



State Board of Agriculture Meeting Agenda

DATE	LOCATION	START TIME	END TIME
12/17/2024	State Board of Agriculture meeting (See below for details)	5:00 PM	6:30 PM
12/18/2024	State Board of Agriculture meeting (See below for details)	8:30 AM	5:00 PM
12/19/2024	State Board of Agriculture meeting (See below for details)	8:30 AM	12:00 PM

FACILITATOR	CONTACT EMAIL/Website	CONTACT PHONE
Karla Valness	karla.valness@oda.oregon.gov https://oda.direct/BoardAgriculture	503.986.4554

SCHEDULE

Tuesday, December 17, 2024			
ITEM	TIME	AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER
1	5:00 PM	Welcome and Board of Agriculture meeting call to order <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roll call/Introductions 	Elin Miller , Chair State Board of Agriculture
2	5:15 PM (75 min)	Local panel -- Seafood Commodity Commissions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yelena Nowak, Oregon Trawl Commission Crystal Adams, Oregon Crab Commission Ericka Carlson, Oregon Albacore Commission/Oregon Salmon Commission 	
	6:30 PM (90 min)	Informal Reception <i>The public is invited to join the Board of Agriculture members and ODA staff for a reception.</i> Location: Best Western Plus - Agate Beach Inn 3019 North Coast Highway Newport, OR 97365	

Contact Karla Valness for information regarding this agenda or to request ADA accommodations 48 hours advance notice please (503.986.4554).

Agenda subject to change

Wednesday, December 18, 2024

ITEM	TIME	AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER
3	8:30 AM (40 min)	Welcome and Board of Agriculture meeting call to order <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roll call/Introductions • Approval of minutes • Director’s report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ODA Strategic Plan Progress Report ○ ODA Program Area Reports 	Elin Miller , Chair State Board of Agriculture Lisa Charpiloz Hanson ODA Director
4	9:10 AM (30 min)	ODA’s Budget and Legislative Update	Jonathan Sandau Lindsay Eng ODA
5	9:40 AM (75 min)	Panel Discussion on Agricultural Worker Overtime <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Molly Pearmine McCargar, Owner/President, Pearmine Farms Inc. • Nargess Shadbeh, Farmworker Director, Oregon Law Center • Ira Cuello-Martinez, Policy & Advocacy Director, PCUN • Lesley Tamura, Tamura Orchards and Columbia Gorge Fruit Growers • Bobbi Harrold Frost, Harrold’s Dairy and President, Oregon Dairy Farmers Association 	
	10:55 AM (5 min)	Break	
6	11:00 AM (20 min)	Public Comment (See below for instructions)	
7	11:30 AM (30 min)	Oregon Ag Heritage Commission Application reviews and recommendations	Jonathan Sandau, ODA
	12:00 PM (60 min)	Lunch break <i>Lunch provided for Board of Ag members</i>	
8	1:00 PM (90 min)	Panel Discussion on Agri-tourism and Land Use <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peter Kenagy, Ag for Oregon • Barb Iverson, Wooden Shoe Tulip Farm • Samantha Bayer, Oregon Property Owners Association • Gordon Howard, Department of Land Conservation and Development 	
9	3:00 PM (90 min)	Afternoon site visit - Hatfield Marine Science Center (<i>for board members and staff</i>)	
	5:30 PM	Board Dinner for <i>Board members and ODA staff will gather for dinner. No Board business scheduled during dinner.</i>	

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Agenda subject to change

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Thursday, December 19, 2024

ITEM	TIME	AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER
	8:30 AM (5 min)	Welcome and Board of Agriculture meeting call to order <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Roll Call/Introductions	Elin Miller , Chair State Board of Agriculture
10	8:35 AM (15 min)	OSU College of Agricultural Sciences – Dean’s update	Staci Simonich , Dean
11	8:50 AM (75 min)	ODA collaboration with coastal agriculture, dairies, and fisheries.	Rusty Rock , ODA Dr. Ryan Scholz , ODA Erick Garman , ODA
	10:05 (10 min)	Break	
12	10:15 AM (15 min)	Public Comment (See below for instructions)	

13	10:30 AM (45 min)	Overview of Board of Agriculture Resolutions under review in 2025	Jonathan Sandau Isaak Stapleton Casey Prentiss ODA
14	11:15 AM (60 min)	Board Business <ul style="list-style-type: none">• OWEB report• Resolutions• Industry Report Update	Elin Miller , Chair State Board of Agriculture
	12:15 PM	Adjourn	

Next meeting: March 12-14, 2025 | Salem, OR

Public Comment

Written comments

All written comments received will be posted on the ODA website and will be provided to the Board in advance of the meeting. Submit your written comments by email to: Karla Valness at karla.valness@oda.oregon.gov by **5:00 PM on Wednesday, November 27, 2024**.

Verbal comments – Remote

Verbal comments are limited to three minutes and will be heard in the public comment period on Wednesday, December 17, 2024, and on Thursday, December 18, 2024. To provide verbal comment remotely, you must contact Karla Valness at karla.valness@oda.oregon.gov by **5:00 pm on Wednesday, November 27, 2024**, and provide the following information:

- Date you plan to provide verbal comments (December 16 or December 17)
- Your first and last name
- The topic of your comment

Contact Karla Valness for information regarding this agenda or to request ADA accommodations.

48 hours advance notice please (503.986.4554)

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- The telephone number you will be using when calling the meeting

Verbal comments – In-person

To provide verbal comments in-person you must sign-up, prior to the comment period on the agenda, at the meeting and provide your name and organization. If you have written material as part of your public comment, please provide the board assistant with 20 copies prior to your testimony. Comment time is limited to three minutes per person.

See below for meeting location and call-in details.

Meeting Details

Oregon State Board of Agriculture Quarterly Meeting

In-person	Remote
Best Western Plus - Agate Beach Inn 3019 North Coast Highway Newport, OR 97365	Microsoft Teams meeting Join on your computer, mobile app or room device Click here to join the meeting Meeting ID: 242 925 470 66 Passcode: 2GnnM5 Download Teams Join on the web Or call in (audio only) +1 503-446-4951,,136340793# United States, Portland Phone Conference ID: 136 340 793#

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Agenda subject to change

*Agenda Item number 02 – Panel Discussion - Seafood Commissions
December 17-19, 2024, Board Meeting.*

MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture

From: Karla Valness, Senior Policy Advisor

Subject: Agenda Item number 02 – Panel Discussion – Oregon Albacore Commission, Oregon Crab Commission, Oregon Salmon Commission, Oregon Trawl Commission

I. Introduction

This panel of Executive Directors and/or fishers from the Oregon Albacore Commission, Oregon Crab Commission, Oregon Salmon Commission, and the Oregon Trawl Commission will provide an overview of each commission and discuss industry topics and successes.

- Yelena Nowak, Oregon Trawl Commission
- Crystal Adams, Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission
- Ericka Carlson, Oregon Albacore Commission/Oregon Salmon Commission (remote)

II. Background

The Oregon Department of Agriculture provides oversight to the 22 Oregon Commodity Commissions led by ODA Program Manager Eric Morris. The Commodity Commissions are established at the request of growers in statute for the purpose of non-branded promotion, research and education funded by commodity assessments and are considered quasi-state agencies.

The Director appoints approximately 60-70 commissioners annually to fill the more than 200+ commissioner positions. The Director also approves the annual budgets for each commission.

The earliest commission was established in 1943 as the Oregon Dairy Products Commission with the newest established in 2021 as the Oregon Hemp Commission.

[Oregon Commodity Commission Contact List](#)



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Bryan Ostlund, Administrator

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Bryan Ostlund, Administrator

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*Agenda Item number 03 – ODA Director’s Report
December 17-19, 2024, Board Meeting.*

MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture

From: Karla Valness, Senior Policy Advisor

Subject: Agenda Item number 03 – ODA Director’s Report

I. Introduction

Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson will give a quarterly update on issues, successes and activities from the ODA. Included with her report will be a quarterly update on the ODA’s Strategic Plan and ODA’s Division Area Updates.

II. Background

ODA Strategic Plan

The [2024-2027 Oregon Department of Agriculture strategic plan](#) was finalized in June 2024. The plan includes an updated mission, vision, core values, and an equity statement.

Vision: A resilient tomorrow for generations to come.

Mission: **Protect. Promote. Prosper.** We safeguard Oregon’s agriculture, natural resources, working lands, economies, and communities through assistance, compliance, and market support.

The ODA plan has outlined three strategic goals.

- Goal 1: Organizational Excellence
- Goal 2: Modernization
- Goal 3: Customer-Focused Service

ODA Organization Chart

Attached for your reference is the agency organization chart effective October 1, 2024.

ODA Division Area Updates

See attached quarterly updates from each Division Area. This quarterly update is organized by the new Division areas.

