

A scenic photograph of the Oregon coastline at sunset or sunrise. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, with clouds catching the low sun. In the foreground, dark silhouettes of evergreen trees frame the view. The middle ground shows the ocean with white-capped waves crashing against a sandy beach. Several prominent sea stacks and rock formations are visible in the water. A large, irregular green shape, resembling a map of Oregon, is overlaid on the upper half of the image. The word "Oregon" is written in a white, cursive font across the center of this green shape. Below the word, the text "LEADERSHIP IN NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FOR A CHANGING CLIMATE" is printed in a white, sans-serif font. Two short white horizontal lines are positioned on either side of the green shape, one above and one below the word "Oregon".

Oregon

LEADERSHIP IN NATURAL RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT FOR A CHANGING
CLIMATE

Oregon has an abundance of natural resources that provide Oregonians benefits such as clean air and water and a wealth of recreational opportunities. These resources are also a major driver of Oregon's economy.



The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's mission is to protect and enhance Oregon's fish and wildlife and their habitats for use and enjoyment by present and future generations.

Climate change threatens fish and wildlife

It is vital that the Department respond to the current and future challenges posed by climate change and ocean acidification to be successful in meeting the mission. The Department is focusing on these issues as part of implementation of ODFW's strategic plan.

Because the fate of fish and wildlife is intricately linked to the health of their habitats, success will be dependent on a holistic approach that recognizes and balances the demands on these resources.



NATURAL RESOURCES UNDER PRESSURE

Oregon has a wealth of natural resources, including fish and wildlife. The health of these resources is intertwined and many are already under pressure from human development and changes in climate. Future climate change will only increase the challenges in meeting all the needs.

WATER



We will see more extreme weather (drought and floods), hotter water in Oregon's streams, and less snow in Oregon's mountains. Snowpack is the lifeblood of many rivers—without it, more rivers will go dry in summer.

FORESTS



We will see more frequent and intense "Megafires" and more disease that threatens our forests. A changing climate also means that the types of plants/trees that can grow in Oregon will change.

OCEAN



Our ocean will continue to acidify and warm. The pattern of upwelling that sustains many of our fisheries will change. Harmful algal blooms and hypoxic "dead zones" will likely become more frequent and cover larger parts of the coast.

FISH



Warming water and low summer flows will challenge many of Oregon's iconic salmon and trout. In the ocean, changing currents, acidification, and hypoxia will have a largely negative effect on the species that our coastal fisheries depend on.

WILDLIFE



Fire, drought, and changes in temperature and rainfall will affect the ability of Oregon's wildlife to find the water, habitat, and other resources they need. These changes will also impact Oregonian's ability to access and recreate outdoors.

AGRICULTURAL LANDS



Drought and reduced summer water flows will impact farming. Invasive grasses and fire will impact rangelands. Changing climate will impact the types of crops that can grow. On the coast, sea level rise threatens low lying dairy lands.



WHAT IS AT STAKE?



The impacts of climate change on Oregon's natural resources threaten the things that make Oregon a great place to live

CLEAN AIR & WATER

More frequent and intense fires, droughts, and toxic algal blooms will affect the air we breathe and the water we drink

JOBS

Tens of thousands of jobs in the recreation, tourism, forestry, fishing, and agricultural sectors rely on Oregon's natural resources

RECREATION

Fires put a damper on summer camping, droughts drain lakes and reservoirs, hot temperatures mean more days closed to fishing

INFRASTRUCTURE

More frequent and intense fires and flooding as well as sea level rise pose risks to houses, roads, and infrastructure.

INVESTING WISELY

Oregon has an opportunity to lead the world in building the resiliency of its natural resources in the face of these challenges.

KNOW

Invest in the science needed to understand where and how climate change will impact Oregon.

