

## APPENDIX B

### List of Agency Pre-Proposals Not Forwarded for Funding Consideration

## **DEQ Proposal: DEQ Emergency Response Program**

### Requested APF Amount

- a) **Total amount requested:** \$4M
- b) **Funding amount per fiscal year and duration of funding:** \$2M per fiscal year. Two-year duration (one biennium)
- c) **Whether/how the requested funding allocation is part of a longer-term initiative/program that will continue to seek Agency Program Funds from the Council in the future**

One biennium of funding to maintain existing Emergency Response Program staff and operations and develop legislative request for state-funding for 2029-2031.

### Project Description

- a) **Summary of what will be funded with APF funds and why the projects/programs are priorities for the Agency and for Oregon (i.e. why these programs, and why now).**

The Emergency Response program prevents and mitigates spills of oils and hazardous materials, protecting and minimizing impacts on human health and the environment through immediate action. The response portion of this program has not had sustainable funding since 2003 when state General Fund funding was eliminated as part of the Agency Requested Budget 10% reduction offer. Since 2003, funding to perform the non-cost recovery work has relied on the use of unrestricted Hazardous Substance Remedial Action Funds (unrestricted HSRAF). Reliance on this unsustainable funding mechanism has contributed to a deficit of approximately \$21 million in unrestricted HSRAF. Currently, the program requires \$4 million per biennium to operate the non-cost recovery Emergency Response time critical oils and hazardous material spill program work.

- b) **Connection to priorities identified in existing agency adopted plans and frameworks, or Executive Orders.**

[Northwest Area Contingency Plan](#)

<https://sos.oregon.gov/audits/Pages/recent.aspx#mostrecent>

ORS 468B.060 Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) in Oregon is authorized by state law and federal law (CERCLA) to recover compensation for damages to natural resources, including fish, wildlife, and habitat.

Oregon DEQ Strategic Plan 2025-2027 - Goal 2: Strengthen relationships with sovereign Tribal governments to promote meaningful and respectful engagement

Oregon DEQ Strategic Plan 2025-2027 - Goal 3: Ground DEQ work in environmental justice to address disproportionate environmental and health impacts.

Oregon DEQ Strategic Plan 2025-2027- Goal 4: Proactively address complex environmental challenges today and in the future through technology, modernization and innovation within and across programs.

DEQ Cleanup Program – Cleanup 2050 Visioning Process and Listening Sessions:

<https://www.oregon.gov/deq/hazards-and-cleanup/env-cleanup/pages/strategic2050.aspx>

**c) *Identification of any interagency collaboration and/or collaboration with external partners (e.g. community-based organizations, conservation non-profits, Tribes, others) planned as part of the work.***

ESF10 shared coordination responsibility - Oregon State Fire Marshal

Coordinating partners - Oregon Dept. of Emergency Management; Oregon Dept. of State Lands; Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife; Oregon Dept. of Forestry; Oregon Parks and Recreation; Oregon Dept. of Energy; Oregon Dept. of Transportation; Oregon Health Authority; Oregon State Police; Tribal communities; City and Counties throughout the state. Federal coordinating partners – US EPA; NOAA, National Weather Service, US Coast Guard

## Alignment with Terms of the Monsanto Settlement Agreement:

This bridge funding will maintain existing program operations that respond to spills which, in turn, mitigates the immediate threat to human health and the environment. When oil and hazardous waste spills occur, response time is critical. The faster official responders arrive, the better the chances of minimizing environmental damage and potential health impacts. DEQ Emergency Response operations staff play a crucial role in addressing potential impacts and, more importantly, taking action to control the spill and begin cleanup work. These actions support many of the elements associated with terms of the Monsanto Settlement.

Specifically, responding to spills to remediate and cleanup sources of contamination reduces the severity of environmental impacts, which protects and improves air, water, and land quality, restores habitat, and protects human health from acute and long-term exposure to contamination.

## Describe Anticipated Outcomes:

The funding request is for one biennium cycle. A legislative report will be prepared in coordination with agency, community, and Tribal partners detailing the gaps in funding that are associated with non-viable responsible parties (unwilling, unable, unknown). This will provide a roadmap for aligning funding for essential emergency response services.

The Emergency Response Program has an established process for tracking and reporting on responses and cleanups as part of the Oregon Emergency Response System (OERS). This system is managed by the Oregon Department of Emergency Management who coordinates closely with the DEQ Emergency Response Program. DEQ will apply this process to prepare progress reports and interim information requests to the OERC.

# **DEQ Proposal: Community-Led and DEQ Supported Brownfield Program**

## Requested APF Amount

a) ***Total amount requested:***

\$10.6M

b) ***Funding amount per fiscal year and duration of funding:***

\$5.3M per fiscal year. Multi-biennia funding is requested for a permanent, sustainable program.

c) ***Whether/how the requested funding allocation is part of a longer-term initiative/program that will continue to seek Agency Program Funds from the Council in the future***

DEQ's Cleanup Program does not have a Brownfield Program and receives no general/state funding. The Cleanup Program's ability to support brownfields relies solely on the Environmental Protection Agency's 128a State Response grant, which provides ~\$520,000 every two years for site investigations and cleanup planning at eligible brownfield projects across Oregon. This grant also provides limited funding for DEQ staff to provide technical assistance and project management oversight.

The OERC- Agency Program Fund would provide sustainable funding for DEQ to create and maintain a community-led and agency supported Brownfield Program that centers the needs and experience of communities, Tribes, and non-profits (including academic and health institutions) in brownfield site investigations, cleanup, and reuse/restoration/redevelopment.

## Project Description

a) ***Summary of what will be funded with APF funds and why the projects/programs are priorities for the Agency and for Oregon (i.e. why these programs, and why now).***

The following provides an overview of the three elements of a DEQ Brownfield Program that would be funded by the APF: **1) Oregon DEQ Brownfields Planning, Assessment and Remediation/Restoration (B-PARR) Fund** – funding for DEQ task order environmental contractors to perform planning, site investigations, cleanup planning, and cleanups, **2) Staff**- project managers, GIS support, rulemaking and policy, financial and data management, advisory group facilitation and communications, program coordinator, and manager, **3) Advisory Panels** – 2 panels: 1- Tribal, 1-Community and Non-Profit- These panels will provide guidance, outreach, and input on potential projects, and funding decisions associated with the Brownfield Revitalization Support Fund.

The funding is necessary to address the increased need from communities and Tribes to address the barriers associated with known or perceived contamination (brownfields) and to support site reuse and development to provide community benefits. In addition, federal executive orders issued in 2025 placed restrictions on using EPA grant funding (the sole source of DEQ brownfield funding) to support environmental justice, climate impacts/community resiliency, and incorporating diversity, equity, and inclusion into site prioritization and community outreach. These topics/themes are essential to supporting brownfields work with Tribes and communities across the state.

b) ***Connection to priorities identified in existing agency adopted plans and frameworks, or Executive Orders.***

Centering communities and Tribes most impacted by legacy contamination in decision-making and removing known or perceived brownfield barriers will get land back into reuse and provide community and Tribal benefits. This will support economic development, housing, and community resiliency associated with climate impacts from wildfire, flooding, and drought. These are connected to the following Executive Orders: Determination of a State of Drought Emergency in Baker, Deschutes, and Umatilla Counties 2026-5, and Directing State Agencies to Take Urgent Action to Promote the Resilience of our Communities and Natural and Working Lands and Waters,

2025-26. In addition, the fund will support the following goals in Oregon DEQ's Strategic Plan 2025-2027 - **Goal 2:** Strengthen relationships with sovereign Tribal governments to promote meaningful and respectful engagement, **Goal 3:** Ground DEQ work in environmental justice to address disproportionate environmental and health impacts. In addition, this funding continues and supports the DEQ Cleanup Program – Cleanup 2050 Visioning Process and Listening Sessions: <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/hazards-and-cleanup/env-cleanup/pages/strategic2050.aspx>.

**c) Identification of any interagency collaboration and/or collaboration with external partners (e.g. community-based organizations, conservation non-profits, Tribes, others) planned as part of the work.**

The Cleanup Program will continue collaboration with existing partners and grow relationships with communities, Tribes, non-profit organizations, and state agencies. These include: Oregon Health Authority- Environmental Public Health, Business Oregon-Brownfields, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of State Lands, EPA Brownfield grantees (ex: City of Portland, Metro, South Central Oregon Economic Development District- SCOEDD, City of The Dalles, Mid-Columbia Economic Development District- MCEDD, Tillamook County, City of Beaverton, Harney County, Rogue Valley Council of Governments), local health departments, academic institutions (including Baker Institute), and non-profits.

### Alignment with Terms of the Monsanto Settlement Agreement:

- a) **Have a nexus or connection with brownfields remediation or redevelopment:** Development and support of a sustainable, community-led and agency-supported DEQ Brownfield Program is directly associated with brownfields remediation and redevelopment.
- b) **Conduct environmental or natural resource damage assessment or restoration:** One element of the DEQ Brownfield Program is conducting site investigations (site characterization) to determine if contamination is present and if so, if it poses a risk to people and wildlife. Habitat restoration (if applicable) will be incorporated into remediation (cleanup) planning and implementation.
- c) **Result in improvements to air, land, and water quality:** Remediating/cleaning-up legacy contamination will improve air, water and land quality by removing/reducing the source of contamination to concentrations that do not pose a risk to people, wildlife, and the natural environment. A DEQ Brownfield Program will provide funding to conduct cleanups that will improve air, water, and land quality.
- d) **Cleanup contaminated sites and (e) remediate impaired water bodies, sediments, and soil and (f) restore or protect wildlife or wildlife habitats including fish, aquatic life, marine mammal or bird habitats, and (g) nexus with human health caused by environmental contamination, particularly the presence of PCBs and other toxins:** One element of the DEQ Brownfield Program is planning for and implementing cleanups at sites where contamination poses a risk to people and/or wildlife. Habitat restoration (if applicable) will be incorporated into remediation (cleanup) planning and implementation. These cleanups do/can involve a variety of environmental media including: surface water, groundwater, porewater, sediment, soil, and air (soil vapor and ambient air). DEQ-Cleanup uses risk-based screening levels that are associated with known and modeled impacts to human health to determine what, if any cleanup/remediation is necessary for safe current and future site use for people.