ODA 2024 Customer Service Survey

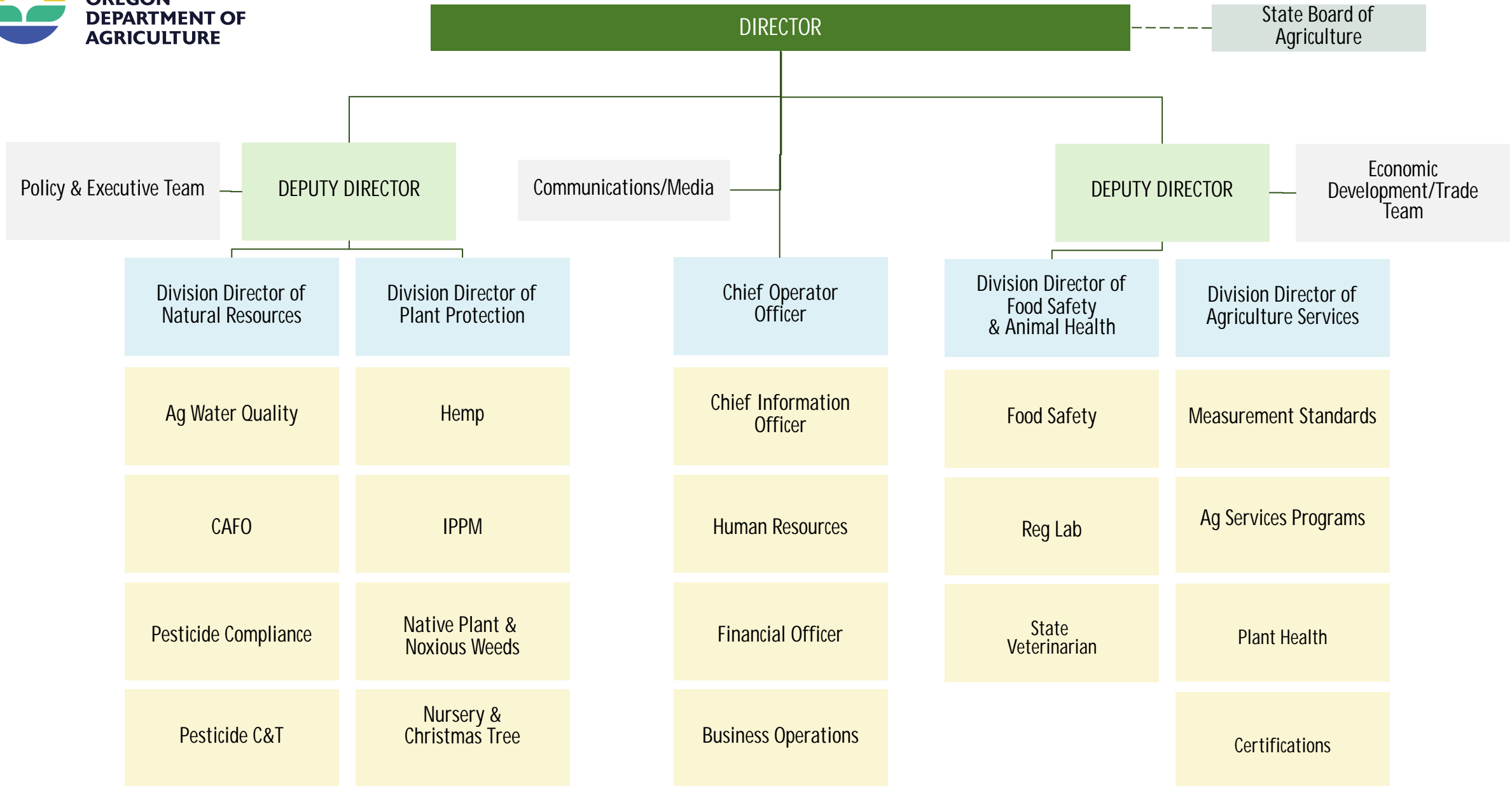
As part of the ODA Key Performance Measures, an annual customer survey is completed. The results of the 2024 survey are attached.

2024 Government to Government Report

The attached report is a summary of the 2024 government to government interactions with the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon.



**OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE**





OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE

2024-2027 Strategic Plan

Quarterly Report
to the Board
December 2024



Strategic Organization:

Aligning our programs to the mission of our agency



The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) provides diverse services to support Oregon's agricultural community. By aligning programs to share knowledge and resources, we enhance service delivery to meet evolving needs.

In October 2024, ODA established the Agriculture Service Division and adopted a two-Deputy Director structure, marking a key step in aligning operations with our mission. These changes signify the beginning of continued improvements, ensuring ODA remains a responsive and effective partner to agriculture and all Oregonians.

Expanding Language Accessibility:

Improving inclusivity and equitable access to information



ODA is committed to increasing access by expanding translation services. Translating licenses, press releases, and other communications ensures all Oregonians can engage with our programs. This ongoing effort reflects our dedication to inclusivity and equitable access. Recent improvements include providing materials in multiple languages, enhancing outreach and understanding. ODA will continue prioritizing language accessibility to meet the needs of Oregon's diverse agricultural community.

Advancing IT and Modernization: Foundational improvements to set up a future ready ODA



Advancing IT modernization through improved help desk processes, network upgrades, and critical system enhancements, ODA is building a strong foundation for smoother internal operations. These efforts support smoother internal operations and ensure staff have the tools needed to serve Oregonians effectively. By prioritizing these upgrades, ODA is laying the groundwork for sustained technological progress, enabling greater efficiency, adaptability, and alignment with our mission to deliver exceptional service across Oregon’s agricultural community.

Engaged AGGIES: Fostering engagement to empower ODA employees



Engaging AGGIES through monthly all-staff meetings, manager retreats, and executive team strategic sessions is a cornerstone of the strategic plan. These initiatives promote collaboration, transparency, and alignment with our mission. By cultivating spaces for dialogue and shared purpose, ODA strengthens its organizational culture, ensuring every team member is equipped to contribute effectively.

These efforts demonstrate our commitment to empowering staff and achieving our strategic goals through collective engagement and strong leadership.

Strategic Goals



Vision of Resiliency



Customer-Focused

































Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging



Engaged AGGIES



Modernization

							
Goal 1: Organizational Excellence	1.1	Mission-Driven Agency					
	1.2	Accountability					
	1.3	Business Continuity					
Goal 2: Modernization	2.1	Cloud-First Technology Strategy					
	2.2	Modernize Legacy Systems					
Goal 3: Customer-Focused Service	3.1	Evaluate Services					
	3.2	Focus on Interaction					
	3.3	Continuous Improvement of Service					

Oregon Department of Agriculture Program Reports
Prepared for: State Board of Agriculture
Meeting date: December 17-19, 2024

Food Safety and Animal Health & ID Division

Rusty Rock, Division Director, rusty.rock@oda.oregon.gov 503-508-2262

• **Food Safety General Update**

- Food Safety program staff continue to reduce the inspection backlog. Overdue inspections are defined as those inspections that are more than 90 days beyond their due date. The backlog numbers have trended down from a peak of 4,943 in July of 2021, to the current 2,163.
- The Cottage Food Exemption (SB 643) have continued to keep us busy this year. We've noticed an uptick in complaints related to unlicensed vendors, sanitary handling, and labeling concerns.
- Food Safety has been a big focus in the national media with sanitary handling issues related to pathogenic bacteria (i.e.. Boar's Head).

• **Retail and Manufactured Foods**

- We have kicked off our 2024-25 FDA contract workload will be 110 GMP, 42 full scope PC, 9 acidified food, and 9 seafood HACCP inspections. The trend continues to be downward on contract work per our requests of FDA. For reference, in 2013 ODA conducted over 700 contract inspections.
- We promoted Lauren Jones from our field staff to be the Retail Program Manager. The candidate pool for the job posting was over 60 qualified candidates.

• **Dairy Program**

- We continue to work with our State Veterinarian and follow their office's updates on the highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) in dairy cattle. We have seen no cases in Oregon.
- Our field staff will continue to practice comprehensive biosecurity practices every time they are conducting farm inspections and or collecting samples. Our goal is to minimize the risk of disease transmission among livestock.

• **Shellfish and Crab Program**

- The early Domoic Acid (DA) results leading into the preseason crab testing have been promising.
- By the time we share this report out we will know if the DA and 'crab fill' have met the levels needed for ODFW to collaborate with the California and Washington crab commission to evaluate the opening of the fishing areas on the west coast.

• **State Meat Inspection (SMI)**

- The program continues to see a lot of success in providing education and outreach to local producers. Our resource availability model provides both a direct path to inspection by state personnel or an indirect pathway to consultation to achieve realization of a federal grant of inspection.
- ODA has a Program Option Package proposed for the next session to add language to the SMI enabling statute to include adoption of the federal poultry regulatory requirements.

• **Animal Health**

- We have no indications of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) positive dairy cattle in Oregon.
- The nations supply of pasteurized milk is safe as the HPAI virus is deactivated through the processing temperatures. Oregon does not have a substantial raw milk marketplace, so we are insulated from that potential route of spread.
- The AH program has been working with our dairy industry partners and USDA to evaluate the implementation of a HPAI source milk sampling model. The intent of this sampling process would be to enable a more rapid response to positive cases and minimize exposure. Monitoring tests are sensitive enough to pick up the virus at early onset within a matter of days, instead of traditional observational responses that are dependent on decreased herd production or widespread expression of symptoms over weeks. There are federal funding programs available to minimize or eliminate the cost of sampling, transportation, and testing.

- We continue to see HPAI impacts in both our commercial and backyard poultry endeavors. The sub-strain of virus is different than the one impacting cattle, indicating that the ‘spill over’ dairy cattle infection is a single point source mutation that originated in Texas.
- The Animal Rescue Entity continues to function under the fee supported budgetary model. The Commercial Feed program has split personnel to allow for more efficient virtual and record review processes to minimize costs while maintaining regulatory oversight. Complaints are still investigated, and a pathway exists to enable in-person work based on virtual record review preceding on-site visits.
- **Lab Services**
 - The regulatory lab continues to keep up with the testing workload provided by the various ODA programs. The relocation process has transitioned to settling in and adjusting to the new space by refining processes and looking for efficiencies.
 - The ODA regulatory lab and the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission (OLCC) personnel are meeting regularly, chemist positions have been filled, and equipment has been delivered that will allow our lab to act as the OLCC reference lab for cannabis product testing. The scope of work continues to be refined as needs are continually emerging such as new cannabinoids of concern identified and sample submittals processes suggested. Once the equipment is installed and set up, we will begin on the process of method development.

