

Who is OWEB?

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board consists of 17 members drawn from state natural resource agency commissions, federal agencies, and the public at large. The Board brings together a diverse range of interests to decide on applications for grant awards and set the vision for watershed restoration efforts in Oregon. The Board's strategic plan, *A Strategy for Achieving Healthy Watersheds in Oregon*, explains how OWEB will work toward watershed restoration through investments, partnerships and education.

Voting members:

- Oregon Environmental Quality Commission
- Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission
- Oregon Water Resources Commission
- Oregon Board of Forestry
- Oregon Board of Agriculture
- One tribal representative
- Five public members

Non-voting members:

- OSU Extension Service
- U.S. Forest Service (federal)
- Bureau of Land Management (federal)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (federal)
- Environmental Protection Agency (federal)
- National Marine Fisheries Service (federal)

Where does the funding come from?

OWEB gets its funding from Oregon Lottery revenues and other sources including salmon license plate revenues, federal salmon funds, and funds that come from the purchase of "salmon-friendly" power.

In 1998, Oregon voters approved a ballot measure that set aside 15 percent of all lottery revenues for restoring Oregon's salmon, watersheds, and state parks. Under the program, half of these funds are used to enhance watersheds and salmon habitat.

Applying for Funds

Virtually any person or organization may request funding, advice, or assistance from OWEB to develop a watershed project. To request an application package or more information about OWEB's programs contact us at:

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360
Salem, OR 97301-1290
Phone: (503) 986-0178
FAX: (503) 986-0199

or check us out on the web:

www.oweb.state.or.us

To apply for funds, applicants should request or download a copy of the grant application package from OWEB. The package describes funding policies and evaluation criteria and explains how to complete the application. OWEB reviews grant applications three times per year. The schedule for the grant cycles is available on the Web site.

Applicants may be asked to provide:

- a description of the project
- demonstration of local support for the project
- match funds from other sources
- photographs of the project area
- an assessment of the problem to be addressed
- explanation of benefits

Grant applications are evaluated by regional review teams who develop funding recommendations for the Board. The Board reviews the applications and funding recommendations and takes action to award grant funds at designated public meetings.

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The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

Providing grants and services to citizen groups working to restore healthy watersheds in Oregon



The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board is a state agency led by a policy oversight board. Together, they promote and fund voluntary actions that strive to enhance Oregon's

watersheds. The Board fosters the collaboration of citizens, agencies, and local interests. OWEB's programs support Oregon's efforts to restore salmon runs, improve water quality, and strengthen ecosystems that are critical to healthy watersheds and sustainable communities. OWEB administers a grant program that awards more

than \$20 million annually to support voluntary efforts by Oregonians seeking to create and maintain healthy watersheds.

To accomplish this...

- OWEB funds projects that restore, maintain, and enhance the state's watersheds.
- OWEB supports the capacity of local watershed-based citizen groups to carry out a variety of restoration projects.
- OWEB promotes citizen understanding of watershed needs and restoration ideas.
- OWEB provides technical skills to citizens working to restore urban and rural watersheds.
- OWEB monitors the effectiveness of investments in watershed restoration.

OWEB provides grants to support citizen action groups in a variety of watershed enhancement and restoration efforts...

OWEB encourages projects that foster cooperation, pursue match-funding, provide for local involvement, include youth and volunteers, and promote education about watershed concepts.

OWEB provides grants to support the capacity of citizen groups to assess watershed health conditions, then to plan, prepare, and undertake successful restoration projects.

These "capacity-building" grants assist watershed groups as they equip themselves with the planning, human resources, project management, and technical skills necessary to carry out complex restoration projects.

Some examples:

- *Watershed assessment*
- *Monitoring conditions*
- *Coordinator salaries*
- *Travel reimbursement*
- *Workshops*
- *Outreach materials*
- *Data gathering*
- *Action plans*
- *Business materials*
- *Fiscal management*
- *Interpretive signs*
- *Student programs*

OWEB provides grants to carry out "on-the-ground" restoration projects that aim to restore aquatic habitat, improve water quality, and restore biodiversity.

These "capital" projects involve citizen groups working with landowners in efforts that range from instream habitat improvement to management of upland areas.

Some examples:

- *Planting*
- *Fencing*
- *Culvert replacement*
- *Livestock watering*
- *Land purchases*
- *Instream water rights*
- *Reseeding*
- *Weed control*
- *Wetland restoration*
- *Fish habitat*
- *Conservation easements*
- *Water right transfers*

In addition to the grant program, OWEB provides a variety of services to support watershed restoration in Oregon...

OWEB directs a small grant program to support landowner projects that improve watershed health.

Under this program, soil and water conservation districts and watershed councils may apply for funds for small projects without going through the full application cycle.

OWEB provides technical skills to landowners and local volunteer groups.

Our staff produce manuals on how to undertake restoration projects and we coordinate a biennial statewide conference to share ideas and expertise.

OWEB supports programs that teach students and adults about the importance of watershed health.

Through grants and staff assistance, OWEB promotes education of urban and rural watershed issues—in schools, in the field, and in the backyard.

OWEB coordinates the collection of data about natural resource conditions throughout Oregon.

Collecting, sorting, and analyzing data about watershed conditions throughout Oregon is essential to our mission.

OWEB monitors the effectiveness of efforts to restore, enhance, and maintain healthy watersheds.

After sorting through watershed restoration data, we determine how well our projects are working to improve watershed health.

OWEB reports on the progress of the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds.

Through biennial reports, we tell Oregon how the plan is working to restore watershed conditions that support fish habitat and clean water.