### Describe Anticipated Outcomes:

Outcomes include convening/facilitating advisory groups to develop and implement policies that will center impacted communities and Tribes in decision-making. These decisions will include allocating resources to develop inventories, conduct community outreach and engagement, and perform site investigations and cleanups to address brownfield barriers across the state. The Cleanup Program has an established process for tracking and reporting on brownfield projects as part of the semi-annual 128a EPA grant reporting requirements. DEQ will apply this process to prepare progress reports and interim information requests to the OERC.

## DEQ Proposal: Cleanup Program Modernization and Cross-Agency Coordination

### Requested APF Amount

*a) Total amount requested:*

\$2.6 M for biennium

*b) Funding amount per fiscal year and duration of funding:*

\$1.3M per fiscal year. Multi-biennia funding is requested for a permanent sustainable program.

*c) Whether/how the requested funding allocation is part of a longer-term initiative/program that will continue to seek Agency Program Funds from the Council in the future*

To complete inclusive strategic planning and visioning, implement an action plan to work to realize the inclusively developed programmatic vision, continue ongoing internal and external engagement and develop relationships and partnerships with external parties, contracting dollars, staff engagement and facilitation. Coordination, prioritization, meetings with Tribes and communities, filling in for IJJA shortfall.

### Project Description

*a) Summary of what will be funded with APF funds and why the projects/programs are priorities for the Agency and for Oregon (i.e. why these programs, and why now).*

Staff time and funding to support program modernization using the [Cleanup 2050 strategic planning project](#) model. This includes continuing coordination with internal and external parties, tribal nations, impacted communities, and establishing relationships with academic institutions, related state agencies (such as ODFW, OWEB, OHA, OWRD, ODF and others), and more. Work to include developing and implementing vision to guide program into the future intentionally to better protect people and environments in Oregon.

Strategic modernization is required to fulfill the program's purpose of addressing current and future risks associated with hazardous substances in the environment. The Cleanup Program was developed in the 1990s – changes over the last 30 years including climate change, declining groundwater levels, scientific advances, and engineering developments require developing new program policies. The Cleanup Program has no existing sustainable funds to support updating or creating policies of this kind. This leads to inconsistent and outdated technical decision making in the program, substantially limiting the program's ability to effectively implement its risk-based decision-making process to ensure protection of human and environmental health at cleanup sites across Oregon. Further, with the program's current "polluter pays" funding model has limited mechanisms for addressing contamination for property owners without the ability to pay – leading significant amounts of contamination to remain in the environment in communities that are already over-burdened and under-served. This work lays the groundwork for updating program processes, prioritization, funding structure and guidance documents to meet current and future environmental challenges. This project proactively supports cross-agency coordination with other state agencies, local partners, and Tribal Nations.

*a) Connection to priorities identified in existing agency adopted plans and frameworks, or Executive Orders.*

- Oregon DEQ's Agency-wide [Strategic Plan 2025-2027](#)- Goals 2, 3 & 4:
  - **Goal 2:** Strengthen relationships with sovereign Tribal governments to promote meaningful and respectful engagement.; **Goal 3:** Ground DEQ work in environmental justice to address disproportionate environmental and health impacts.; **Goal 4:** Proactively address complex environmental challenges today and in the future through technology, modernization and innovation within and across programs.
- [Oregon Water Resources Department : 100-Year Water Vision : Oregon's Integrated Water Resources Strategy : State of Oregon](#)

- DEQ Cleanup Program – “Cleanup 2050” [Strategic Planning Project](#) – input received during extensive engagement with Tribal Nations, community groups, and other external parties
- Oregon Water Resources – [SWIMS](#) (Surface Water Information Management System)
- Understanding community needs around contamination will support land reuse. This will support the following [executive orders](#) issued by Governor Kotek in 2025 and 2026: housing (2026-1 Extending Homelessness Emergency, economic development, and support community resiliency in response to climate impacts including flooding, wildfire, and drought (2026-5, 2025-26).

*b) Identification of any interagency collaboration and/or collaboration with external partners (e.g. community-based organizations, conservation non-profits, Tribes, others) planned as part of the work.*

Listening session participants and those we want to engage with in the future (e.g., impacted community groups, environmental nonprofits, other governmental agencies, Tribal Nations’ natural resource departments, academic and university partners). Intention is to build relationships and partnerships with external parties, which can lead to coalition-building to share resources and work toward shared goals collaboratively. There are many examples of cases where this model has been successful for DEQ (e.g., JH Baxter cleanup project, recycling modernization act, fuel tank seismic stability program, Materials Management strategic planning efforts). The DEQ Cleanup Program is specifically interested in building partnerships to collaboratively work with other state agencies with parallel missions and the potential for working collaboratively toward shared goals, such as ODFW, OWEB, OHA, OWRD, ODF and others. DEQ Cleanup recognizes that state agency resources are limited and is very interested in developing interagency collaboration opportunities to ensure that limited resources are used effectively to have the greatest impact on improving environmental and public health across all of Oregon.

### Alignment with Terms of the Monsanto Settlement Agreement:

The proposed work is squarely aligned with the terms of the Monsanto Settlement Agreement. Specifically, the proposed project would support developing a more sustainable and equitable funding model for Oregon DEQ’s statewide Cleanup Program. This would enable the Program to more equitably and comprehensively clean up contamination at contaminated sites and restore impacted ecosystems. This would directly and more holistically protect water and land quality and restore ecosystems and habitats to support wildlife. These cleanups have a direct nexus with mitigating risks to human health related to environmental contamination, including many sites that have mixtures of contamination including PCBs and a variety of other toxins. Further, programmatic priorities include increasing capacity for Brownfields and natural resource damage assessments to increasingly become key pieces of the Cleanup Program’s work, as efforts to sustainably modernize the program are put into practice. Overall, the values guiding the Cleanup 2050 modernization project align squarely with the terms and goals of the Monsanto Settlement agreement.

### Describe Anticipated Outcomes:

The proposed project would lead to a Cleanup Program with sustainable and equitable funding with capacity to continually partner with directly impacted external parties (e.g., community groups, Tribal Nations) to collaboratively work toward shared goals. Key interim milestones would include proactively coordinating with these external partners to develop an Implementation Plan, to guide the Program’s work toward realizing the 2050 Vision. Progress reports on this project (to be prepared for the OERC and Governor’s Office) could be developed and disseminated in conjunction with Cleanup strategic planning / implementation updates prepared for external partners, the legislature, and other relevant audiences. Interim deliverables and outcomes from this project will be directly tied to those associated with the Cleanup Program’s overarching work to inclusively develop its guiding vision and proactively work to modernize to move the program’s work into the future.

# **DEQ Proposal: Enhancing DEQ Nonpoint Source Watershed Restoration Grant Program**

## Requested APF Amount

- a. Total amount requested:
  - \$1-3 M
- b. An approximation of funding expenditures per fiscal year for an estimated number of years to accomplish project objectives:
  - Funds to be disbursed roughly evenly through the 2027, 2028, and 2029 grant cycles, with funds distributed to grant awardees toward the end of the calendar year.
  - If funded at the low end of the requested range, may only support program enhancement during the 2027 and 2028 grant cycles.
- c. Whether/how the requested funding allocation is part of a longer-term initiative/program that will continue to seek Agency Program Funds from the Council in the future:
  - This project would supplement and enhance an existing grant program that has been based on federal funding that has been flat or waning for many years resulting in a grant fund that has minimal funding capacity relative to the need.

## Project Description

- a. Summary of what will be funded with APF funds and why the projects/programs are priorities for the Agency and for Oregon (i.e. why these programs, and why now).
  - DEQ's Nonpoint Source Program aims to prevent and eliminate water pollution from nonpoint sources in all waterbodies in the state. Oregon's Nonpoint Source Program is an important part of the state's water pollution control programs because for many pollutants—such as sediment, pesticides, nutrients and temperature-- nonpoint sources of pollution are a major contributor of pollution resulting in impairments that do not meet state water quality standards. DEQ develops Clean Water Plans (TMDLs) that identify sources and management strategies that would effectively restore waterbodies so that they meet water quality standards in order to protect human health and aquatic life. DEQ's Nonpoint Source Grant program supports this effort to reduce and mitigate nonpoint source impacts by providing funds that are strategically invested to implement management strategies connected to pollution identified in TMDLs.
- b. Connection to priorities identified in existing agency adopted plans and frameworks, or Executive Orders.
  - Governors Executive Order 25-26 for Resilient Landscapes;
  - Oregon Salmon Plan;
  - Oregon's Integrated Water Resources Strategy (IWRS);
  - Oregon's Coastal Zone Area Management Plan;
  - Oregon Non-point Source Pollution Management Plan;
  - Oregon Statewide Planning Goals and Guidelines: Goal 5 and Goal 6;
  - Oregon Conservation Strategy

- c. Identification of any interagency collaboration and/or collaboration with external partners (e.g. community-based organizations, conservation non-profits, Tribes, others) planned as part of the work.
  - o Through TMDL development and implementation, DEQ identifies sources of nonpoint source pollution—such as ODA, ODF, municipalities and counties—with jurisdiction to mitigate or eliminate pollution through management strategies. DEQ’s Nonpoint Source Program works directly with these identified sources in developing plans and connecting sources with funding and restoration partners—such as community-based organizations, conservation non-profits, and Tribes—conducting and implementing location specific restoration activities in high-priority watersheds. DEQ Nonpoint Source staff perform grant proposal review, evaluation and administration.