Agriculture Services Division

Casey Prentiss, Division Director, casey.prentiss@oda.oregon.gov 541-212-3361

The Agriculture Services Division was established to bring ODA's field service programs together at the urging of industry across the state. By increasing collaboration amongst our current programs, we can increase efficiency, improve customer service, and create positions that work across program and division lines. As of October 1, the following programs are now included in the Agriculture Services Division: Certification, Livestock Identification, Plant Health, Produce Safety, Seed Regulatory, Shipping Point Inspection, Smoke Management, and Weights and Measures.

Many of these programs have a long history of working together to assist Oregon’s agricultural producers and businesses to successfully sell and ship products to local, national, and international markets as well as providing regulatory oversight, and technical assistance. Incorporating Livestock Identification and Weights and Measures brings additional resources, staff, and expertise to the team, broadening the scope of services and opportunities for collaboration.

The programs within Agriculture Services are more alike than they are different, with most focusing on providing inspection, verification, and certification services in one way or another. This transition is an opportunity to further break down boundaries between programs, cross-train staff, and create new types of positions state-wide. The hope is that these positions will be more attractive to perspective staff – full-time, year-round work, benefits – and will enable us to hire and retain staff across the state, especially in underserved communities. This is a unique opportunity for all of us to work cooperatively together as we transition to the new Agriculture Services Division to help the industries we serve, the agency, and our staff.

- **Agriculture Services Division updates**

- The automated grading facility at Lamb-Weston in Hermiston is expected to be up and running by mid-December.
- The Motor Fuel Quality program (as of September 30) has completed 3970 fuel storage tank inspections; 83 tanks had measurable water. Thirty-four of these were issued pump out orders for exceeding the allowed limit which is either 1/4” or 1” depending on the type of fuel.
- Weights and Measures is on track to complete inspection of the ~50,000 devices they test annually.
- Plant Health has completed their field inspection season, inspecting over 21,000 acres in 22 counties throughout the state.

Natural Resource Division

Isaak Stapleton, Division Director, isaak.stapleton@oda.oregon.gov 503-931-5608

The following updates are organized by operating process in our process management system and cover all NRPA programs. In addition to the updates below, we continue to have turnover across the programs and are in various stages of recruitment. This will continue to be a major focus for all programs for the remainder of the biennium and we are excited to be able to bring on new staff.

- **Fostering collaboration**

Pesticide Program:

- Children are more sensitive than adults to the potential toxic effects of pesticides. To protect our children, Oregon law requires extra precautions and restrictions when pesticides are used on a school campus. In recent years, non-compliance rates have been high in our school Integrated Pest Management (IPM) focused inspections, when compared to other types of inspections that we conduct. To help address the non-compliance the Pesticides Program has had an increased emphasis on compliance assistance and increasing partnerships.

In terms of compliance assistance, so far in 2024, ODA investigative/enforcement staff presented on the school IPM law at ten 2024 OSU School IPM Coordinator Trainings around the state. Nine of these trainings took place between June to August. In addition, the Team continues to work on a special project, as time allows, creating “school IPM law modules” (basically short ~5-10 minutes, narrated PowerPoints focused on the law requirements). These modules are posted on YouTube for school IPM coordinators and other school staff. The goal is to provide short, recorded free trainings so they will be able to access them all year round (e.g., refresher or say new staff start/onboarding). The Team is also working to have the videos available in Spanish. The modules may be viewed at:

<https://oda.fyi/IPMSchoolsPlaylist>

- The Pesticides Program also continues to work closely with partners such as Oregon State University (OSU) and Oregon Department of Education (ODE) on increasing awareness on the school Integrated Pest Management (IPM) law. ODA, OSU, and ODE plan to meet in the December to discuss the 2025 OSU trainings. In addition, the group will be joined by Department of Early Learning and Care (DELCC) this year to further collaborations and partnerships.
- The Pesticides Program is working closely with OSU, Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA), and Compliance Services International (CSI) to gather and provide feedback to EPA on the Endangered Species Act pesticide strategies. OSU, WSDA, and CSI reviewed a Western IPM Center grant to organize listening sessions in Oregon and Washington under the project titled *Implementation of Endangered Species Act Pesticide Mitigations: Developing Localized Solutions for Diverse Cropping Systems in Washington and Oregon*. The Pesticide Stewardship Partnership Coordinator was involved throughout the project, and several ODA staff attended the final workshop in mid-May to synthesize the feedback from the four previous workshops. WSDA, OSU, CSI applied for additional funding to continue these efforts. Funding has been secured and the group is planning to hold additional listening sessions in the spring of 2025. The ODA Pesticides Program plans to continue being involved.

Ag Water Quality Program:

- The Ag Water Quality Program has had significant staff changes over the last three years and is now fully staffed; Approximately 2/3 of the staff are new within the last three years. We are working on consistent messaging and developing an updated Water Quality Program Strategic Plan to help guide the program and staff.
- On October 23, 2024, the Ag Water Quality Program held the Lower Umatilla Basin Ground Water Management (LUBGWMA) Area Strategic Implementation Area (SIA) Open House. The LUB GWMA SIA is the first SIA that the Ag Water Quality Program is implementing with a ground water focus. Approximately 20 landowners attended the Open House, and we had Spanish interpretation available. The Open House provided an overview of the SIA process, shared the results of an and evaluation of conditions, provided an opportunity for questions, and an opportunity to meet individually with staff to review the evaluation.

- Digitized Reporting - The Ag Water Quality Program has a new process for digitized reporting from Soil and Water Conservation Districts. This process is in place for reporting progress related to SIAs and will be in place for the 2025-2027 biennium for SWCD Scopes of Work.
- Yaquina Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Community Meeting - On November 7, 2024, the Water Quality Program held a Yaquina TMDL Implementation Plan community meeting. The purpose of the community meeting was to get local input for the Agriculture Implementation Plan. Approximately 10 landowners attended, and the and worked with the landowners to discuss how to address the agricultural connections to the TMDL. The Water Quality Program will be holding community meetings for the implementation plans for each new TMDL. In addition, the temperature replacement TMDLs for the Sandy, Willamette Mainstem, Willamette Tributaries, and Umpqua areas will require TMDL implementation plans by 2026.
- ODA and DEQ continue the efforts to collaborate to develop coordinated review and harmonization of point source NPDES and WPCF Permits jointly issued by agencies and point source NPDES and WPCF Permits issued solely by DEQ.
- Agricultural Water Quality Program Advisory Committee –The Ag Water Quality Program Advisory Committee met on November 6, 2024. This committee includes representatives from several agricultural, conservation, and environmental interest groups. It also includes representatives from several state and federal agencies. The purpose of this meeting is to receive input from key stakeholders and partners regarding program priorities. The main topics of this meeting were updates on the Water Quality Program strategic plan that is in progress and upcoming Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and TMDL Implementation Plans.
- Soil and Water Conservation District Director Elections – ODA has a position in the Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) program that acts as the SWCD Election’s Clerk. There are currently two hundred seventy-five (275) Director positions for the forty-five (45) SWCD’s throughout the thirty-six (36) counties of the state of Oregon. One hundred eighty-three (183) positions were open for the 2024 General Election, with one hundred fifty-two (152) eligible nominees filed to be listed on the ballot. There will be a minimum of thirty-seven (37) new directors with the possibility of up to a total of sixty-six (66) new directors as the result of contested positions and positions that will be become vacant because no nominees filed for the position.

- **Permits, Registrations, and Notifications**

- *Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO):*

- On October 31, 2024, ODA and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) have issued a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) individual permit to J-S Ranch in Linn County, Oregon, following a review and consideration of public comments.

Previously, J-S Ranch was permitted under a general Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) permit. J-S Ranch's registration to the CAFO WPCF general permit, with conditions, occurred in May 2022. ODA and DEQ withdrew the WPCF permit under ORS 183.484(4) for reconsideration. This issued NPDES individual permit is the ODA's and DEQ's decision on reconsideration.

J-S Ranch is an Individual Tier 2, dry-waste, chicken production CAFO proposing to confine up to 566,400 broiler chickens at a time. The permittee is Eric Simon, dba J-S Ranch. The permittee's mailing address is 34905 Ranch Drive in Brownsville, OR 97327, and the phone number is (541) 990-5999. The proposed operation location is 37225 Jefferson Scio Drive in Scio, OR 97374, in Linn County.

The CAFO NPDES Individual Permit issued to J-S Ranch regulates the manure, litter, and process wastewater generated by J-S Ranch to ensure that CAFO activities do not harm water quality. This permit does not allow discharges or land application activities of generated manure, litter, or process wastewater. The storage, disposal, discharge, or emission of the permitted substances has remained the same since the last permitting action for this facility.

Pesticides Program:

- The Pesticides Program has entered its renewal season for pesticide applicator licenses and pesticide product registrations. Each year, in mid-November, the program begins accepting applications for the renewal of licenses and applications for the upcoming calendar year. All pesticide applicator licenses, except Private Applicator Licenses which expire every 5 years, must be renewed before work can continue into the new year, so most licensees submit their renewals before the new year, to avoid licensing gaps. The Pesticides Program licenses approximately 14,000 applicators.

