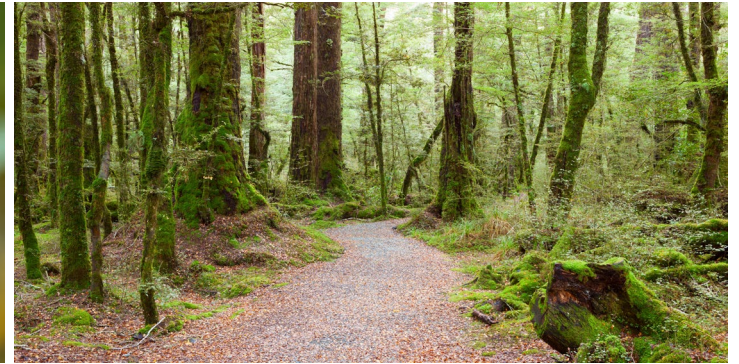




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Presentation to the Oregon Environmental Restoration Fund Council

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Overview: OHA Strategic Plan and Goal



Fostering healthy families and environments...by expanding access to:

- 1) preventive health services and supports, including for new parents and families before and after birth;
- 2) **safe and accessible housing;**
- 3) **healthy food and nutrition;** and
- 4) **climate resilience.**

Potential Areas of Nexus With the Oregon Environmental Restoration Fund

- Healthy Fish Consumption
- Brownfields Cleanup
- Public Drinking Watershed Protection

Overview: Healthy Fish Consumption

- **Contaminants:** PCBs, mercury; PFAS emerging
- **Health risks:** Neurotoxicity, reproductive, immune system, cancer
- **Populations at highest risk:** Fetuses, nursing babies, pregnant people, children, subsistence fishers
- **OHA Advisories:** Non-regulatory, based on data from natural resource agencies, resident freshwater fish, press release & website, meal recommendations

Opportunity: Healthy Fish Consumption

- Collect data based on what, where and how people fish – rather than primarily environmental agency cleanup sites
- Expand the geographic scope
- Invest in onsite permanent signage and resource local partners for outreach

Overview: Restore OHA Brownfields Capacity

- **Contaminants:** PCBs, lead and other metals, petroleum, dioxins, volatile organic compounds; PFAS emerging
- **Health implications:** Wide range of cancer and non-cancer health risks
- **Populations at highest risk:** Environmental justice communities - low income, Tribal, communities of color, rural
- **Program status:** Suspended 2016

Opportunity: Restore OHA Brownfields Capacity

- Prevent harmful exposures to contamination, improve health through redevelopment and land reuse – visioning, planning, implementation.
- Engage local residents, environmental justice and traditionally underrepresented communities, local health departments and leaders.
- Help communities apply for funding, leverage federal funding.
- Deliver health risk information on brownfields cleanup projects.
- Restore cross-sector collaboration: DEQ, OHA, OBDD

Overview: Public Drinking Watershed Protection

- **Contaminants:** Bacteria and viruses, parasites, hazardous chemicals, sediments carrying contaminants
- **Health implications:** Gastrointestinal, respiratory, reproductive, organ and organ systems harms, cancers
- **Populations at highest risk:** Infants, children, the elderly, pregnant people, immunocompromised individuals
- **Program status:** OWEB Drinking Water Source Protection Grant Program (HB 2010, 2023) sunsets June 2027

Opportunity: Public Drinking Watershed Protection

- OHA-DEQ infrastructure vets worthwhile watershed acquisitions:
 - OHA/DEQ Source Water Assessments identify risks;
 - OHA Drinking Water Source Protection Fund grants and loans (federal \$) support small scale projects, planning, limited land acquisition incentive
 - OHA and DEQ partnership provides analysis and technical assistance
- OWEB infrastructure established, but not permanent
 - Grant program and staff in place – ending mid-2027
 - Expertise to carry out acquisitions, informed by OHA & DEQ technical info
- Other opportunities for land protection, watershed monitoring, assistance to small water systems, and community outreach

Thank you!

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