### Alignment with Terms of the Monsanto Settlement Agreement:

- Nonpoint sources are often linked with agricultural, forestry, urban, and rural residential land use activities where rain or snow runs off to surface waters. As the runoff moves, it picks up and carries away natural pollutants and pollutants resulting from human activity, finally depositing them into lakes, rivers, wetlands, coastal waters, and groundwater which impact human health and aquatic life in Oregon’s rivers, lakes and coastline. Oregon’s Nonpoint Source Program’s goal is to restore waterbodies and eliminate water pollution from nonpoint sources in all waterbodies across the state to meet water quality standards in order to protect human health and aquatic life through implementation of TMDLs.
- A nonpoint source of pollution is any pollution entering a waterbody that does not come directly from a pipe. Polluted runoff causes damage to fish, wildlife, and their habitat; damages drinking water supplies; promotes excessive weed growth; and degrades Oregon's scenic beauty and recreational opportunities. Oregon's NPS Program is an important part of the state's water pollution control programs because nonpoint sources continue to be a leading cause of significant water quality impacts across the state and the nation as a whole.

### Describe Anticipated Outcomes:

Through DEQ’s Nonpoint Source Program, implementation and progress of restoration activities are tracked through OWEB’s OWRI database, providing important information in the effectiveness of activities and progress toward restoration. The Program develops 5-year reports that document this progress and works closely with identified management agencies and responsible parties in updating implementation plans to ensure that progress continues. DEQ also collects water quality data and compiles this data in the required Integrated Report, as well as DEQ’s own Status and Trends tool, both of which captures the water quality impairment status over time. Depending on the management strategy, restoration goals can take anywhere between several years to decades to accomplish (riparian tree planting to address temperature can take many decades; sediment/runoff mitigation to prevent nutrient or other toxic pollutants can be much less).

## ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION COUNCIL

### DOGAMI Proposal: Floodplain Stewardship and Mapping Focus Area

#### **Section 1: Requested APF Amount**

Total amount requested: \$2,015,000 (FY 27-29 for cost estimates)

Funding would support 2 FTE for a Floodplain Coordinator (NRS 4) and Geospatial Analyst (NRS 2) costing ~\$800,000. These positions will support the focus area described below. Funding would also support the collection of ~400 river miles of new lidar-based bathymetric lidar data each biennia costing ~\$1,215,000. Both of these costs are a part of a long-term initiative that will require sustained funding from the OERC or elsewhere.

Please note that DOGAMI has sought funding for a Floodplain Coordinator from the legislature during the last several biennia, but those requests have not been funded.

#### **Section 2: Project Description**

**Summary:** Floodplains are essential, natural systems that support ecological and human health. Protecting and restoring floodplain processes supports habitat, improves pollutant filtration, enhances sediment and nutrient storage, and strengthens groundwater recharge, all of which helps maintain the resilience of Oregon's land and water resources. However, in Oregon, many floodplains have been heavily developed, disrupting natural processes and increasing risks to people and infrastructure from flooding and channel migration. Strategic investment in floodplain stewardship strengthens long-term environmental resilience, protects public health, and supports the sustainable management of Oregon's natural resources.

DOGAMI proposes to create a Floodplain Science and Stewardship focus area within the Geological Survey and Services Program. This focus area would accomplish several important functions: 1) lead restoration projects, floodplain management, and state policy in sound geomorphic, hydrologic, and ecological science; 2) identify and promote the mitigation of environmental risks, such as storage of hazardous materials in flood prone areas; 3) generate fundamental datasets including maps of the boundaries of modern rivers, connected and disconnected floodplains, and channel migration zones; 4) coordinate the collection of new bathymetric river data; 5) support local decision making and address concerns related to floodplain management; 6) evaluate sites for restoration potential, such as floodplain mine site reclamation or dam and levee removal; 7) collaborate and coordinate with state and federal partners; and 8) assess the impacts of climate change on rivers, floodplains, and floods.

**Connection to Agency Plans and Executive Orders:** This focus area would provide essential scientific research and coordination within DOGAMI, directly supporting the goals outlined in multiple plans and executive orders. These include, but are not limited to, objectives established in Executive Order 25-26; OWRD's Integrated Water Resources Strategy; Oregon's 100-Year Water Vision; DEQ's Oregon Water Data Portal – Final Report and Recommendations; ODFW's Oregon Conservation Strategy and State Wildlife

Action Plan; DLCDC and OEM's Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan; and DLCDC and OCCRI's 2021 Oregon Climate Change Adaptation Framework.

**Interagency and External Partner Collaboration:** DOGAMI's Floodplain Science and Stewardship focus area would collaborate extensively with other local, state, federal, and Tribal partners. The added Agency expertise and resulting high-resolution mapping would directly inform decisions made by local planners, community leaders, emergency managers, watershed councils, soil and water conservation districts, and residents of Oregon. DOGAMI staff have a long history of working closely with many state agencies including DLCDC, OEM, DSL, ODOT, OWRD and DAS GEO; federal agencies such as FEMA, USACE, USGS, and NOAA; and university partners including OSU and UO – OPDR.

### **Section 3: Alignment with Terms of the Monsanto Settlement Agreement**

Floodplain Science and Stewardship focus area would provide the technical foundation necessary to begin to restore and maintain the quality of key parts of Oregon's water, land, and associated natural resources. By improving understanding of floodplain connectivity, sediment transport, and groundwater-surface water interactions, such a focus area would direct state resources to the highest priority habitat restoration sites, empower private and public floodplain managers and restoration practitioners with the best available scientific maps and guidance, and seek to prevent environmental contamination within the floodplain as a consequence of flooding and channel migration. Collecting bathymetric lidar transforms scientists' ability to understand river conditions below the water's surface and accurately model flooding, sediment erosion, and deposition. By integrating climate-change data, this focus area would support adaptive, forward-looking strategies that strengthen resilience across Oregon's air, land, and water systems, ensuring that restoration and protection efforts yield lasting environmental and societal benefits.

### **Section 4: Anticipated Outcomes**

During the first two years of the focus area, key milestones would include: hiring staff and formally establishing the focus area within DOGAMI; compiling a comprehensive database of Oregon floodplain, geomorphological, and hydrological data, as well as studies monitoring past restoration projects; developing criteria for evaluating high-priority restoration opportunities grounded in ecological and surficial geologic processes; initiating coordination with local, state, federal, and Tribal partners; and beginning the generation of foundational datasets based on focus area priorities, such as the geographic boundaries of rivers, floodplains, and channel migration zones.

Sustained funding across biennia would be required for the focus area to fully achieve its goals. With adequate long-term staffing, core outcomes would include:

- Statewide maps addressing fundamental questions about the location and movement of rivers and streams and floodplain connectivity
- Restoration projects prioritized and informed by geomorphology, hydrology, and climate change projections
- Identification and mitigation of flood and channel migration risks to human and environmental health and safety

- Improved understanding of floodplain processes, sediment transport, surface–groundwater interactions, the impact of climate change on floods and floodplains, and the effect of dams on rivers and watersheds
- Collection and public distribution of new bathymetric data for selected rivers
- Strong collaboration among focus area staff, stakeholders, and partners

Environmental Restoration Fund  
2025-2027 Agency Requested Funds

**Agency:** Department of State Lands (DSL)

**Project/Program Title:** Derelict Vessel Removal

**1. Requested APF Amount: \$2.0 Million**

DSL is requesting \$2.0 Million to remove the Sternwheeler *Jean* from its illegal moorage on the Multnomah Channel. This money would be expended in FY 27, spent over 12-16 months from 2026-2027.

- Vendor Solicitation: 3 months
- Contract Negotiation and Execution: 2 months
- Environmental Permitting: 3 months
- Vessel Salvage and Removal (mobilization, onsite activities, clean-up, demobilization): 1 month
- Waste Profiling: 1 month
- Demolition: 1 month
- Recycling/Disposal: 1 month

DSL manages Oregon's Abandoned and Derelict Vessel (ADV) program, which was established in 2023 with an initial funding of \$18Million from the Monsanto Settlement, prior to the passage of SB 1561 in 2024. This funding has been used to establish the program, hire a manager, specialist and an enforcement officer, remove 33 ADVs ranging from small recreational craft to 100+ ft. ex-commercial vessels, provide technical guidance to other entities that have removed ADVs, and is in the process of creating a small boat turn in program. DSL is working to establish a permanent funding source for the ADV program.

DSL maintains an inventory of larger boats, such as the Sternwheeler *Jean*, that would otherwise drain the program funding. For specific large boats, DSL is submitting proposals for funding that is otherwise not available to support the general ADV program. DSL previously submitted a grant proposal to NOAA to remove the Sternwheeler *Jean* but was unsuccessful.

**2. Project Description:**

The Sternwheeler *Jean* is a 168' derelict vessel that has been moored along the western bank of the Multnomah Channel near Hadley's Landing since 2013 when the owner was given a temporary authorization to moor the historic vessel. The temporary authorization expired in 2014 and the owner was ordered to remove the vessel. However, despite repeated notifications and assessments of civil penalties for trespass, the owner has not accomplished the removal.

