ODF also manages over 700,000 acres of state-owned forests and the state's Common School Fund Forest Lands. Management approaches to both private and public forests provide an opportunity to protect water quality, conserve and restore habitat for native species, and eradicate invasive species.

### **Oregon Department of Higher Education, Oregon Climate Change Research Institute (OCCRI)**

OCCRI was created by the Oregon Legislature in 2007. OCCRI serves several functions regarding conducting and sharing climate change research and provides technical assistance to local governments in developing climate change policies, practices, and programs. OCCRI publishes [biennial assessments](#) on the state of climate science and the likely effects of climate change in Oregon.

### **Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS)**

ODH's mission is "to help Oregonians in their own communities achieve well-being and independence through opportunities that protect, empower, respect choice, and preserve dignity." The ODHS Office of Resilience and Emergency Management coordinates with governmental and non-governmental agencies to provide food, water, and shelter during a major emergency or disaster, in accordance with [Oregon's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan](#). In recent years, ODHS provided emergency water to communities impacted by drought, wildfire, and contaminated groundwater.

### **Oregon Department of State Lands (DSL)**

DSL's mission is "to ensure Oregon's school land legacy and protect wetlands and waterways of the state through superior stewardship and service." DSL oversees permitting associated with removal or fill in wetlands and or waterways, as defined in Oregon's Removal-Fill Law (ORS 196.795-990). The Department maintains programs and training to support natural resource identification, including the Oregon Rapid Wetland Assessment Protocol (ORWAP), Stream Function Assessment Method (SFAM), and Aquatic Resource Mitigation Framework. DSL also coordinates with state, federal, and community partners to address abandoned or derelict vessels in waterways.

### **Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)**

ODOT's mission is to "provide a safe and reliable multimodal transportation system that connects people and helps Oregon's communities and economy thrive." ODOT holds a single National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System MS4 permit issued and regulated by Department of Environmental Quality that covers



the operation of all ODOT storm drain systems statewide. ODOT has implemented the Guide ["Routine Road Maintenance: Water Quality and Habitat Guide Best Management Practices"](#) since 1999. The guide is considered the cornerstone of ODOT's Office of Maintenance and Operations Environmental Section. ODOT Maintenance crews use the Guide to help minimize impacts to the environment while performing day-to-day highway maintenance activities and to comply with provisions of the Endangered Species Act.

### **Oregon Health Authority (OHA)**

OHA's mission is "ensuring all people and communities can achieve optimum physical, mental, and social well-being through partnerships, prevention, and access to quality, affordable health care." OHA is the primacy agency for implementing the federal Safe Drinking Water Act. While OHA encompasses many divisions and programs that promote public health, the Environmental Public Health (EPH) and Drinking Water Services (DWS) sections of the Public Health Division include the most relevant activities in relation to the Strategy. OHA-EPH identifies, assesses, and reports on threats to human health from exposure to environmental and occupational hazards, and also advises the people and communities of Oregon on how to best understand potential risks where they live, work and play. OHA-EPH's involvement with water is through the Healthy Waters program that includes Fish Consumption Advisories, Harmful Algae Bloom Surveillance (HABS), Beach Monitoring, and Domestic Well Safety. In addition, OHA-DWS has primacy from the federal Environmental Protection Agency to implement the Safe Drinking Water Act. OHA-DWS administers and enforces drinking water quality standards for public water systems. OHA-DWS also enforces state law regulating small public water systems not regulated under the federal law. OHA-DWS provides water system operator training, technical assistance for water systems, emergency planning and response, and infrastructure funding for the federally regulated public water systems. OHA-DWS implements Drinking Water State Revolving Funding jointly with Business Oregon and source water protection program jointly with the Department of Environmental Quality.

### **Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD)**

OPRD's mission is "to provide and protect outstanding natural, scenic, cultural, historic and recreational sites for the enjoyment and education of present and future generations." OPRD manages and maintains state parks, campgrounds, and beaches. They administer several grant programs, all aimed at increasing access to recreation. OPRD manages the State Natural Areas Program to protect and recognize high quality native ecosystems and rare plant and animal species. OPRD also manages the Scenic Bikeways, Scenic Trails, and Scenic Waterways Programs. Waterway designation places restrictions on the types of activities that can occur within or near the banks of the waterway.