Similarly, any pesticide product offered for sale or distribution in Oregon must be registered with the Pesticides Program. Every product registration expires at the end of each calendar year and must be renewed if the product will continue to be offered for sale or distribution within the state. Products without any changes can be auto-renewed – products with amendments to their labeling must be reviewed by program staff. The pesticides program registers approximately 15,300 products.

Fertilizer Program:

- Like the Pesticides Program, the Fertilizer Program has entered its renewal season for Fertilizer product registrations. Each year, in mid-November, the program begins accepting applications for the renewal of fertilizer products for the upcoming calendar year. All fertilizer product registrations must be registered in order for them to be sold in Oregon. The Fertilizer Program licenses approximately 12,000 products.

• **Providing Compliance and Technical Assistance**

Confined Animal Feeding Operation Program:

- On July 27th, at the end of the 2023 Oregon State Legislative Session, Governor Tina Kotek signed Senate Bill 85 (SB85) into law, amending sections of [ORS 468B](#) and [ORS 537.545](#). The chief sponsor of the bill was Senator Jeff Golden, Chair of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources. SB85 created several new requirements and definitions for the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) confined animal feeding operation (CAFO) program and necessitated a rulemaking to incorporate these changes. The reopening of the rules to address SB85 also provided an opportunity for ODA to holistically reassess its rules, including correcting and updating outdated or confusing language, reworking the definition of a "CAFO" to give more clarity to producers who would be subject to the CAFO program, and more. ODA rules incorporating these changes were adopted on September 25th, 2024, amending [OAR 603-074](#).
- ODA in partnership with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD), has launched an educational outreach effort to inform Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) permittees about the updates stemming from Senate Bill 85.

The outreach, often referred to as the "SB 85 Roadshow," kicked off on October 23, 2024, with a hybrid event at the ODA headquarters in Salem. This initial session served as a statewide overview, with both in-person and virtual attendance options. Over 485 CAFO permittees were invited, alongside representatives from ODA, DEQ, and OWRD, setting the tone for the series of targeted regional meetings.

There are additional in person meetings being held around the state. To date there have been meetings in Willowcreek, The Malheur OSU Extension Office, Redmond, and Hermiston. Additional meetings will be held at the OCA convention on 12/6, Klamath Falls OSU Extension Center 12/18, Coquille date TBD, and Tillamook date TBD.

Ag Water Quality Program:

- The Ag Water Quality Program works with the SWCDs to provide technical assistance to landowners. Each SWCD (45) has a Scope of Work that outlines work that they will do to help implement the Ag Water Quality Program as a Local Management Agency. In early October, Ag Water Quality Program staff attended the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts annual meeting/conference and led two sessions; 1) was an ODA Water Quality Program

update and interactive SWOT (Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) to help inform an update to the Ag Water Quality Program Strategic Plan, and 2) a coordinated session with Oregon Department of Environmental Quality on Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) and TMDL Implementation Plans. The Ag Water Quality Program has agreed to development of TMDL Implementation Plans for any new TMDLs that are adopted and approved. To date, this includes the Willamette Mercury TMDL. To note, the Willamette Mercury TMDL Implementation was approved by DEQ in the fall of 2024. TMDLs in process include the Yaquina, Powder, Sandy, Willamette Subbasins and Mainstem, Umpqua, Rogue, and John Day TMDLs.

- Since 2014, the Ag Water Quality Program has initiated 52 Strategic Implementation Areas (SIA). Through the SIA process, over 1,750,000 acres and over 8,000 stream miles have been evaluated. The Ag Water Quality Program has reached out to over 8,000 landowners to inform them of the Ag Water Quality Program, Water Quality Rules, and work with the landowners to address any water quality concerns that were observed during evaluations in the SIAs.

Pesticide Program:

- Pesticide Program staff continue to answer technical assistance questions from the public on licensing requirements, label interpretations, school IPM law, and other pesticide related questions via phone and email. During the Fall and Winter, the program has already received multiple in-person presentation requests for applicator certification training courses. Topics that are commonly presented on are Laws and Regulation Updates plus “Lessons Learned” presentations from Pesticide Investigators. In November 2024 the program also had a booth and provided information at OSHA’s fourth conference covering occupational safety and health conference offered completely in Spanish, plus a booth at OFS Annual Conference.
- Pesticide licensing & certification team is continuing to work with OSU and other groups (including Hood River SWCD and WSDA) to expand testing and education opportunities to pesticide users. The team continues to work to update the English version of the Oregon Pesticide Addendum, which is used as study material for several license types. When those updates are completed, the Spanish version of the Oregon Addendum will also be made publicly available for the first time. ODA staff will be participating at the Hood River SWCD’s “Spanish Private Pesticide Applicator’s License Exam Preparation Class” which is another collaborative project between OSU, WSDA, the Hood River SWCD, and ODA.
- OSU is looking to form industry partnerships to help leverage grant funding to better support pesticide applicators and keeping the ODA team apprised of the conversations. The team is working with the Hood River SWCD to expand their capacity to offer exams in the area. ODA continues to work closely with WSDA to share resources and learn from WSDA’s program where possible.

● **Conducting Inspections, Investigations & Enforcement**

Pesticide Program

- The Pesticides Enforcement Program continues to follow-up on misuse complaints through the year to investigate possible violations of the state’s Pesticide Control Act. The number of complaints typically decrease in the late Fall and the program then shifts to conducting routine compliance monitoring. The compliance monitoring includes activities such as marketplace inspections of retailers and distributors (ensuring products are registered for sale or distribution in Oregon, labeled properly, and not being offered for sale in leaking/broken packages), record inspections of pesticide applicators and pesticide dealers (e.g. ensuring complete records, products used properly, and correct licensing for activity), and school IPM inspections to ensure compliance with Oregon’s school IPM law.
- The Pesticides Enforcement Program also continues to keep a focus on its enforcement case load to help prevent any backlogs into the future after making significant progress in reducing its enforcement case backlog (i.e., cases not in the investigation phase, but are in the review/enforcement phase). In previous years, the program faced a large enforcement backlog that took years to address. This increased effort was started in the 2020 fiscal year and continued to the beginning of the 2023 fiscal year. Significant progress was made on the enforcement backlog during this time. During fiscal years 2020-2022 the program closed over 300 more cases than it initiated. In the first part of

fiscal year 2023, the program saw the end of the enforcement backlog. The result shows that during fiscal year 2023, cases being submitted by investigators (after an investigation was completed) were receiving reviews within a short time frame. To assess this time frame, a new metric was created in early 2021 that looked at the turnaround time from when an investigator completes a case and the time the case is either closed or all enforcement actions are issued. With a goal of 90 days, the program saw an average percent of around 68% of the cases meeting that goal during the 2022 fiscal year, 87% meeting that goal in the 2023 fiscal year, and for the 2024 fiscal year the percentage was 94%. The program is excited to have addressed the backlog and improve turnaround time.

- Hiring and Onboarding continues in the Pesticides Program. The program welcomed a new Enforcement Case Reviewer in September and will be welcoming a new Investigator based out of Ontario, Oregon in December. Onboarding and training have continued throughout the summer for the two newer investigators based out of Salem that started in April.

Ag Water Quality Program:

- The Ag Water Quality Program conducts investigations based on complaints, agency notification, and observations of concerns to address potential violations of the Agricultural Water Quality Rules. There are 83 active investigations including 56 that have been initiated in 2024. Since August 1, 2024, 14 new investigations have been initiated; 4 from public complaint, 2 from other agencies, and 8 from ODA observation. During this time period there were 15 letters of compliance, 13 Water Quality Advisories, and 4 Notices of Noncompliance. All 4 Notices of Noncompliance for agricultural impacts to streamside vegetation or for preventing streamside vegetation from establishing.

- **Providing Customer Support and Resolving Inquiries**

Pesticides Program:

- The Pesticides Program continues to work on increasing the number of outreach materials and application forms available in Spanish and is also undergoing an internal review of existing materials to help prioritize timely reviews and translations into the future since the team has increased in the number of bilingual staff within the program during the past year.

Ag Water Quality and CAFO Program

- Both the AGWQ and CAFO programs have continued to receive and respond to inquiries from the Environmental Protection Agency and the media regarding work completed in support of the Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area (LUB GWMA). The AGWQP is working in collaboration with local the Umatilla and Morrow Soil and Water Conservation Districts to ensure consistent tracking and reporting of actions completed in support of the 2020 LUB GWMA Action Plan.

Plant Protection & Conservation Division

Chris Benemann, Division Director, chris.benemann@oda.oregon.gov 503-986-4636

- **Hemp Program**

- **Presumptive Testing Rules were filed as permanent** (603-048-1001, 603-048-8011, 603-048-8021, 603-048-8031, 603-048-8041). A hemp rules public comment hearing is scheduled for mid-November and will cover a change to **603-048-0125(7)(b)**, which corrected a mistake where the word “trimming” was inserted instead of the intended words, “kief-related activities”.
- A definition of the word, “contiguous” is anticipated to be added to **603-048-0010**, as referenced by **(41)** in the definition of a “production area”. This will clarify details of what barriers create separate production areas.
- **Inspections and pre-harvesting testing:** Inspections of licensed grower operations and compliance sampling concluded in mid-October. The OLCC continues to assist the Hemp Program by testing those samples. Testing is anticipated to be completed by 11/15/24. Of samples already tested, 88% passed for THC potency. Those which tested as presumptive marijuana have resulted in one field detainment and multiple cannabis waste disposal requests processed.