Due to the age, construction and size of the *Jean*, and known information about its contents, it is expected to contain over 100 tons of debris and hazardous materials such as garbage, tires, treated wood, household hazardous waste, petroleum products, asbestos, batteries, electrical components containing PCBs and heavy metals, and other contaminated liquids. If the *Jean*

were to sink, break up, or go adrift, it could cause a serious pollution event in the Multnomah Channel which is identified as Essential Salmonid Habitat.

The Department of State Lands (DSL) will lead the removal of the Sternwheeler Jean in close coordination with multiple state, federal, and local partners to ensure compliance, safety, and efficiency throughout the project lifecycle. As the agency responsible for managing Oregon's Abandoned and Derelict Vessel (ADV) program, DSL routinely collaborates with regulatory, land management, and public safety entities on vessel removals statewide. For the Jean project, DSL will enlist the support of DEQ, BOAT, ODFW, OPRD, Multnomah County Sheriff's Office River Patrol, NOAA/NMFS, USACE, and community partners. Through these collaborative relationships, DSL will ensure the project meets all regulatory requirements, protects public and environmental safety, and advances statewide goals related to marine debris removal, habitat protection, and pollution prevention. The complexity, size, and hazardous nature of the Sternwheeler Jean make interagency engagement essential for successful project delivery.

### 3. Alignment with Terms of the Monsanto Settlement Agreement:

DSL's existing ADV program previously received funding from the Monsanto Settlement. Specifically, the removal of the Sternwheeler *Jean* would contribute to the protection and restoration of an important waterway that connects Portland Harbor in the Willamette River with the Columbia River, in some of the most heavily polluted areas of both rivers. Multnomah Channel is frequently used for recreational and subsistence fishing.

As described above, the Sternwheeler *Jean* is laden with hazardous materials including PCBs that could otherwise escape into the environment if it sinks or becomes unmoored. Addressing this vessel now will prevent a more costly remediation in the future.

Its location, 45°39'24.20"N, 122°50'46.93"W (See attached map and photos), also supports alignment with the Monsanto Settlement Agreement. This site is located in tract 41051007100, which the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) did not identify as disadvantaged. However, it is upriver from tract 41009970700, which was identified as disadvantaged based on:

- Economic loss to building value from natural hazards
- Projected risk from floods, tides, rain, riverine, and storm surges
- High percentage of households below twice the federal poverty level

Additionally, DSL's proposal is in alignment with major goals of the [2019 Oregon Marine Debris Action Plan](#):

- Goal 1: Prevention
- Goal 2: Removal
- Goal 3: Coordination
- Goal 4: Research

### 4. Describe Anticipated Outcomes:

This funding request has a simple, traceable outcome of removing the Sternwheeler *Jean* from the Multnomah Channel by the end of 2027.

Environmental Restoration Fund 2025-  
2027 Agency Requested Funds

**Agency:** Department of State Lands (DSL) and Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD)

**Project/Program Title:** Innovation of Wetland and Waterway protections within Oregon's Goal 5 and the Removal/Fill programs.

**1. Requested APF Amount: \$2.5 Million**

DSL and DLCD are requesting \$2.5 Million to launch a coordinated effort to initiate and expand pilot programs at DSL and DLCD to improve the protection of wetlands and waterways within the agencies' existing statutory and regulatory authorities. These funds will be primarily expended in FY 27 and FY 28. Because these are pilot efforts, this will allow the agencies to evaluate the effectiveness of the efforts and determine what resources are needed to scale up, such as rulemaking, FTE, IT management, and permanent funding.

**2. Project Description:**

The Governor's Housing and Prosperity Initiatives must be reconciled with the State's regulatory environment and the Governor's Climate Executive Orders, specifically EO 25-26: *Directing State Agencies To Take Urgent Action To Promote The Resilience Of Our Communities And Natural And Working Lands And Waters*. DSL and DLCD have been working closely with the Governor's Office to support these initiatives while also improving the protection and restoration of Oregon's wetlands and waterways.

*Expand DLCD's Wetland Technical Assistance Program: \$1,000,000*

DLCD oversees the Goal 5 wetland inventory program in partnership with DSL. Goal 5 requires municipalities to inventory local wetlands and use land use authorities to protect locally significant wetlands. DSL serves as a technical advisor. The process is time consuming and expensive for local jurisdictions, and nearly two thirds of local municipalities lack a local wetland inventory. DLCD recently launched a \$500,000 Wetland Technical Assistance Program (WTAP) grant program with legislatively approved funds to help communities to adopt or update their Goal 5 wetland inventories. DLCD proposes expanding this program in FY 27 and FY 28 by \$500,000 each year to support efforts of up to 12 additional jurisdictions each fiscal year.

*DSLs modernized wetland mapping, Advanced Aquatic Restoration Plans, and Mitigation pilot programs: \$1,500,000*

DSL relies on the Goal 5 inventories; without Goal 5 protections, development generally fails to avoid significant wetlands and mitigation for unavoidable impacts is often not available, expensive, and/or of a lower quality, resulting in an overall loss of wetlands across Oregon. In April, DSL submitted a \$250,000 grant application to EPA to contract with PSU's Institute for Natural Resources to develop a predictive model identifying wetlands in the Willamette Valley ecoregion using remote sensing and machine learning. DSL requests an additional \$250,000 to expand the pilot to include a coastal community such as Tillamook or Clatsop County, or fund the Willamette Valley project if the EPA grant is not successful.

DLCD and DSL are proposing to use the results of this model to develop an alternative pathway to Goal 5's wetland inventory, support communities to use DSL's underutilized Advanced Aquatic Restoration Plan (AARP) program and help identify mitigation opportunities for future removal/fill applications. An AARP is a flexible framework for communities to develop a voluntary plan for anticipated future wetland impacts. DSL requests \$250,000 to work with a community within the geography of the modeled predictive wetlands to develop an [AARP](#).

Finally, DSL requests \$1,000,000 to support a mitigation project in a partner community. This effort will partner with the municipality and the local watershed council and/or Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) to identify a site that could be purchased and restored as community-based advanced mitigation for development. This partnership approach creates the opportunity to engage community members, support education and citizen science, co-locate with a restoration project (and possibly leverage OWEB restoration funding), support green workforce development, and maintained and monitored by local experts instead of a developer.

### 3. Alignment with Terms of the Monsanto Settlement Agreement:

There is substantial harm to the State's wetlands because communities and developers don't know where wetlands exist, resulting in outright destruction or pollution caused by development. These pilot projects will result in communities' increased ability to protect, restore, maintain and enhance the quality of Oregon's wetlands. Additionally, this work helps to address environmental inequities in the existing regulatory frameworks. Many communities cannot afford to complete a wetland inventory, resulting in ongoing loss of wetland resources in poorer municipalities.

### 4. Describe Anticipated Outcomes:

DLCD and DSL's proposals would increase the number of communities with an adopted local wetland inventory (estimated 9-12 per year), develop new tools which could rapidly expand local wetland inventories in other communities, and develop community based advanced mitigation alternatives.

## ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION COUNCIL

State Agency Funding Proposal: Oregon Department of Agriculture

### Native Ecosystem Resilience, Invasive Species Prevention

#### 1. Requested APF Amount

**Total:** \$1,500,000 | FY2026-2029 | Future APF: Yes

**Expenditures by fiscal year:** FY2026: \$225,000 (EDRR capacity building, start native plant protocol development); FY2027: \$450,000 (sustaining efforts from FY26, adding state priorities and scale to biocontrol efforts); FY2028: \$450,000 (sustained implementation); FY2029: \$375,000 (measure effectiveness for future requests, leveraging federal dollars into state programs).

**Sustained initiative:** Yes. Managing invasive species, supplying native plant materials, and intercepting emerging pest threats are sustained responsibilities. Future APF requests are anticipated as the program demonstrates outcomes and OERF-funded restoration projects generate increasing demand for native materials and invasive species management across Oregon.

#### 2. Project Description

**a. What will be funded and why:** Restoration projects depend on two conditions: native plants establishing successfully and invasive species staying out. ODA holds the combined mandate to deliver both. No other agency does. This program integrates three functions into a single investment, each necessary and each without duplication elsewhere.

**Native Plant Conservation:** APF scales the Oregon Native Seed Collective's grower network and infrastructure while developing an emergency seed bank for rapid post-disturbance deployment. Furthermore, it maintains the state match capacity necessary for ODA to leverage federal restoration dollars through NRCS, USFWS, and BLM.

**Noxious Weed Management:** APF implements ODA's 2025 revised Statewide Management Strategies for A-list and T-rated noxious weed species, with expanded attention to aquatic invasive weeds, an area where ODA holds regulatory authority but currently has no dedicated capacity. A single EDRR interception can prevent a new invasive from establishing. Without active weed management, every restoration investment OERF makes is at risk of failure through re-invasion.

**Invasive Insect Pest Prevention and Biocontrol:** ODA coordinates pest surveys, biocontrol research and deployment, and rapid response. When the program works, pest threats are intercepted early and managed biologically. When capacity is lacking, the alternative is reactive chemical treatment at landscape scale.

**b. Existing plans and frameworks:** Executive Order 25-26; Oregon Climate Action Plan; Oregon Statewide Strategic Plan for Invasive Species (2017-2027); ODA Native Plant Conservation Program Strategic Plan 2025-2030; EPA ecological revitalization framework; Oregon Conservation Strategy; ORS 569, 570, 564.105; Oregon Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plan.

**c. Partners:** BLM, USFS, USFWS, NRCS, USDA APHIS, ODFW, OPRD, ODF, OSU, Oregon's nine federally recognized tribes, county weed districts, SWCDs, Oregon Native Seed Collective (IAE, TNC), ORBIC/PSU, Institute for Natural Resources, PSU Center for Lakes and Reservoirs.