### **Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB)**

OSMB's mission is to serve "Oregon's recreational boating public through education, enforcement, access, and environmental stewardship for a safe and enjoyable experience." OSMB titles and registers motorized boats and sailboats, issues titles for floating properties, issues Waterway Access permits for nonmotorized, make rules for boat operation, register outfitter guides, manage mandatory motorized boater education, contract with Counties and Oregon State Police for on-water law enforcement, administer a variety of boating access grant programs, provide technical assistance to boating access facility owners to improve access at more than 1,600 locations, manage Clean Marina Program, and Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program in partnership with ODFW. OSMB encourages safe boating practices, such as wearing life jackets, having sound signaling devices and following all operation and waterway rules. OSMB does not own public access sites but provides significant grant funding and assistance to improve, develop and maintain access for recreational boating.

## Federal Government

### Key Federal Agencies & Primary Roles

There are several federal agencies that collaborate with the Tribes and state agencies regarding water management.

#### Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)

BPA delivers hydropower produced in the Columbia River Basin to communities across the Northwest. BPA markets wholesale electrical power from 31 federal dams in the Northwest that are operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation. They also market power from one nonfederal nuclear plant and several small nonfederal power plants. BPA funds the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's [Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program](#). The program funds regional efforts to mitigate the impacts of the federal dams on the region's fish and wildlife species.

#### Bureau of Reclamation (USBR)

USBR's mission is "to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public." USBR is a water management agency, established in 1902, responsible for the construction of over 600 dams and reservoirs across the western United States. They provide water deliveries, conservation, recycling, and reuse and have developed partnerships with customers, states, and Tribes. Most [USBR projects in Oregon](#) were built in the eastern half of the state. USBR's current efforts focus on improving the safety of existing dams and reservoirs, enhancing stream flows and fish passage, and working with partners on watershed restoration projects.

#### Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

BLM's mission is to "sustain health, diversity, and productivity of public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations." BLM manages 15.7 million acres of federal land in Oregon, providing resource management, recreation, and education. The BLM Fire Program performs fire suppression, preparedness, predictive services, vegetative fuels management, community assistance and protection, and fire prevention through education. BLM provides funding for watershed restoration projects.

#### Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

FEMA's mission is "helping people before, during and after disasters." They develop flood maps – identifying various flood zones, or locations likely to flood during specified storm events. FEMA manages the National Flood Insurance Program and provides resources for floodplain management and risk reduction. FEMA coordinates with the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development regarding Oregon's Statewide Planning Goal 7 and floodplain management. FEMA also administers the [National Dam Safety Program](#) and takes actions to encourage and promote state and federal dam safety programs to reduce risks from dam-related hazards.

#### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA and NOAA-Fisheries)

NOAA's mission is to "understand and predict changes in climate, weather, ocean, and coasts, to share that knowledge and information with others, and to conserve and manage coastal and marine ecosystems and resources." NOAA's monitoring and research provide critical information for understanding impacts from climate change. NOAA provides funding for watershed restoration projects. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA-Fisheries) is an office within NOAA responsible for the stewardship of the nation's ocean resources and their habitat. NOAA-Fisheries jointly administers the federal Endangered Species Act with US Fish and Wildlife Service and is responsible for marine and anadromous species. NOAA Fisheries manages marine and anadromous species pursuant to the Endangered Species Act, the Magnuson-

Stevens Fishery Conservation Management Act, and the Marine Mammal Protection Act. NOAA's Office for Coastal Management funds the Oregon Coastal Management Program.