- **Insect Pest Prevention and Management Program (IPPM)**

- **Emerald ash borer:** As follow up to treatment and management plans in the 2024 field season, target trees have been felled and are being debarked to look for signs of EAB. This data will inform if current plans to slow the spread are working and how to proceed in 2025.
- **Vine Mealybug (VMB):** Final requests for treatment reimbursements are being processed. ODA was allotted State funds to reimburse vineyards in quarantined areas for VMB to apply treatments.
- **Apple Maggot:** In cooperation with USDA APHIS PPO, ODA hosted agricultural visitors from the Australian Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries to showcase ODA and industry efforts to protect apple production within the Milton Freewater area. Australian government is interested in opening their market to PNW grown apples.
- **Japanese Beetle:** Current funding will only support the program through the end of June 2025, however the program continues to make strong progress. The ODA placed 10,272 traps for Japanese beetle (JB) in 2024 and 5,458 beetles were trapped. This was a 15% reduction from the number of beetles trapped in 2023. Most of the catches in 2024, as in 2023, were from a single U-pick blueberry farm located within the existing treatment area. Approximately 76% of the total catches in 2024 were from this single location (4,112 JB from in and around the U-pick farm vs. 1,346 JB from outside the U-pick farm infestation). By comparison in 2023 there were 5,300 JB caught in and around the blueberry farm and 1,099 JB caught outside of the blueberry farm. This treatment area is within an urban residential neighborhood, and the U-pick farm is located within the center of that residential neighborhood. No JB were detected in nurseries within or near treatment areas. Treatment: Main and satellite treatment areas are within Washington and Multnomah Counties. ODA treated properties including residential areas and businesses, schools on weekends, parks, and golf courses in Portland Parks. The treated areas in 2024 (~1,300 acres) have reduced from a peak of ~4,200 ac in 2021. The current treatment area for 2025 is estimated to be approximately 1,000 acres.
- **Native Plant Conservation Program**
 - The Oregon Native Seed Strategy is complete and will be published in January 2025. This project was funding through SB5709 passed in 2024, as part of the Natural Working Lands initiative (NWL).
 - Program has been making consistent and deliberate efforts to engage with tribal partners.
 - A tribal grant program opened on November 22nd and will make available \$125,000 in January 2025 to help tribes pursue and achieve native plant conservation goals.
 - Finalizing improvements to permitting process that include a new online permitting system to increase efficiency and accessibility for permittees and the agency. Launch in early 2025.
 - Creating online “Partner Hub” that will serve as repository and access point for partners and stakeholders to access native plant project data and species information through a secure, password-protected database. Launch in early 2025.
 - Hosted an interactive booth at Oregon State Fair to promote awareness of T&E plants in Oregon. 2024 was first time the program was represented at the fair.
- **Noxious Weed Control Program**
 - Executed 5-year agreement with US Forest Service to bring on ODA staff to assist with Burned Area Recovery in wildfire affected areas. Recruitment in early 2025.
 - Completed successful recruitment for the first of two Rangeland Health Specialists to engage with partners to implement Invasive Annual Grass projects and promote Climate Smart ag practices. Onboarding December 2nd, 2024.
 - Hosting Interagency Noxious Weed Symposium in December 2024. Provides continuing education credits to practitioners from public and private sectors across the state.
 - Hosting special tribal luncheon during symposium to engage with tribal partners and explore the importance of storytelling in conservation. Facilitated by Dr. Jennifer Grenz, an Ecologist and Indigenous Scholar at the University of British Columbia
 - Issued RFP for statewide assessment of aquatic invasive weeds to identify priority species, identify data gaps, define agency and partner needs to implement management and inform long-term strategy.
 - Oregon State Weed Board Grant Program opened in October for proposals to fund 2025 work. Will award over \$1 million in February 2025.
 - Secured \$100,000 to conduct joint project with the ODA Native Plant Program to conduct research and improve habitat for Cook’s lomatium, a state-listed species.
- **Nursery & Christmas Tree Program**

- **Phytophthora ramorum Program:** Mitigation activities took place a newly confirmed positive nursery in Clackamas County. Fall compliance inspected surveys have been completed. Two nurseries have pending results.
- **Phytophthora austrocedri:** Destruction demarcation completed at two positive nurseries, one each in Washington and Clackamas counties. USDA APHIS PPQ is in process of deregulation and regulatory authority will be transferred to state.
- **Christmas Tree Advisory Committee:** Two new members have been added to the committee and were appointed by Director Charpilloz Hanson.
- **Christmas Tree shipping** has been smooth with no issues noted. Mexico and Canada continue to be the largest importers of Oregon grown trees.

Policy and Executive Team

Jonathan Sandau, Deputy Director, jonathan.sandau@oda.oregon.gov 503-385-5027

• Ag Workforce Housing Grant

- ODA continues to work with Oregon OSHA (OR-OSHA) and the Governor's Office regarding HB 2001, Section 67, which mandates ODA to administer \$5,000,000 in grants to improve health and safety in existing agricultural workforce housing. OR-OSHA filed proposed rules October 2024. ODA has filed temporary rules to implement this grant and will be opening the first round of open application period for 60 days before the end of the year. Contact: Sunny Summers, sunny.summers@oda.oreogn.gov 503-986-4565.

• Wolf Depredation and Prevention Grant

- By the end of this year, counties are required to submit reports detailing the expenditure of funds allocated through the Wolf Depredation Compensation and Financial Assistance Grant Program. Additionally, a new grant cycle is set to open in February, offering an opportunity for counties to secure continued support under the program for the coming year. Contact: Sunny Summers, sunny.summers@oda.oreogn.gov 503-986-4565

Agricultural Economic and Trade Development

Lindsay Eng, Deputy Director, lindsay.eng@oda.oregon.gov, 971-375-1800

Agriculture Economic and Trade Development Program

• Farm to School Activities

- ODA Director, Lisa Charpilloz Hanson, participated in the second annual Oregon Crunch at Once to celebrate Oregon's Farm to School Program. Director Charpilloz Hanson, and Barbara Boyer, Soil and Water Commission Chair, participated in the event at Luckiamute Valley Charter School, in Dallas Oregon where students, farmer Tony Diaz, with Tony's Producer, ODA and ODE staff simultaneously crunched in quince and cabbage. Read more about it in the [Capitol Press](#). More than 40,000 students across the state participated in the celebratory event.
- The Oregon Farm to Institution Collaborative hosted a *Getting Confident with Institutional Markets* Workshop at the Food Innovation Center for more than 40 growers and value-added product makers to deliver technical information on produce and food safety, costing and pricing, and pathways to institutional sales. Expert presenters included OSU Food Innovation Center Product Development, ODA Produce Safety and Farm to School Programs, USDA Rural Development, Healthy Food in Hospitals Initiative, and the NW Rocky Mountain Regional Food Business Center. Value added food businesses spent the afternoon learning how to scale recipes for institutional markets and growers learned about on farm cost analysis to help set fresh crop prices. Buyers from hospital, university and school systems were also present to make connections with suppliers.
- ODA Farm to School and Produce Safety Programs participated in the Tilth Alliance, Taste of the PNW Organic Event, as part of the partnership with the Oregon Organic Coalition and Transition to Organic Program. The event and panel discussions were designed to foster sales opportunities and connections between organic producers in Washington and Oregon (and those transitioning to organic) with wholesale buyers.

• Local, National and International Activities

- Organized an Oregon brewing ingredients educational seminar and workshop in Tokyo that was attended by 70 craft brewers, including brewers from two of the big three breweries in Japan. The brewing ingredients featured included Oregon hops, yeast, and fruit purees. In addition to the presentations for Oregon companies, we brought in a third-

party expert, Ronald Samia from the OSU Shellhammer Fermentation Program to speak on the interactions (biotransformation's) between yeast and hops. This educational seminar built on the 2023 seminar and the strong ties built between Oregon's craft brewers and craft brewers in Japan.

- Managed an Outbound Trade Mission to Japan that included companies selling sauces and frozen fruit from Oregon. The trade mission was timed to maximize the exposure through participation in the USDA's annual product showcase.
- Continued work on market access issues for IQF blackberries in Korea, table stock potatoes in Japan and a tariff rate on IQF blueberries in Japan.
- Managed an inbound trade mission with five dairy buyers from Korea to visit Oregon and meet with dairy product companies as well as companies offering pet food and IQF berries for some of the buyers' broader portfolio of products.
- Hosted a fresh fruit buying group to Oregon from Southern China.
- **Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) Grant Program**
 - Approximately \$1M in Equipment Only Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) projects were announced for 17 producers located throughout Oregon. These projects range from \$17k - \$100k and will help fortify the middle-of-the-supply chain in Oregon to ensure the resiliency of our local food systems.
 - Undersecretary Jenny Lester Moffit visited Oregon for the National Organic Standards Board meeting and met with an RFSI Equipment Only subgrantee at her co-manufacturing location and attended a roundtable of local federal funding recipients to discuss the needs of local food systems.
- **Specialty Crop Block Grant Program**
 - For the 2024 Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (SCBGP) ODA received 45 applications and had nearly \$2 million in federal funding to award. This year we funded 11 projects from across the state with diverse project types and crops impacted. A summary of projects can be found using the link below.
<https://www.oregon.gov/oda/shared/Documents/Publications/MarketAccess/SCBGProjects2024.pdf>
 - The Specialty Crop Block Grant Program is open and accepting applications for the 2025 grant cycle as of December 2nd and will be open through January 31, 2025. We have about \$2 million in federal funding for this year's program. Please visit the website link below for more information and share out this opportunity.
<https://www.oregon.gov/ODA/programs/MarketAccess/SpecialtyCrop/Pages/SpecialtyCrop.aspx>
 - The Organic Cost Share Reimbursement program has closed for the year and will be submitting reporting to the USDA soon. We received about \$150,000 in funding to provide reimbursements to the organic industry in Oregon. The 2025 program is anticipated to open in late summer or early fall next year.