#### 3. Alignment with Terms of the Monsanto Settlement Agreement

This program is the clearest expression of the settlement's mandate to maintain and enhance environmental quality, delivering across three pillars simultaneously: habitat restoration, impaired water body remediation, and prevention of future harm. It also protects the durability of every other investment the fund makes.

**Environmental and natural resource restoration:** Native plant restoration is a documented component of contaminated site remediation under EPA's ecological revitalization framework. Seed supply chain work directly supports the State's remediation projects.

**Improvements to water quality:** Native plant establishment reduces erosion and filters contaminants. Aquatic weed management removes infestations that elevate temperatures and reduce dissolved oxygen.

Biocontrol deployment aims to replace chemical applications; each avoided treatment directly improves water quality in surrounding landscapes.

**Remediate impaired water bodies and soil:** Managing and removing aquatic weeds directly remediates impaired water bodies. Invasive species compound contamination-era damage to soils; removal is a prerequisite for ecological recovery.

**Restore or protect wildlife habitats:** Emerald ash borer and spotted lanternfly destroy the riparian and forest habitats that fish and wildlife depend on. EDRR and biocontrol support the protection of these habitats before invasive species cause irreversible damage. Native plant recovery plans directly support habitat restoration for species affected by environmental contamination.

**Human health nexus:** Replacing broad-spectrum chemical treatment with biocontrol aims to reduce pesticide exposure for agricultural workers, rural communities, and ecosystems. Each EDRR interception prevents emergency treatment campaigns that would put chemicals into waterways and soils.

#### 4. Anticipated Outcomes

- Native seed grower network expanded; emergency seed bank operational; technical literature produced for commercially ungrown species; federal restoration match leveraged
- A-list and T-rated noxious weed management strategies actively implemented statewide; aquatic weed management capacity established where none currently exists
- Successful biocontrol agents reduce chemical applications; EDRR interceptions preventing pest establishment and avoiding emergency treatment
- Acres treated and restored; species excluded through EDRR; number of impaired waterways improved by aquatic weed management; and biocontrol projects scoped and initiated.
- Durable management plans and coordination agreements with partner agencies formalized

**ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION COUNCIL  
STATE AGENCY FUNDING PROPOSAL/CONCEPT TEMPLATE**

April 10, 2026

**Oregon Department of Forestry - East Oregon Forest Restoration**

- 1. Requested APF Amount:**
  - a. Total amount requested, and \$5,000,000 total over a 5-year project life-span.
- 2. The funds requested would be utilized as follows:**
  - a. 90% of funds requested for on the ground treatments and support.
    - i. Estimate of 7,500 acres of treatment.
    - ii. 78% contractual work utilizing local resources
    - iii. 12% local ODF staffing to provide technical assistance to landowners in project design and monitoring.
  - b. 4% of requested funds utilized for meteorological staffing in support of prescribed fire implementation.
  - c. 4% of requested funds as pass-through to partners: Wallowa Resources – forest management plan development for private landowners, targeted landowner outreach and education, prescribed fire burn plan design
- 3. Whether/how the requested funding allocation is part of a longer-term initiative/program that will continue to seek Agency Program Funds from the Council in the future.**
  - a. Addition requests will be contingent on monitoring and subsequent phase design of the project area, as well as local economical cost variables related to the contracting to complete treatments.
  - b. Due to the Partnerships established, project structure and design, the project implementation can be scalable both with increases and decreases in allocated funds. Additionally, the meteorological support proposed with this project would support additional prescribed fire efforts amongst additional projects on the east side of the state as a geo-region.
- 4. Project Description:**
  - a. This proposal would complement phase 1 of the East Oregon Forest Restoration project, originally funded by NRCS, and transition to Phase 2 of the planning and implantation process. The primary goal of this project is to address the resource concern of insufficient water due to drought and reduce long term impacts of wildfire to streams. Other goals include improving water quality and providing more habitat for fish and aquatic wildlife. Objectives include thinning overstocked forest stands to reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire which decreases the impact of large fires on streams. Another goal is to enhance upland forest restoration to improve water quality and habitat in streams. This will be completed by performing tree planting on ground that historically has grown trees but has suffered mortality due to fires or insects. Expected environmental outcomes are the changes in forest structure that will reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire and improve stream ecosystem health. These changes will be tracked through post-thinning inventories conducted on the ground by Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) foresters.
    - o The resource concerns expected to be address with this proposal are:
      - Increase in quality of aquatic habitat
      - Improvement of degraded plant condition
      - Improved wildfire management
      - Increased weather resilience

**ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION COUNCIL  
STATE AGENCY FUNDING PROPOSAL/CONCEPT TEMPLATE**

- b. This project is supported through direction from Executive Order 25-26, ODF's 20 year landscape resilience strategy, the Cohesive Wildfire strategy, and local Community Wildfire Preparedness Plans.
  - c. Phase 1 of this RCPP was initiated in the Northern Blues area (Baker, Umatilla, Union and Wallowa Counties) with the subsequent goal of Phase 2 including the Southern Blues area (Grant and Morrow Counties). This allowed for the Southern Blues area time to build the capacity and infrastructure to accommodate this type of proposal. The Northern Blues area currently has the capacity both in partner foresters at ODF and forestry contractors to do the work. Due to longstanding relationships with NRCS and landowners, many "shovel ready" projects are in place as shelf stock for the next phase of funding. This proposal is supported by many different agencies including two National Forests, American Forest Foundation (AFF) , Wallowa Resources, Oregon State University (OSU) Extension, and local Soil and Water Conservation Districts. All these groups are represented through My Blue Mountain Woodlands (MBMW) as a way to bring the partners together in Northeast Oregon.
5. This project proposes to restore the landscape to a stocking standard consistent with available water resources, prioritize and promote the correct species composition in the project area to meet that objection, utilized broadcast burning as a maintenance tool for phase 1, and enhance watershed resistance to catastrophic wildfire. This would meet the following criteria:
    - a. Conduct environmental or natural resource damage assessment or restoration
    - b. Result in improvements to air and water quality
    - c. Restore or protect wildlife or wildlife habitats including fish, aquatic life, marine mammal or bird habitats
    - d. Have a nexus with risks to human health caused by environmental contamination, particularly the presence of PCBs and other toxins (PM2.5).
6. Expected environmental outcomes are the changes in forest structure that will reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire and improve stream ecosystem health. These changes will be tracked through post-thinning inventories conducted on the ground by Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) foresters. Expected social and economic outcomes are increased jobs in the forest sector in rural Northeast Oregon both directly related to the project (more people hired by local forestry contractors to do the work) and indirectly (i.e. more jobs in local lumber mills). It is common for the Department to report annually for projects such as this, as well as a consolidative of resiliency activities being captured in the Landscape Resiliency Strategy report that is annually due to the Oregon Legislature.

# **Environmental Restoration Council: State Agency Funding Proposal**

## *Kellogg Creek Restoration & Community Enhancement Project*

The goal of the Kellogg Creek Restoration and Community Enhancement Project (hereafter referred to as the Project) is to contribute to species recovery and community resiliency by creating volitional fish passage into the Kellogg-Mt. Scott watershed, restoring geomorphic and habitat-sustaining processes within lower Kellogg Creek and its floodplain through the City of Milwaukie, and modernizing multi-modal transportation infrastructure.

The Project objectives are:

- Provide fish passage to 17 miles of habitat by removing the barrier at Kellogg Dam and restoring the creek through the current impoundment.
- Restore 14 acres of high-quality riparian habitat, functional wetlands, and reconnected floodplain. This involves removing contaminated legacy sediment that have impounded behind the Kellogg Dam.
- Increase flood storage capacity to reduce flooding in lower Kellogg Creek.
- Modernize the existing Oregon State Highway 99E bridge with a seismic resilient alternative that establishes a safe multi-modal trail underpass between the Willamette River and Kellogg Creek, downtown Milwaukie, and Milwaukie High School. Create public access and viewing points to encourage nature-based recreation and outdoor education in a new natural area in downtown Milwaukie.
- Provide interactive learning, scientific research and real-world laboratory opportunities for student involvement.

### **Requested APF Amount**

The Project requests \$15 - 20 million to be spent over 5 years with an anticipated construction start date in 2028 and the majority of expenditure occurring 2028 - 2030. \$28M has been secured for the Project, including a \$15 million grant from NOAA's Restoring Fish Passage through Barrier Removal Program Under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, a \$10 million grant from Metro's Large Scale Community Visions program, \$1 million from the City of Milwaukie, as well as ~1.25 million from Congressionally Directed Spending secured by Senators Wyden and Merkley and Congresswoman Bynum, and over \$1 million from the Resources Legacy Fund, PGE Salmon Habitat Support fund, and OWEB Competitive Grants.

This funding request via the ERC is a key need of the comprehensive project fundraising strategy to secure FHWA Culvert AOP funds that require nonfederal match.

### **Project Description**

Kellogg Dam has been identified in ODFW's Statewide Priority Fish Passage Barrier List as the top priority fish passage barrier in Oregon owned by the ODOT, as established by the Oregon

Fish and Wildlife Commission. The Project is being led by a collaborative multi-jurisdictional Leadership Team that includes ODOT (project delivery agency), the City of Milwaukie, North Clackamas Watersheds Council, and American Rivers. The Kellogg Project is supported by 23 diverse partners, including three Tribes. This strategic partnership allows ODOT to leverage non-traditional restoration funding to implement a transportation improvement during a season where state transportation budgets are stretched thin. The Project is included in ODOT's Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and the Metro Regional Transportation Plan's financially constrained project list, which lists the highest priority projects given limited transportation funding.

