

# Agricultural Drainage Channel Maintenance

Tyler Manitsas, ODA



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# What We'll Talk About

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History

Ag Drainage Channel Maintenance

Update

Information



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# History

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## Challenges

Drainage of ag lands vital for Oregon

Requires channel maintenance

Requires DSL permit (sometimes federal)

Exemptions for small projects



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# History

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## Challenges

Permit: costly and complicated

No permit issued in ~20 years

Work not done: not good

Work done w/o permit: not good



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# Solution

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**Maintain drainage responsibly**

**Effective state regulatory process**



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# Solution

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**HB 2437 → ORS 196.906-196.919**

ODA w/ DSL & ODFW

**OAR 603-095-4000 through 4060**



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# Solution

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## Ag Drainage Channel Maintenance (ADCM) Program

Allows channel maintenance that protects ecological function

Simplifies regulatory process

Improves awareness and compliance

Encourages landowner assistance



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# What Channels Qualify?

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**“Traditionally Maintained” channels**

Actual ditches

Streams

**Provided drainage in past 5 years**

**Non-ESH Streams**

**Dry**



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# ADCM Program

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## Changes DSL permit to ODA notification

No cost application

45 day process

## 23 requirements

Streamside vegetation

Timing of work

Equipment

Wetland & habitat protection



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# ADCM Program

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## ODFW & DSL review

ODA received notice

Consults with ODFW

If disagreement, DSL has final say

## ODA & ODFW on-site visits

ODA compliance; DSL enforcement

OSU study of impacts



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# ADCM Program

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## **Allows temporary storage of spoils along channel**

Adjacent hydric soils and wetlands too

Avoid placement in natural/undisturbed wetlands

## **Increases sediment removal limits**

3,000 cubic yards/linear mile

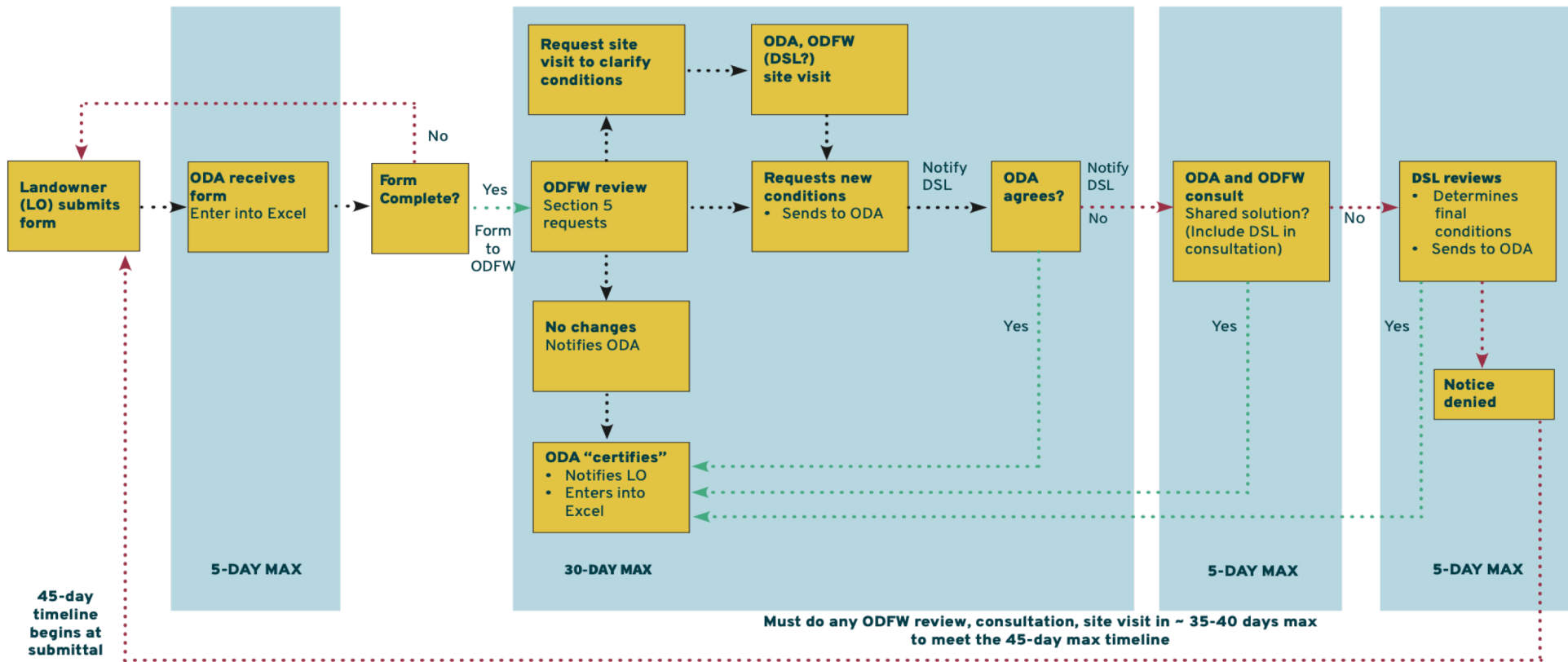
Restricted to new deposits

Can't widen or deepen channels



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# Notice Review Process for Maintaining Traditionally Maintained Channels



# OSU Study of Impacts

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Five-year project

Relies on volunteer landowners

Contact: **Dr. Guillermo Giannico**

OSU Professor and Extension Fisheries Specialist

[giannico@oregonstate.edu](mailto:giannico@oregonstate.edu)

(541) 737-2479



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# Update

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**Focused on Willamette Valley and Umpqua**  
**Awaiting legislation to phase in statewide**



# Update

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Website (out-of-date forms)

Outreach to SWCDs and producers

MOU in draft for ODA-ODFW-DSL

Rules revision for undisturbed wetlands

Progress on OSU study



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# Update

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## Forms and processes ready

Notice (Draft)

Variance Request

Expedited Review Request

ESH Review Request (almost)

## BMP Manual under development

Interim Manual on website



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# Next Steps

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You can submit the Notice via:

ODA, Natural Resources Program Area  
Water Quality-ADCM Program  
635 Capitol St NE, Salem, OR 97301

Fax: 503.986.4730

Email: [agchannelmaintenance@oda.state.or.us](mailto:agchannelmaintenance@oda.state.or.us)

Valid Notices will be posted at:  
<https://oda.direct/AgChannelMaintenance>



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# Program Personnel

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Marganne Allen –Manager

Ellen Hammond – Lead

Tyler Manitsas – ADCM Specialist

Kevin Fenn – Compliance

Paul Measeles – OSU Study

To receive email updates, sign up at:  
<https://oda.direct/AgChannelUpdates>



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# Information

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# Information

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