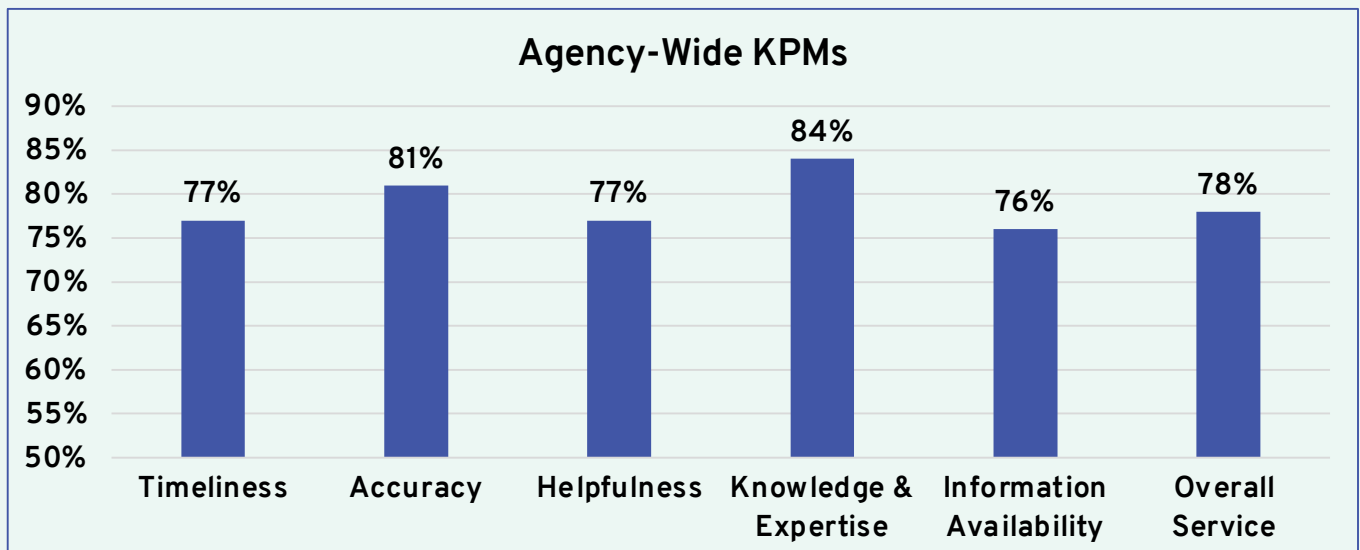
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2024 Customer Service Survey

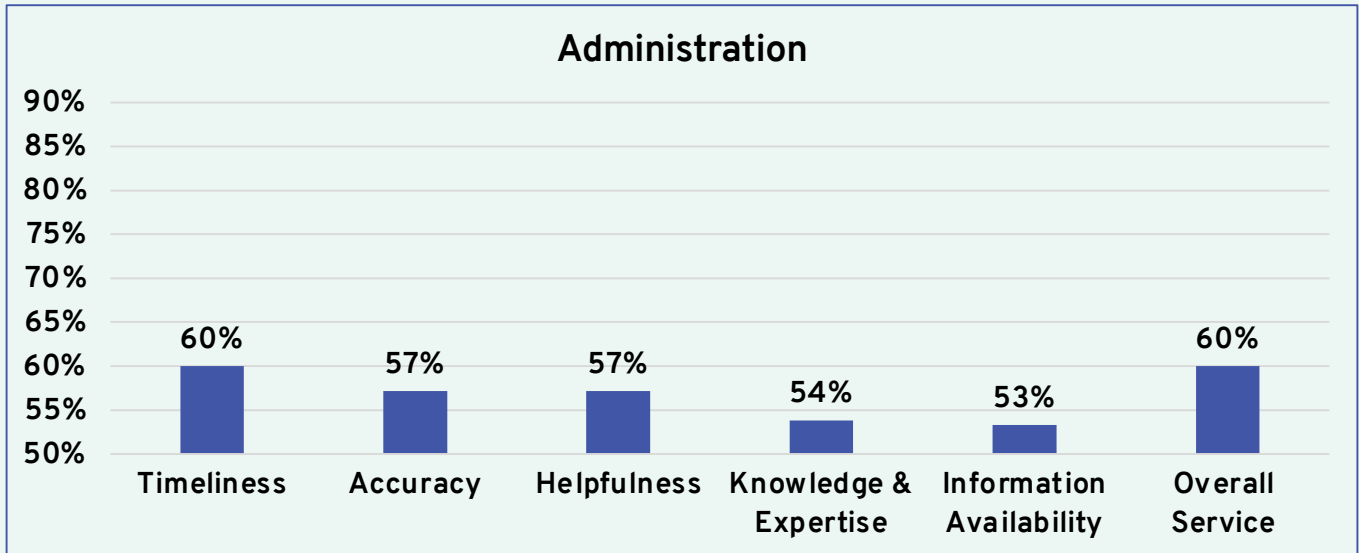
The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) conducted an online customer service survey for the period of July-September 2024 to gather feedback on our services. We promoted the survey through email, verbal communication, and social media to ensure broad awareness and participation. The goal was to assess customer satisfaction, identify areas for improvement, and enhance the quality of service we provide.

ODA reports key performance measures (KPMs) to the Oregon Legislature in six (6) specific areas, focusing particularly on the results that are categorized as excellent or good responses. The results for ODA as an agency as well as each Program Area are summarized below.



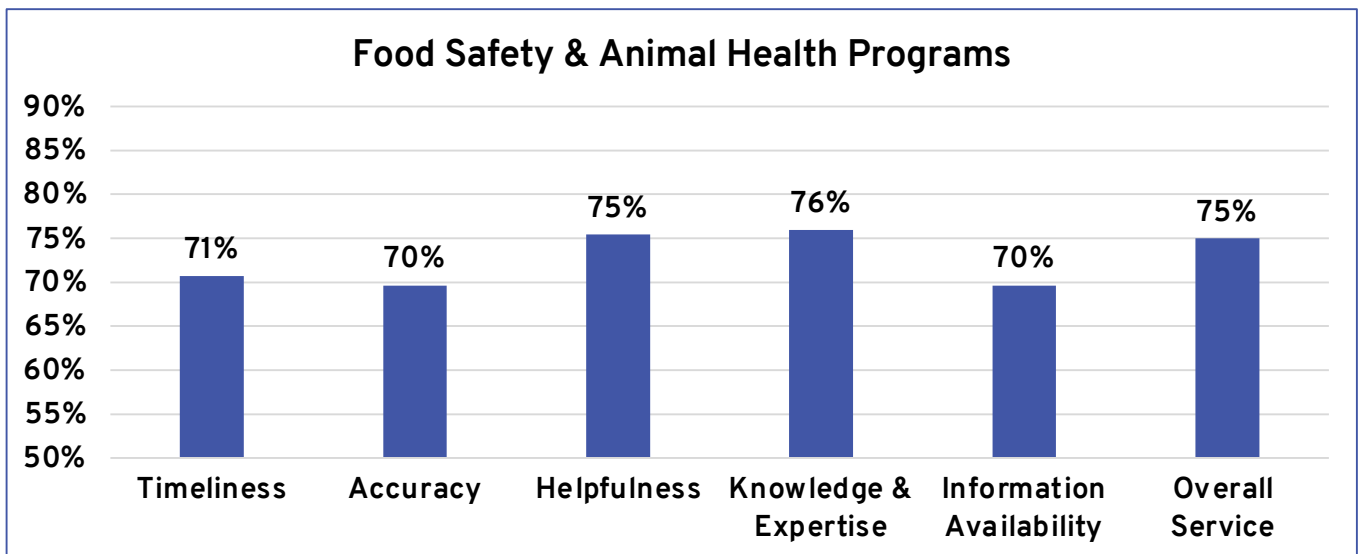
Administration

Includes Admin. Services, Directors, and Communication Office



Food Safety & Animal Health Programs

Includes Animal Health, Brands, Commercial Animal Feeds, Food Safety, and Laboratory Services