### **Alignment with Terms of the Monsanto Settlement Agreement**

The Project advances restoration, water quality, and public health objectives as defined by the terms of the Monsanto Settlement Agreement. The 14-acre impoundment is currently wide and shallow, increasing water temperatures and causing the growth of harmful algae blooms in the summer, including *Microcoleus* and *Oscillatoria* species that are becoming an increased risk to human health. The sediments behind the dam have been tested and they are contaminated with a variety of contaminants including PCBs and pesticides directly linked to the settlement. The Project will remove these contaminated sediments and address stormwater inputs to improve future water quality. The restoration plan will enhance fish and wildlife habitat by turning the stagnant backwater impoundment into a natural free-flowing stream, reducing water temperature, creating off-channel refuge areas, reconnecting the creek with the floodplain, adding large wood for habitat complexity, and planting riparian species – all of which are critical for recovery of five threatened and endangered fish species in the watershed. The Project also addresses past environmental injustices. The western portion of the Kellogg Mt. Scott Watershed has been identified by both Metro and ODFW and as an equity/environmental justice focus area, where exposure to pollutants and environmental burdens is high, access to nature is low, and fall disproportionately on historically excluded communities. Milwaukie High School, located across the street from the Project and involved in pre/post monitoring, is 49% students of color and 59% free/reduced lunch students. The Project and similar actions simultaneously restore access to nature, and improve water quality, tree cover, and remove contaminated sediments, advancing social and environmental justice.

### **Describe Anticipated Outcomes**

OEF funds will be used to construct the Project and leverage critical remaining construction funding. The Project is in the Final Design phase, with construction targeted to begin in 2028 and will take 2-3 construction seasons. Project progress reports will be provided to the Council at agreed upon intervals.

### **Primary Contacts**

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# ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION COUNCIL

## STATE AGENCY FUNDING PROPOSAL/CONCEPT TEMPLATE

April 13, 2026

### 1. Requested APF Amount:

We are requesting \$900,000 for the design and retrofit of a stormwater facility cover and replacement of the media (Table 1). No future funding request is anticipated for this work.

*Table 1: Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) proposed funding for a cover design and retrofit and media replacement in a modified water quality bioslope facility (DFI# D00652).*

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total
Develop Scope of Work and Request for Proposal, Award Contract	Design new cover	Remove rubber cover and media, Install new cover and replace media	Key Performance Indicators, Monitor, Closeout	
\$50,000	\$50,000	\$750,000	\$50,000	<b>\$900,000</b>

### 2. Project Description:

A large stormwater facility treating a significant amount of I-205 runoff is in critical need of redesign and retrofitting, as maintenance has become challenging and its functionality has declined (Figures 1 and 2). Constructed in 2013, this facility serves as regional treatment system with a combined spill-containment (e.g. close valves to catch large spill from I-205 in the facility before reaching water body) and water quality (e.g. pollutant/sediment capture) function. Stormwater runoff is conveyed to a pretreatment manhole and 800-foot-long trench filled with perforated pipes and media (absorbs pollutants). Stormwater then discharges underneath I-205 to the Columbia Slough, a highly managed, sensitive waterway in the Portland area, listed as an impaired water body due to historically severe industrial and agricultural contamination.

Shortly after construction, a floating rubber cover was placed over the 800-foot-long trench so that the stormwater in this channel would not attract birds (reduce risk of bird strikes to planes using nearby Portland Airport). This rubber cover has made it much more difficult (e.g. moving thick heavy rubber) and time-consuming (e.g. quarterly rubber cover inspections, etc.) for maintenance crews to remove debris captured in this channel (e.g. contaminants adsorbed to sediment). Over the last few years, this rubber cover has cracked and has been torn in several locations, and thus a replacement will be needed soon. In addition, the installed media (adsorbs pollutants) within the trench requires replacement every 5-20 years, so it too will need replacement soon.

We propose to design and retrofit the stormwater facility cover and replace the media. This will ensure birds are still not attracted to this facility, future maintenance is more efficient/cost-effective, new cover repairs/maintenance is cost-effective (e.g. replace panels on roof), and pollutant capture within the facility is maintained keeping pollutants out of nearby Columbia Slough.

This proposed work will support Oregon State Executive Order 25-26, Section 3(b), by prioritizing protection and restoration actions for key lands and waters, including actions that improve receiving-water quality and ecosystem health.

This proposed work will also solicit design proposals from the many green stormwater design groups within the Portland area. This effort will also communicate with the Portland International Airport and follow Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) guidelines when designing a new cover (reduce risk of bird strikes).

This proposed work will maintain and enhance the quality of Oregon’s water and other natural resources by:

- c. Maintaining and improving Columbia Slough water quality by designing and retrofitting a new stormwater facility cover and replacing media (absorbs pollutants).
- f. Protecting wildlife (birds) and wildlife habitats (Columbia Slough).
- g. Supporting a nexus between improving stormwater facility maintenance and performance and keeping contaminants out of nearby waterbodies/lower risks to human health caused by environmental contamination.

This proposed work will ensure a long life cycle of this stormwater facility cover as the design requirements will include cost-effective replacement of the cover (e.g. panel replacement on roof). Key milestones include developing scope of work, request for proposals, and awarding contract in year one, designing a new cover in year 2, removing and replacing rubber cover and media in year three, and key performance indicators (e.g. time to service facility), monitoring (e.g. birds using facility), and closeout in year 4 (Table 1).

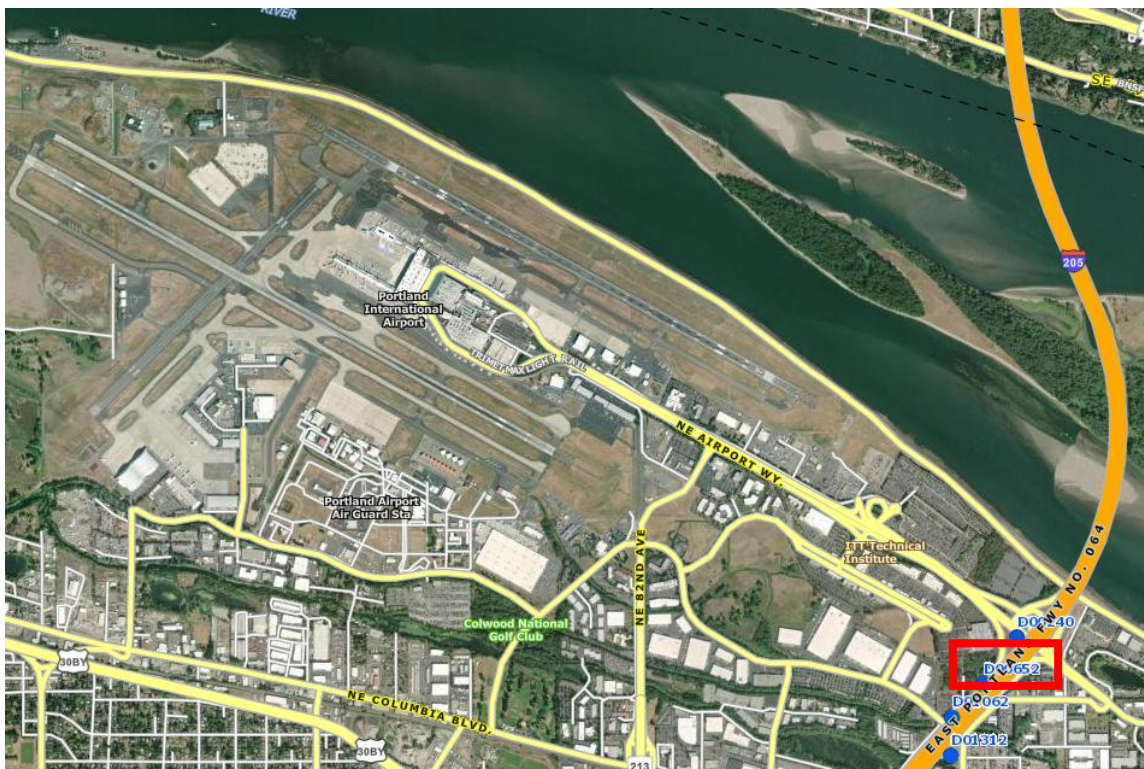


Figure 1: Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) TransGIS map showing location of modified water quality bioslope (DFI# D00652) within red rectangle along the west side of I-205 near the Portland International Airport.



Figure 2: Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) modified water quality bioslope (DFI# D00652) photos from south side of facility looking north taken in 2013 during construction showing perforated pipes and media (top) and in 2025 showing floating rubber cover (bottom).

## ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION COUNCIL

### STATE AGENCY FUNDING CONCEPTS: OREGON HEALTH AUTHORITY

April 2026

#### APPENDIX B PROPOSAL: OHA ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE MAPPING TOOL PROGRAM

Under the oversight of the Oregon Environmental Justice Council within the Office of Governor Kotek, OHA is leading technical development of the Environmental Justice Mapping Tool. OHA would establish a program of technical assistance to communities and natural resource agency partners to support accessibility and effective and appropriate use of the tool to accomplish the purposes outlined in HB 4077 (2022). This would be an ongoing program, with higher expenses and staffing needs in the first four years and reduced but continuing workload on an ongoing basis. More information available on the [Oregon Environmental Justice Council Mapping Tool](#) webpage.

#### Requested APF Amount:

- a. Total amount requested: \$1.5 million over four years, starting July 2027
- b. Annual, level expenditures of \$375,000 per year over four years.
- c. This is a long term program that will continue to seek Agency Program Funds from the Council in the future, likely at a reduced staffing and cost level.