### **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)**

USACE's mission is to "deliver vital engineering solutions, in collaboration with our partners, to secure our Nation, energize our economy, and reduce disaster risk." USACE has constructed many types of infrastructure including coastal fortifications and flood control systems throughout the country, including some dams, dikes, and levees in Oregon. USACE also collaborates with DSL on Clean Water Act Section 404 and Oregon's Removal-Fill permitting programs. During natural disasters and other emergencies, USACE can respond in four main ways: under its own authority, Public Law 84-99, under the National Emergency Preparedness Program, and as the designated lead agency in support of FEMA for Emergency Support Function Number 3, Public Works and Engineering.

### **U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (USFS)**

The mission of the USFS is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. The agency manages almost 16 million acres of national forest lands in Oregon which comprise about 25 percent of the state and are the source of nearly 45 percent of its mean annual water supply. USFS implements diverse watershed, forest and rangeland management and restoration practices, per its Organic Act, to "improve and protect the forest, secure favorable conditions of water flows, and furnish a continuous supply of timber for the use and necessities of citizens of the United States." The agency also conducts research and provides assistance to state and local governments, forest industries, and private landowners to help protect and manage non-federal watersheds, forests and rangelands. USFS lands support many watersheds for municipal drinking water supply within Oregon and the agency plays an important role in wildfire management. USFS undertakes and provides funding for habitat and watershed restoration projects.

### **U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)**

NRCS's mission is to "deliver conservation solutions so agricultural producers can protect natural resources and feed a growing world." NRCS works with producers, Tribes, soil and water conservation districts, and others to plan, design, and implement conservation practices and activities, while also providing funding through its programs. NRCS conservation programs help people address resource opportunities relating to soil, water, air, animals, plants, and energy.

### **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)**

USEPA's mission is to "protect human health and the environment" and works to ensure that Americans have clean air, land and water. USEPA develops and enforces regulations, administers grants, sponsors partnerships, studies environmental issues, and educates people about the environment. They lead the implementation of the Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, and provide oversight of states that have been delegated to administer the federal program, such as ODEQ. USEPA provides funding for watershed restoration, water infrastructure, toxics reduction, water quality monitoring, and nonpoint source pollution reduction projects in Oregon. USEPA helps fund ODEQ's implementation of Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act programs through a Performance Partnership Grant. The workplan for this grant can be found in appendix C of the [Oregon Performance Partnership Agreement](#).

### **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)**

USFWS's mission is to "conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people." The federal Endangered Species Act is jointly administered by USFWS and the National Marine and Fisheries Service. The USFWS primarily has oversight for terrestrial and freshwater species and some marine mammals. USFWS also implements the Bald and Golden Eagle

Protection Act; and partners with all entities to conserve and restore habitats, conduct research and monitoring, and provide community education and outreach.

### **U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)**

USGS's mission is to "monitor, analyze, and predict current and evolving Earth-system interactions and deliver actionable information at scales and timeframes relevant to decision makers." They are a "primary Federal source of science-based information on ecosystems, land use, natural hazards, water use and availability, and updated maps and images of the Earth's features available to the public." USGS collaborates with OWRD on basin studies and place-based planning efforts.

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<sup>i</sup> News Staff, "Ancient Humans Occupied Oregon Rockshelter 18,250 Years Ago" Science News, July 7, 2023. <https://www.sci.news/archaeology/rimrock-draw-rockshelter-12076.html>

<sup>ii</sup> Cain, Eric and John Rosman. "Broken Treaties: An Oral History Tracing Oregon's Native Population." Oregon Public Broadcast, March 20, 2017. <https://opb.org/artsandlife/series/brokentreaties/oregon-tribes-oral-history-broken-treaties/>

<sup>iii</sup> Reyna, Luna. "Chinook Indian Nation Land Claims Settlement Awarded, Nation Could be Closer to Federal Recognition." Underscore Native News, Feb 23, 2024. <https://www.underscore.news/justice/chinook-Indian-nation-land-claim-settlement-awarded-nation-could-be-closer-to-federal-recognition/>

<sup>iv</sup> State of Oregon. 2023. Oregon Blue Book – Almanac & Fact Book. Tribal Governments Webpage. Accessed November 3, 2023. <https://sos.oregon.gov/blue-book/Pages/national-tribes-intro.aspx>