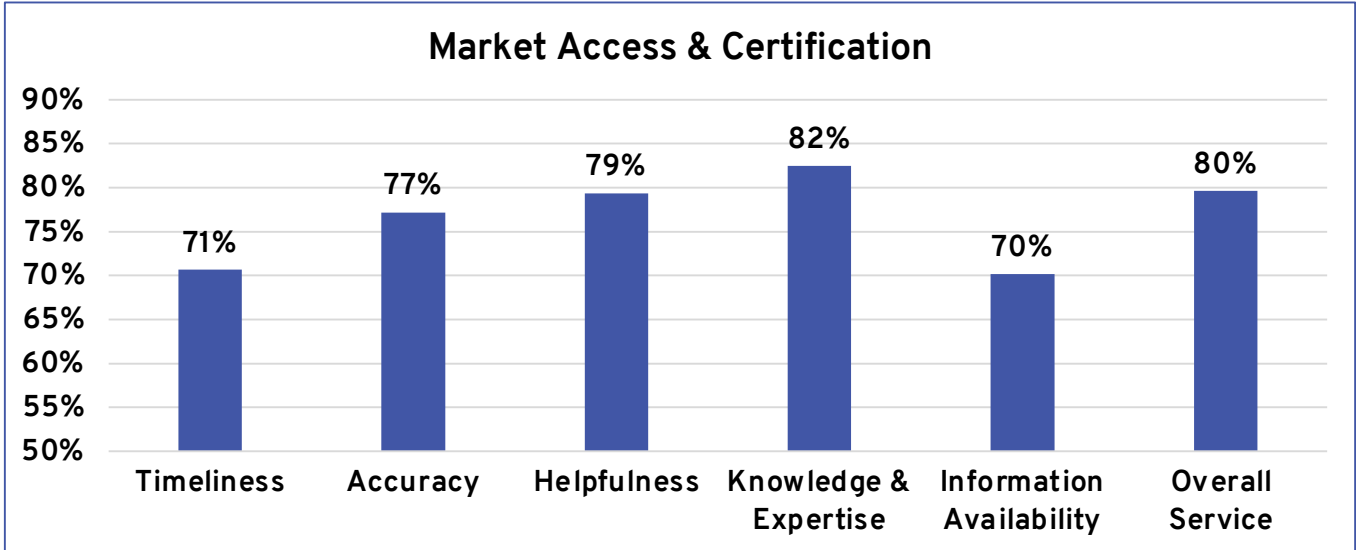


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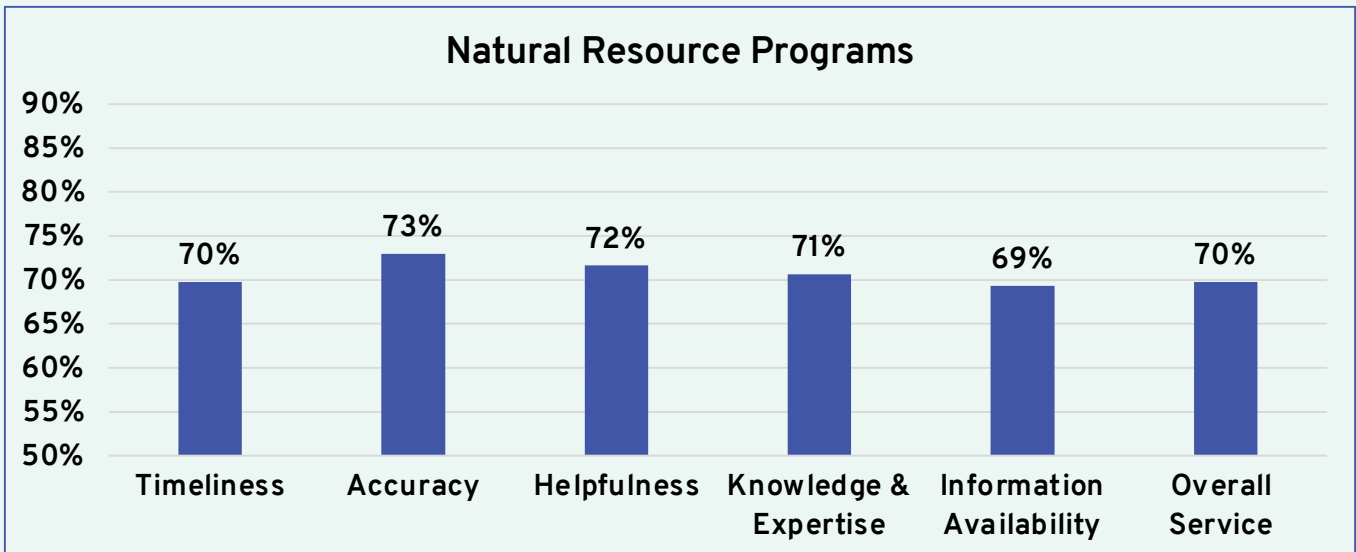
Market Access & Certification

Includes Certification Services, Ag Development and Marketing, Metrology, Motor Fuel Quality, Produce Safety (FSMA), Seed Testing and Inspection, Shipping Point Inspection, Smoke Management, Plant Health, and Weights & Measures



Natural Resource Programs

Includes Agricultural Water Quality, Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO), Fertilizer, Land Use, Pesticide Analytical & Response Center (PARC), Pesticides, and Soil and Water Conservation Districts

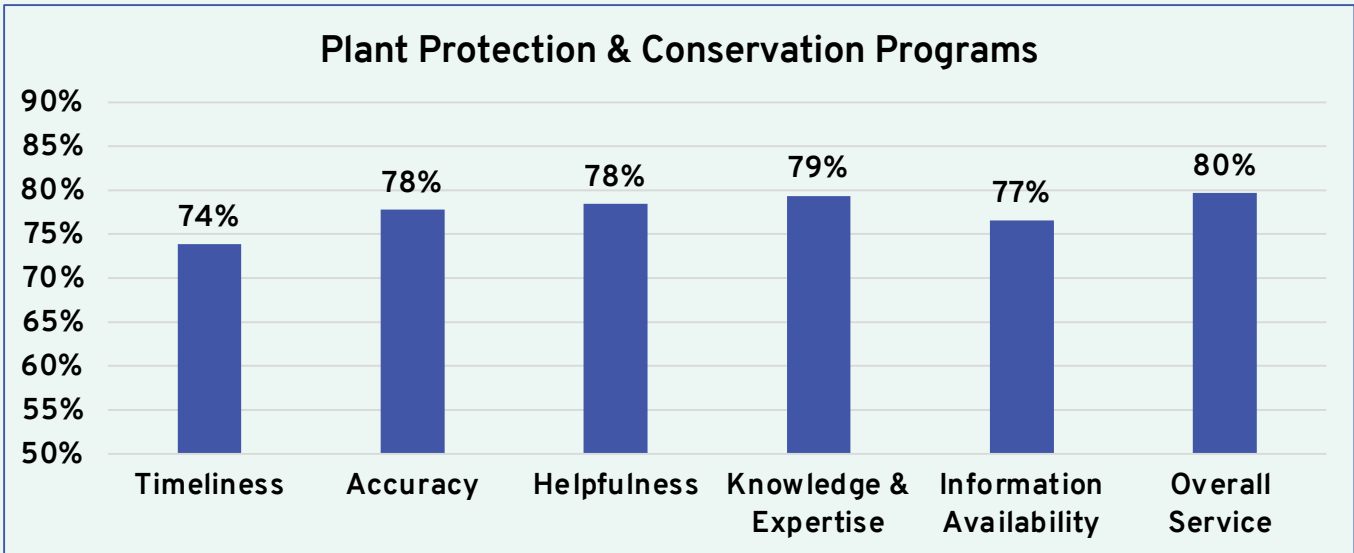


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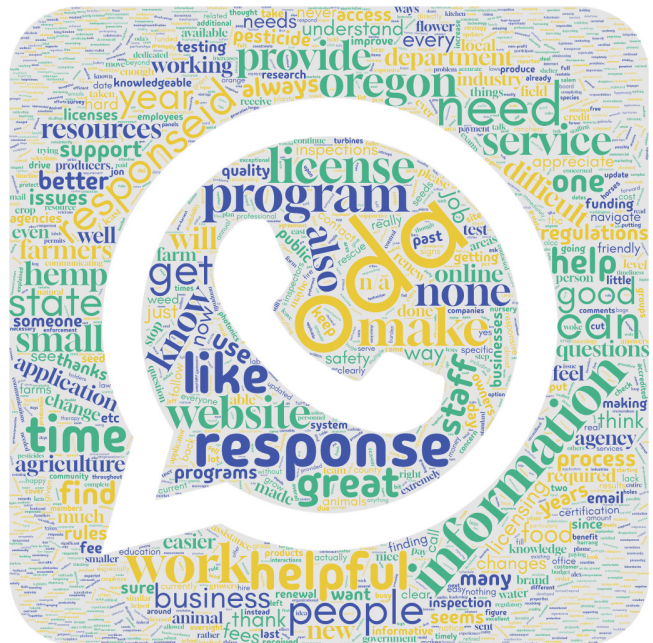
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Plant Protection & Conservation Programs

Includes Hemp, Insect Pest Prevention & Management (IPPM), Invasive Noxious Weed Control, Native Plant Conservation, and Nursery & Christmas Tree



Satisfaction with Agency or Program-Related Information Provided by ODA	
Quality of Information	★★★★☆
Accessibility	★★★★☆
Helpfulness	★★★★☆



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Government-To-Government 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

AGRICULTURE BUILDING

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Department
of
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and Development
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Tribal Liaison:

Christina Higby, Citizen Advocate & Tribal Liaison

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INTRODUCTION

VISION

A resilient tomorrow for generations to come.

MISSION

Protect. Promote. Prosper.

We safeguard Oregon’s agriculture, natural resources, working lands, economies, and communities through assistance, compliance, and market support.

VALUES

We are proud to be AGGIES, embodying our mission and values to achieve our vision.