#### Project Description:

- a. OHA would hire permanent new 1.0 Research Analyst 3 and 1.0 Program Analyst 2 who will be overseen by an existing permanent general-funded Research Analyst 4 currently leading technical development of the EJ Mapping Tool and a multiagency/Tribal/academic methodology working group. The current federal administration deleted EPA's EnviroScreen EJ mapping and screening tool commonly used by agencies to identify communities of concern. Oregon's EJ Mapping Tool will not only fill this vacuum, but provide better information at smaller scales based on Oregon data sets, and support development and training in best practices to avoid unintentional misuse. This program will support meaningful access to the tool by Tribes, community based organization partners, students and academics, natural resource agency program staff (beyond technical staff) and the public.
- b. All natural resource agencies have strategic plans, policies, or Gubernatorial direction via multiple executive orders to consider in their investments and programs inequities experienced by low income, Tribal, rural and other communities in Oregon that are underrepresented and experienced historic and present discrimination and underinvestment.

- c. The 19 state agencies that have provided data are expected to be users of data. A large subset, plus academic partners and a Tribal-serving organization, are on the methodology working group.

**Alignment with Terms of the Monsanto Settlement Agreement:**

All natural resource agencies in Oregon are undertaking investments and implementing programs to restore, maintain and enhance the quality of Oregon’s air, land, water and other natural resources and are also subject to policies or mandates to consider environmental justice, and to engage affected community members in Oregon. By supporting this trio of obligations, the EJ Mapping Tool Program will provide technical assistance and accelerate successful implementation of this program and support robust community engagement.

**Anticipated Outcomes:**

OHA will provide information on communities, agencies and external partners served as part of progress reports to the Oregon Environmental Justice Council and submitted to the Governor’s Office for distribution and discussion with the ERC Council at intervals to be agreed upon in consultation with the Council.

# **Oregon Parks and Recreation Department OERF Agency Program Funds Proposal Summary**

April 13, 2026

**Project title:** Sitka Sedge Estuarine Habitat and Fish Passage Restoration

**Requested APF Amount:**

\$4M to be expended as restoration contract invoices are received between Spring 2027 and fall 2029. This is a single time request for implementation of a restoration project with no need for future allocations

**Project Description:**

Sitka Sedge State Natural Area is located at the south end of Sand Lake Estuary in Tillamook County. The property includes a 1930s era dike that is actively failing. The compromised dike is both a partial fish passage barrier and also too low to withstand any sea level rise. The existing dike and tide gate degrade water quality through limitation of natural tidal action to replenish dissolved oxygen and to cool water temperatures. The existing condition also causes frequent road flooding and inputs of road and right-of-way contaminants into the estuary due to extremely poor stormwater drainage. The current state of dysfunction may also subject the marshland behind the existing dike to subsidence and drowning of the marsh as a result of sea level rise. In addition to dike-related impacts, this project also addresses the degraded condition of a major fish-bearing stream that has become entrained within a roadside ditch, where it collects road-related toxics.

This project would build a setback dike at the back end of the estuary to provide improved protection for the community of Tierra Del Mar, while allowing for restoration of natural estuarine processes to over 68 acres of land formerly cut off from the estuary by the old dike. The old dike would be breached and a bridge would be installed over the breach to allow for continued use of the popular dike trail that accesses the dunes and forest to the west. Breaching the existing dike would restore full, unfettered fish passage to two historic salmon streams, and also potentially allow for natural marsh resiliency to sea level rise through increased sediment accretion capacity. The project would also eliminate the frequent flooding of the road that contaminates the estuary with road and right-of-way contaminants. The setback dike would be built to withstand sea level rise to provide many more years of resiliency to the community of Tierra Del Mar. A major stream would be returned to a natural and resilient landscape position from its current location in a roadside ditch.

This project has been in planning and design for over 10 years. 60% designs are complete and 100% designs and permits are anticipated by Fall 2026. Providing both environmental and societal benefits, this project is a priority for many entities - including Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, Tillamook Estuaries Partnership, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development. All of these entities have contributed funding and staff time towards this project's development. Other groups including the Nestucca, Neskowin, and Sand Lakes Watershed Council; the United States Forest Service; and The Tierra Del Mar Neighborhood Association have been intimately involved. A broad technical advisory team has been involved in project planning and design for over 12 years. The membership of this team is too large and diverse to list, but includes representatives of various agencies, individuals, companies, non-profits, and the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz Indians.

At this stage the project has received \$6M in federal grant funding for implementation, but has not yet been awarded sufficient funding to implement. \$4M in additional funding is needed to be able to complete the work. Inability to find the remaining \$4M would halt the project and result in loss of the existing, currently-awarded grant funding.

This project is consistent with 12 years of planning for this property, the property's adopted master plan, and with longer term prioritization of enhancement of Sand Lake Estuary – one of Oregon's most natural estuaries and a focal point for conservation. It is consistent with Executive Order 25-26, which directs state agencies "to take urgent action to promote resiliency of communities and natural and working lands and waters". This project addresses estuary resiliency, marsh/land surface resiliency in the face of sea level rise, and community resiliency against sea level rise.

**Alignment with Terms of the Monsanto Settlement Agreement:**

This project is consistent with the terms of the Monsanto settlement and DOJ's guidance in that it:

- Conducts environmental and natural resource restoration
- Results in improvements to water quality through decreasing water temperatures, increasing dissolved oxygen for aquatic life, and decreasing inputs of toxics from flooding of the roadway, right-of-way, and roadside ditches along the east side of the estuary.
- Remediate water quality of an impaired water body (dissolved oxygen, temperature)

- Restores wildlife habitat through reconnection of spawning and rearing habitat for listed salmon that has been blocked for 90 years, restores natural estuary hydrology and food webs in the south portion of the Sand Lake Estuary, and restores natural sediment accretion to potentially allow the marsh ground surface to keep pace with sea level rise

**Description of Anticipated Outcomes:**

This project will restore fish passage for listed Oregon coast coho salmon and other fish to over 82 acres of marsh that have been blocked and degraded since the 1930s when the original dike was constructed (including 68 acres that will be outside the setback dike, and 14 acres that will be accessible inside the setback dike's fish passable muted tidal regulator). It will also improve community resiliency for Tierra Del Mar through construction of a setback dike that will allow restoration of most of the marsh while providing improved sea level rise resilience at a modern setback dike. Improvements will eliminate current frequent flooding of the adjacent road, right-of-way, and roadside ditches, and reduce inputs of road-related toxics to the estuary. All construction and restoration work will be completed in 2027-2029 in a single, one-time effort.

Timeline:

2027: setback dike preliminary construction and settlement pre-loading; erosion control

2028: setback dike completion; breaching of old dike; filling of tidal ditches and restoration of natural tidal channels; vegetation restoration

2029: Freshwater creek channel restoration, road bridges, and fish habitat improvements in adjacent freshwater habitat (currently seeking other grants for freshwater components).

2029-2031: monitoring and maintenance.

***More information on this project is available on the project webpage:***

<https://www.oregon.gov/oprd/prp/pages/pla-sitka-sedge-hydro.aspx>

**April 13, 2026**

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION COUNCIL

Project Title: Assessment and Outreach Regarding Commingling Wells in the Lower Umatilla Basin  
Groundwater Management Area (LUBGWMA)

Agency Lead: OR Water Resources Department

Requested APF Amount:

\$350,000 per year for two years; total request = \$700,000. Funds to be used to contract with consulting firms (technical, local engagement/outreach/non-profit) to identify optimal locations in LUBGWMA to find commingling wells, and repair or abandon them, while also assessing readiness and willingness of local communities and well owners to participate in a well repair/abandonment/replacement program. This initial work phase will not result in any direct well repair or abandonment work.

Project background:

The project area encompasses the LUBGWMA, located in Morrow and Umatilla Counties. There are approximately 2,000 and 7,800 existing water wells in Morrow and Umatilla Counties, respectively. Over 1,200 existing wells have also been deepened. These wells access groundwater in the LUBGWMA, which occurs in multiple aquifers.

The Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) regulates the construction of water wells and monitoring wells, and other borings, to protect groundwater quality from surface contamination and commingling of aquifers. Constructing a well that is open to multiple water-bearing zones with different water levels can cause aquifers to mix (commingle). In the LUBGWMA, groundwater levels in the sedimentary aquifer are typically higher than in underlying basalt aquifers. This means that commingling can occur between sedimentary and basalt aquifers, in addition to between stacked basalt aquifers. This movement of water can reduce the amount of water stored in certain aquifers, exacerbating water level declines. Commingling is especially concerning in the LUBGWMA, because down-hole flow can carry contamination from the surficial sedimentary aquifer into deeper basalt aquifers. This jeopardizes the water quality in basalt aquifers that would otherwise remain protected from surface contamination. Nitrate contamination in the LUBGWMA is well-documented and has resulted in the contamination of hundreds of drinking water wells.

Project Description:

The LUBGWMA contains many commingling wells in an aquifer system contaminated by nitrate pollution sources. OWRD has the authority to require landowners to repair, or abandon, wells that don't meet construction standards, including commingling wells, but repair and abandonment costs are expensive, ranging from tens of thousands to a few hundred thousand for larger irrigation wells. The extent and concentration of the nitrate contamination is variable, as is the willingness of landowners to participate in programs to monitor water quality or work on well repair issues.

This proposal seeks funding to hire a consulting firm to work with available well construction, well location, hydrogeological data, and water quality data from DEQ and OHA to identify areas with commingling wells

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that would most benefit from focused repair and abandonment efforts. Factors include well density, average well depths, type of well (domestic, irrigation, industrial) local hydrogeology, local nitrate concentrations in the aquifer(s) and from household sampling events, and opportunities for community well construction to provide uncontaminated water supply to multiple households. Additionally, to address the social aspects of the potential well repair work, the Department would contract with local non-profit organization(s) to assess public interest and willingness to participate in a well repair program and identify best practices in how to do so.

