Oregon Environmental Restoration Fund
Interim Agency Program Fund Package

Geoff Huntington, GNRO

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Background

Oregon Environmental Restoration Fund formation

- Monsanto Settlement Agreement
- Senate Bill 1561 (2024)

The beginning of 100 years of investments in three sub-funds:

- State Agency Program Fund (SAPF)
- Community Impact Fund
- Tribal National Natural Resource Program Fund

Core Elements of SB 1561

Oregon Environmental Restoration Council consists of 11 members:

- The Governor or the Governor's designee
- The Directors (or their designees) of:
  - Department of Environmental Quality,
  - Department of Fish and Wildlife; and
  - Oregon Health Authority
- The Attorney General or their designee.
- Six members, appointed by the Governor, who have expertise in environmental remediation and the impacts from contamination to water, air or land on people or the environment; at least two must have scientific expertise with environmental or human health impacts of PCB or other similar substances.
- A member of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate to be a nonvoting member.
- A member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives to be a nonvoting member.

Interim SAPF Distribution Process

Development of Pre-Proposals

- Reviewed projects based on alignment with Monsanto Settlement Terms and statute

May 6 OERC information review of Pre-Proposals

Refinement of proposals based on Council feedback

June 22 OERC decision on Full Package

Settlement Terms & ORS 541.857

- Brownfields remediation or redevelopment
- Environmental or natural resource damage assessment or restoration
- Improvements to air and water quality
- Cleanup contaminated sites
- Remediation of impaired water bodies, sediments, or soils
- Restore or protect wildlife or wildlife habitats, including fish, aquatic life, marine mammal, or bird habitats.
- Reduces risks to human health caused by environmental contamination, particularly the presence of PCBs and other toxins. (ORS 541.857)

Item	Project	Agency	Total Award	2025-2027 E-Board Request	2027-2029 Budget Request	Brownfields	NR Damage Assessments	Air & Water Quality	Cleanup Contamination	Remediate Water & Soil	Restore & Protect Habitat	Health & Environment
45	Backflow Prevention	**OWRD**	$775,000	**$134,639**	$640,361							
46	Failing Septic Replacement	**DEQ**	$4,000,000	**$100,000**	$3,900,000							
47	Brownfields (Total: $6,000,000)	**DEQ**	$5,400,000	**$1,240,470**	$4,159,530							
		OHA	$600,000	**$150,000**	$450,000							
48	Aquatic Environmental Assessment (Total: $6,606,000)	**DEQ**	$2,100,000	**$335,742**	$1,764,258							
		ODFW	$3,106,000	**$112,192**	$2,993,808							
		OHA	$1,400,000	**$200,000**	$1,200,000							
49	Pesticide Applicator Training	**ODA**	$1,500,000	**$1,000,000**	$500,000							
44	Enhanced Mine Reclamation	**DOGAMI**	$1,000,000	**$150,000**	$850,000							
55	Lamprey and Mussel Recovery	**ODFW**	$1,894,000	**$1,114,130**	$779,870							
56	Priority Watersheds	**ODFW**	$4,500,000	**$789,502**	$3,710,498							
71	6PPD-Q Assessment & Mitigation	**ODOT**	$1,900,000	**$90,000**	$1,810,000							
			Total	**$5,416,675**								

Project: Backflow Prevention

Title: Backflow Prevention Education, Inspection, and Testing
Agency: OWRD, Kim Fritz-Ogren

Overview: OWRD will conduct outreach and inspect irrigation systems for backflow prevention equipment when required by law to prevent contamination of aquifers and streams.

Partners: ODA, DEQ, local irrigation, welding, and pump companies, irrigation districts, agriculture groups, soil and water conservation districts, and OSU Extension

Outcomes: Amended backflow prevention equipment rules and up to 1,000 inspections conducted in Groundwater Management Areas

2025-2027 Other Funds Limitation: $134,639
2025-2027 Positions Requested: One LD NRS-3 (0.25 FTE)

Project: Failing Septic Replacement

Title: Address Groundwater Contamination from Failing Septic Systems

Agency: ODEQ, Rian vanden Hooff

Overview: Project provides financial assistance to support permitting and construction costs associated with repair/replacement of failing septic systems.

Partners: DEQ will contract with a third-party non-profit community development financial institution (e.g. Craft3) to review and administer financial assistance at local level.

Outcomes: $4M award will contribute to restoration of groundwater and surface waters by supporting repair or replacement of approximately 160 failing septic systems.

2025-2027 Other Funds Limitation: $100,000
2025-2027 Positions Requested: None

Project: Oregon Priority Brownfields Initiative

Title: Oregon Priority Brownfields Initiative

Agencies: ODEQ/OHA, Rian vanden Hooff (ODEQ)

Overview: This project will conduct site investigations, health risk communication, and environmental remediation at brownfields sites with known contamination and public interest for site re-use. DEQ and OHA will develop and implement a data-driven site prioritization framework to select sites that incorporates environmental and social indicators.