Invest in the science to understand what we can do about it

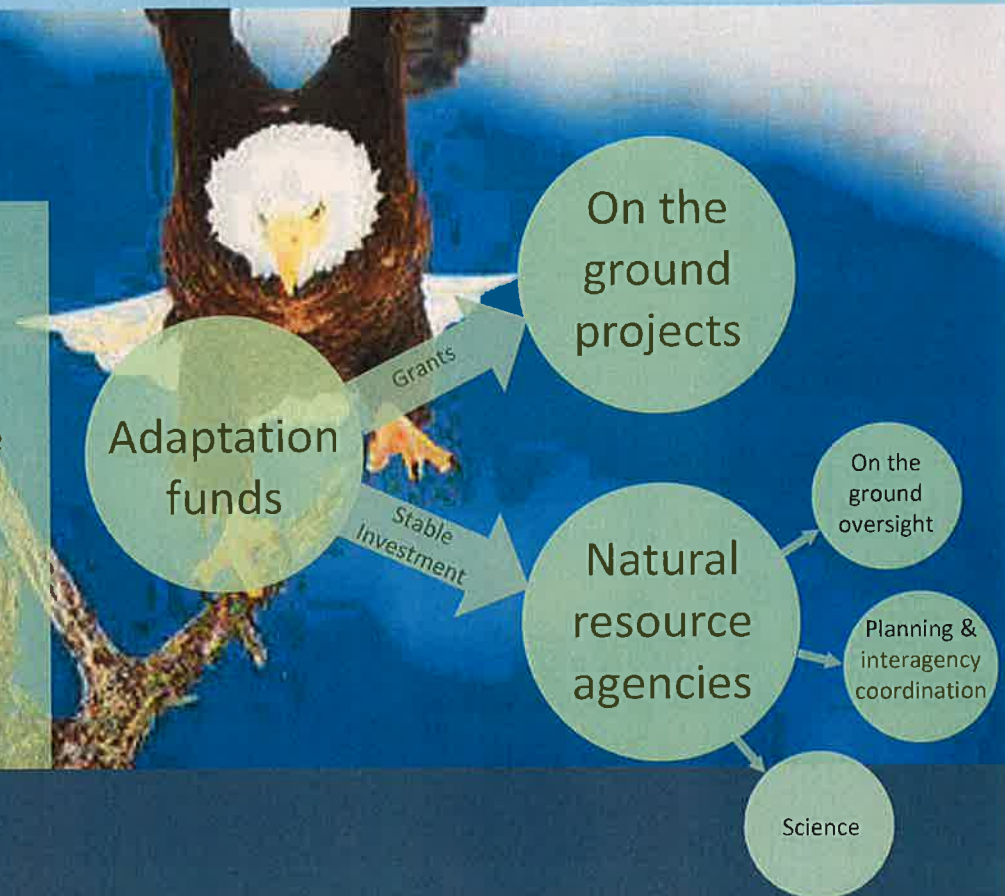
PLAN

Use the science to inform how we best spend limited funds for the conservation and sustainable utilization of our natural resources among all natural resource agencies.

DO

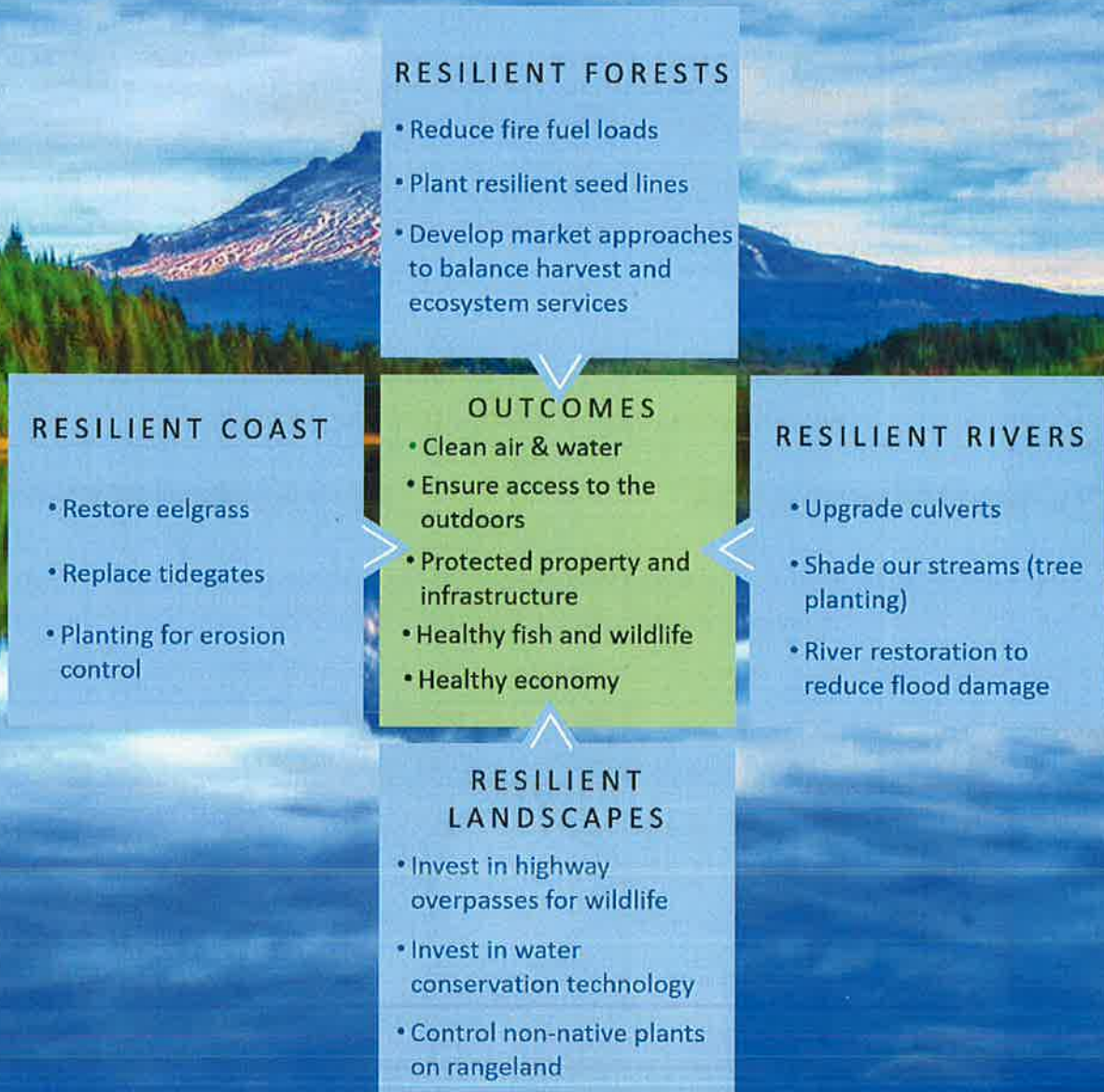
Use the planning to guide the prioritization and application of funding to implement adaptation actions

Random acts of kindness will not be enough. We need a portfolio approach that includes long term stable investment in Natural Resource Agency programs to lay the science foundation and coordinate planning and prioritization; complemented by strategic investment in priority on the ground projects



THIS IS WHAT "DOING" LOOKS LIKE

ADAPTATION ACTIONS TO SECURE A BETTER FUTURE



PRESERVING THE OREGON WAY OF LIFE

There is a lot we can do to minimize the impact of climate change on our natural resources. By taking care of these resources, we also protect our communities and economy from the worst impacts.