The work proposed here would be step one, assessing for opportunities to focus limited resources on well repairs or abandonments in strategic areas to maximize the benefits relative to the expenses, and at the same time assess the community's willingness to participate in such a program. Ignoring commingling wells allows the nitrate contamination to spread vertically into deeper aquifers, impacting more wells, decreasing future options for obtaining clean water, and making future solutions more expensive.

Opportunities for Collaboration:

Both Morrow and Umatilla Counties are active partners in the LUBGWMA. OWRD has worked extensively with DEQ, OHA, and ODA on LUBGWMA issues. OWRD recently inspected over 750 wellheads in the LUBGWMA to check for compliance with backflow prevention devices.

Alignment with Monsanto Settlement Agreement Terms:

The identification, repair and abandonment of commingling wells in the LUBGWMA will help minimize the spread of the nitrate contaminated groundwater through improperly constructed wells. This proposal will not repair or abandon any commingling wells but will provide the crucial assessment of identifying strategic areas in which to work as well as assessing the community's willingness to participate in a well repair/abandonment program. Repair or replacement of commingling wells with properly constructed wells can provide cleaner drinking water to community members.

Anticipated Outcomes:

If this phase of work is funded, OWRD anticipates assessing study results, and if the communities are willing to participate, seeking funds to begin well repair, or abandonment, and cost share funds for well replacement as needed.



# Memorandum

TO: Governor's Natural Resources Office  
FROM: Ivan Gall, Director, Oregon Water Resources Department  
CC: Copied Recipients  
DATE: May 13, 2026  
SUBJECT: OERF Proposal – Water Right Clean Up

The Oregon Water Resources Department proposes to use Agency Program Funds (APF) for a new statewide **Water Right Clean Up Program** for the **2027-29 biennium** that would pursue cancellation of water right certificates subject to forfeiture due to 5 years consecutive nonuse and water right permits past their completion date with no claim of beneficial use filed. This protects [ helps maintain and protect Oregon's water quality and wildlife habitat by ensuring the zombie rights do not result in additional withdrawals of water.

A shorter-term allocation of OERF funding would launch the program and target high priority areas. But a long-term initiative would better achieve the goals of maintaining water quality and protecting habitat.

## Requested APF Amount

OWRD requests a total of \$835K to launch and run the program for the 2027-29 biennium.

Item	Cost
NRS 4 Forfeiture Program Coordinator	\$300K
NRS 2 Certificates Caseworker	\$275K
Outreach and Education	\$10K
Department of Justice and Office of Administrative Hearings	\$250K
TOTAL	<b>\$835K</b>

## Project Description

Using a water right permit or certificate in accordance with the terms and conditions of a water right is a central tenant to water use authorizations (ORS 540.610(1)). The Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) is directed by Oregon law to pursue cancellation of perfected water rights eligible for forfeiture due to 5 or more consecutive years of nonuse. Nonuse may occur due to several reasons including circumstances preventing the use or an irrigator's decision not to put the water to beneficial use. Some reasons for nonuse may exempt or protect the right from cancellation. For permit, OWRD is to cancel permits over a year past their completion date unless the permit holder receives an extension. This work is important for several reasons, most notably it:

- Contributes to an accurate record of water rights crucial for water management, distribution and water planning; and
- Protects the rights of other water rights that are being put to beneficial use, including instream water rights which are often junior rights, by reducing the risk of revitalizing these rights that are subject to forfeiture

OWRD has not had the capacity to take on cancellation of water rights subject to forfeiture and has a backlog of permits past their completion date. The two staff positions and outreach dollars would significantly increase our capacity. Cancellation of water rights subject to forfeiture also requires funding for Department of Justice and Office of Administrative Hearings to follow the legal process outlined and statute and rule.

This project supports implementation of:

- 1) [Oregon's Integrated Water Resources Strategy](#) specifically:
  - a. Priority 1.2 Provide guidance for what constitutes reasonable use of water
  - b. Priority 1.5 Implement improvements to water permitting processes for transparency, efficiency, and effectiveness
  - c. Priority 3.5 Improve water right transfer processing times for lower risk transfers to facilitate the movement of water to high-priority use),
- 2) Executive Order 25-26
- 3) [OWRD's Strategic Plan](#)

Coordination and partnership will be needed for education and outreach efforts, including with tribes, local governments, Oregon State University Extension, and local Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

## Alignment with Terms of the Monsanto Settlement Agreement

Cleaning up the water right record to prevent revitalization of these “zombie” water rights helps maintain and protect Oregon’s water quality and wildlife habitat by ensuring the zombie rights do not result in additional withdrawals of water. In a limited number of basins, cancellation of larger rights may result in water being available to new allocations, such as instream water rights.

## Anticipated Outcomes

The primary outcome of this program would be a clean water right record of active water rights in a basin. A secondary benefit would be improvements to water regulation and distribution by watermaster staff allowing capacity for other work. Interim milestones to include:

- Development of outreach and engagement materials (e.g., informational videos, backflow demonstration systems, etc.)

- Program Implementation Plan that prioritizes areas for action
- Annual reporting on progress



# Memorandum

TO: Governor's Natural Resources Office  
FROM: Ivan Gall, Director, Oregon Water Resources Department  
CC: Copied Recipients  
DATE: May 13, 2026  
SUBJECT: OERF Proposal – Water Data Projects for Water Management

The Oregon Water Resources Department proposes to use Agency Program Funds (APF) for a new statewide **Water Data Projects for Water Management Data for this biennium through 2027-29 biennium.**

## Requested APF Amount

OWRD requests a total of \$850K. OWRD has significant needs to improve its data management, storage, quality, and accessibility. OWRD has three items that could move this work forward, which will be a multi-year effort: Data review project - ~\$25K to ~\$50K (over the next 2 years); Business Intelligence & ETL Analyst \$100K per year (prefer funding term of at least 4 years totaling \$400K); Business Analyst \$100K per year (prefer funding term of at least 4 years totaling \$400K).

## Project Description

OWRD proposes funds to be used to strengthen core data and IT capabilities through three targeted investments: a Data Review Project, Business Intelligence & ETL Analyst, and an ISS7 Business Analyst. These capabilities are essential for improving data quality, supporting modernization, and ensuring the agency can deliver accurate and reliable environmental information. The agency currently lacks several foundational IT functions needed to maintain dependable systems, produce high-quality data for water management. Investing in the project is critical as OWRD modernizes its core systems and strengthens its data systems to support water rights and management decision-making and regulation, including for instream flow purposes for water quality, supporting work in the LUBGWMA, proper well construction and backflow prevention to protect water quality and quantity, and other water management actions. Without the proposed work, the agency will continue to have challenges providing access to usable water right-related information relied upon by communities, partners, and policymakers across Oregon.

This project would help OWRD improve our access and usability of data via through three components outlined below.

- Data Review Project - The Data Review Project will involve a hiring a consultant to evaluate the quality, consistency, and completeness of existing datasets to ensure accurate reporting and informed decision-making. It will include identifying data gaps, validating datasets, and documenting findings to strengthen overall data integrity. The project will streamline data processes and establishes reliable data standards that will support future analysis, modernization efforts, and long-term environmental program outcomes. Components will

include: data quality assessment, data validation & gap analysis, documentation and standards development, recommendations and roadmap,

- ISS7 Business Intelligence & ETL Analyst – This position will build the data pipelines and reporting capabilities required for modernization and data-driven decision-making. This position will: develop and maintain data pipelines that support all agency reporting needs; improve water management decision-making through improving reporting and query tools for access to more accurate and timely data; enhance data management queries to ensure reliable, high-quality information for managing both instream and out-of-stream water resources.
- ISS7 Business Analyst - Create a formal requirements-gathering function to ensure accurate scoping and readiness for modernization projects. This position will: lead structured requirements gathering for data modernization initiatives; ensure projects are accurately scoped, aligned with program needs, and technically feasible; reduce project risk by improving clarity, documentation, and stakeholder alignment across programs.

This investment directly supports the agency’s modernization and data governance priorities, aligns with statewide cybersecurity and digital service improvement goals, and advances Executive Order 25-26, and the Integrated Water Resources Strategy, the OWRD Strategic Plan and IT Strategic Plan. This initial effort is primarily internal to put in place the internal infrastructure needed to provide services to internal and external data users. Improved data systems and infrastructure will enhance the ability to coordinate with state and federal agencies, Tribes, local governments, conservation organizations, and community-based partners.

### Alignment with Terms of the Monsanto Settlement Agreement

The proposed work strengthens the agency’s ability to protect fish habitats and protect human health through the use of data in the Department’s responsibilities to (1) evaluate impacts of new water rights on fish in coordination with DEQ and ODFW, (2) evaluate new proposals for instream water rights to protect fish and abate pollution, (3) regulation and distribution of water including to protect instream water rights established for fish and pollution abatement, (4) work with other agencies on water quality matters such as in the LUBGWMA, (5) work to prevent contamination through backflow prevention and proper well construction. This proposal would help the agency begin to make improvements to the data and data systems that underpin these programs.

### Anticipated Outcomes

The Council’s investment will allow the agency to build the core technical and analytical capacity needed for its water management actions. By establishing foundational functions in business analysis, project management, data integration, and data infrastructure engineering, the agency will be able to deliver more accurate water data, more reliable systems, and more effective oversight. This investment will result in modernized systems, improved data quality, standardized documentation, and secure, resilient infrastructure—creating a durable platform for water decision-making and long-term stewardship of natural resources. OWRD would be prepared to report to the Council and governance on accomplishments and could outline a clear schedule of milestones to ensure accountability, based on funding decisions.