Partners: Tribes, municipalities, counties, community-based organizations

Outcomes: Protects public health and the environment from toxic exposure, reducing burdens on impacted communities.

2025-2027 Other Funds Limitation:
$1,390,470 (DEQ - $1,240,470; OHA - $150,000)

2025-2027 Positions Requested:
DEQ – 3 LD (0.57 FTE); OHA – 1 LD (0.25 FTE)

Project: Aquatic Environmental Damage Assessment

Title: Aquatic Environmental Damage Assessment
Agencies: ODFW, DEQ, and OHA, Sarah Reif (ODFW)

Overview: This project leverages shared expertise across ODFW, DEQ, and OHA to:

- monitor key species and fill data gaps
- identify concerns and inform fish consumption advisories
- support outreach to Tribal partners and other vulnerable communities

Partners: Tribes, community-based organizations, county public health departments

Outcomes: Data will be made publicly available and will guide OHA fish consumption advisories and ODFW and DEQ restoration priorities.

2025-2027 Other Funds Limitation:
$647,934 (ODFW – $112,192; DEQ – $335,742; OHA – $200,000)

2025-2027 Positions Requested:
ODFW - 5 LD (0.58FTE); DEQ - 4 LD (0.67 FTE); OHA - 1 LD (0.25 FTE)

Project: Pesticide Applicator Training Modernization

Title: Pesticide Applicator Training Modernization Initiative

Agency: ODA, Isaak Stapleton

Overview: This project rebuilds ODA's pesticide applicator training and testing materials, updating content across license categories to reflect current certification standards, buffer zone requirements, endangered species protections, integrated pest management and translation into Spanish and additional priority languages.

Partners: OSU Extension, SWCDs, nonprofits, farmworker-serving organizations

Outcomes: Protection of land and water quality through compliance with labeling requirements and increased understanding of buffer zone and other protections.

2025-2027 Other Funds Limitation: $1,000,000
2025-2027 Positions Requested: None

Project: Enhanced Mine Reclamation

Title: Enhanced Mine Reclamation
Agency: DOGAMI, Christina Appleby

Overview: This project supports enhanced reclamation of mine sites; focus is on restoring floodplain function, improving riparian and aquatic habitat, expanding native vegetation, and addressing environmental risks.

Partners: DOGAMI will work with ODFW, OWEB, and DSL, and will also seek opportunities to engage Tribal and federal partners and EJ communities in project planning.

Outcomes: Plan and implement enhanced reclamation projects at up to 13 mine sites.

2025-2027 Other Funds Limitation: $150,000

2025-2027 Positions Requested: None

Source: NAIP Imagery, 2018, Linn Co.

Project: Lamprey and Mussel Recovery

Title: Lamprey and Mussel Recovery
Agency: ODFW, Sarah Reif

Overview: This project provides passthrough support to:
- Advance Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission priority freshwater mussel and Pacific lamprey recovery efforts.
- Advance The Xerces Society's investigation of the drivers of sudden freshwater mussel die-offs at known and emerging sites.

Partners: Tribes and nonprofits

Outcomes: Plan and implement Pacific lamprey passage at key locations, support improved understanding of species conditions, and advance species recovery efforts to mitigate for the impacts of contaminants.

2025-2027 Other Funds Limitation: $1,114,130

2025-2027 Positions Requested: None

Project: Priority Watersheds

Title: Priority Watersheds
Agency: ODFW, Sarah Reif

Overview: This project identifies contaminant risks and supports planning and implementation of high-impact restoration and remediation to improve watershed health in the Rogue, Umpqua, and Santiam and Mid-Willamette basins, all affected by nonpoint pollution, brownfields, post-fire contamination, and other impacts.

Partners: Tribes, municipalities, federal agencies, soil and water conservation districts, and environmental and youth workforce development nonprofits.

Outcomes: Collectively, the projects in this proposal restore over 700 acres and collaborate with over a dozen different partners.

2025-2027 Other Funds Limitation: $789,502

2025-2027 Positions Requested: None

Photo: RDG & CWC, taken at Albany Oxbows

Photo: CWC, taken at Bowers restoration site

Project Overview

Title: 6PPD-Q Assessment & Mitigation Research
Agency: ODOT, Amanda Pietz

Overview: 6PPD-Q is a tire dust contaminant known to contribute to Coho salmon mortality. This project will assess the extent of concern for 6PPD-Q along the state highway system. Includes roadside monitoring, mitigation evaluation, planning-level 6PPD-Q hotspot map model, and cost-conscious guidance for potential mitigation.

Partners: USGS, FHWA, ODFW, DEQ, multiple state DOTs

Outcomes: Improved understanding of the effectiveness of existing stormwater control measures and where potential 6PPD-Q hotspots may be located.

2025-2027 Other Funds Limitation: $90,000
2025-2027 Positions Requested: None

Photo: Van Buren Bridge (ODOT)