- A** **Approachable**
Accessible and friendly, fostering a welcoming environment
- G** **Genuine**
Sincere in interactions, emphasizing honesty and integrity
- G** **Growth-Oriented**
Committed to continuous improvement and development
- I** **Inclusive**
A culture that ensures the dignity of every individual is honored, heard, valued, and respected.
- E** **Experts**
Driven by professional and scientific competency
- S** **Sustainable**
Building strong relationships and continuity for resilient tomorrow

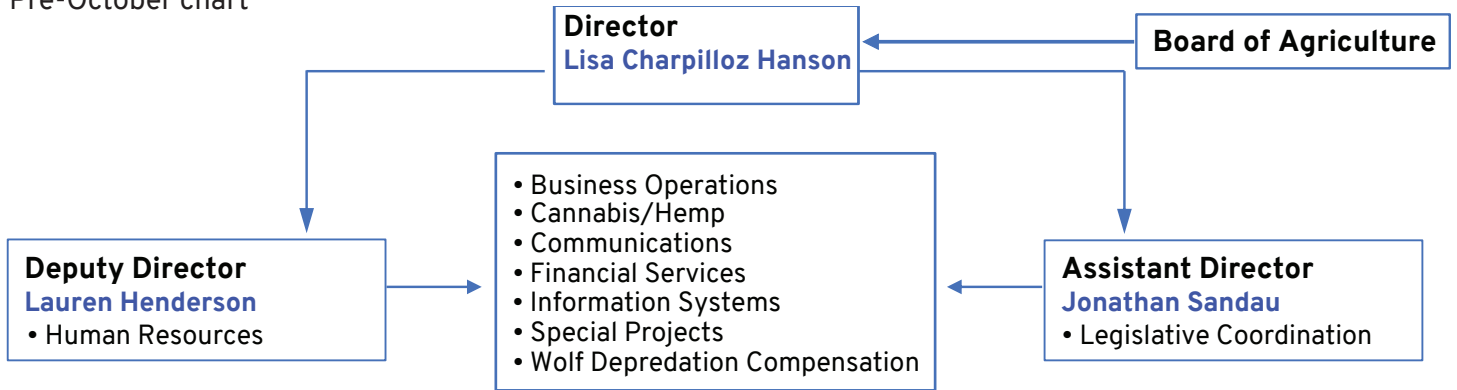
The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) recognizes and values the significant contributions of the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon to agriculture and the rich heritage they bring. It is important that tribal interests are meaningfully engaged with, respected, and fully considered in the ODA policy development process. By collaborating with tribes in Oregon, we aim to foster agricultural resiliency - the ability to adapt to and recover from various challenges—such as climate change, market volatility, and resource limitations, while maintaining productivity, environmental stewardship, and economic viability. – in communities across the state.

To ensure meaningful tribal input and communication, ODA commits to:

- **Designating a Tribal Liaison:** Establish and maintain a dedicated agency liaison to foster strong working relationships between ODA and tribes in Oregon.
- **Engaging in Tribal Workgroups:** Actively participate in the Natural Resources Workgroup and Cultural Resources Cluster meetings, where the Tribal Liaison will provide relevant agency updates.
- **Facilitating Issue Resolution:** Notify the ODA Executive Team of issues or concerns raised by tribes and facilitate processes to address them effectively.
- **Enhancing Communication:** Collaborate with tribes to identify their interests, ensuring opportunities for tribal input into the planning, development, and implementation of agency programs and activities. This includes seeking tribal representation on ODA advisory committees and boards where interests align.
- **Access to Records:** Maintain a notification process to inform Oregon tribes before destroying records listed on ODA’s special record retention schedule.
- **Encouraging Tribal Engagement:** Send an annual letter to Oregon tribes outlining upcoming policy and rule development initiatives and inviting their engagement in areas of interest.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Pre-October chart



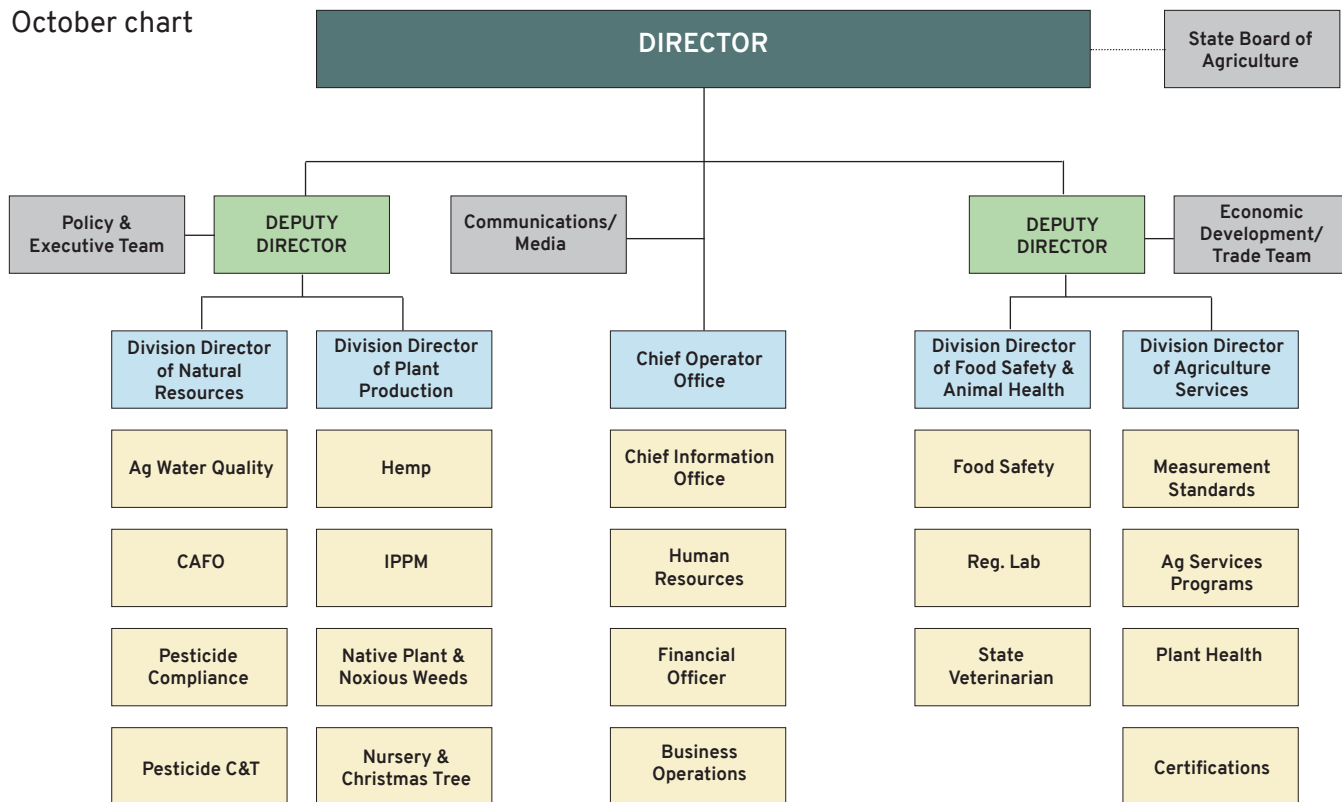
Market Access & Certification Programs Jess Paulson Casey Prentiss	Food Safety & Animal Health Programs Rusty Rock	Natural Resources Programs Isaak Stapleton	Plant Protection & Conservation Programs Chris Benemann
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ag. Dev. & Marketing • Commodity Commissions • Farm to School • Farm Direct Nutrition • Mach. & Equip. Certification <p>Casey Prentiss</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commodity Inspection • Grain Warehouse • Hops/Hay/Grain Insp. • Specialty Crop Grants • Weed-free forage <p>Susanna Pearlstein</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certification Services • Produce Safety • Smoke Management <p>Elizabeth Savory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant Health & Lab • Seed Regulatory • Smoke Management <p>Steven Harrington</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metrology Lab • Motor Fuel Quality • Weights & Measures • Egg Laying Hens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal Identification • Predator Control <p>Jingyun Duan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food Processing • FDA Contracts • HACCP • Shellfish Biotoxin Testing • Shellfish Plat Leasing <p>Karel Smit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dairy • State Meat Inspection <p>Erin Lockett</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cannabis • Retail Food <p>Ryan Scholz</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal Health • Animal Rescue • Commercial Animal Feeds • Nat. Poultry Improvement Program. • Feeds <p>Kathleen Wickman</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laboratory Services • Animal Health Lab 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land Use <p>Kevin Fenn</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ag Channel Maintenance • Agricultural Water Quality • Soil & Water Conservation Districts • GIS Mapping <p>Gilberto Uribe Valdez</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pesticides Certification, Training & Registration • Pesticide Analytical & Response Center • Pesticide Stewardship <p>Toby Primbs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pesticide Enforcement <p>Wym Matthews</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confined Animal Feeding Operations • Fertilizers • Soil Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oregon Invasive Species Council • State Plant Regulatory Official <p>Kevin Bailey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursery & Christmas Tree <p>Cody Holthouse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insect Pest Prevention & Management • Apiary <p>Troy Abercrombie</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noxious Weed Control • Native Plant Conservation • Weed Grants <p>Vacant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hemp

In October 2024, ODA updated its Organizational Chart to better meet customer needs and improve services. ODA’s Director appointed two Deputy Directors to manage four Division areas. A new Chief Operations Officer was created and will be responsible for the day-to-day business operations to support the Division areas. ODA’s Tribal Liaison works with ODA’s

Directors and program managers to communicate and coordinate with tribal nations in Oregon on issues that align with the Agency’s responsibilities.

Please note the Summary of 2024 ODA Division Area Government-To-Government Tribal Interactions below reflect the January – September 2024 organizational structure.

October chart



SUMMARY OF 2024 ODA PROGRAM AREA GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT TRIBAL INTERACTIONS

Per ORS 182.166(3), below is a summary of the 2024 government-to-government interactions with the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon by program area.

Administration

Administration includes the Directors’ Office, Communications, Administrative Services, Business Operations, Information Technology, and Special Projects, which are all integral to the successful operation of the ODA. The Directors’ Office provides direction and management to all ODA programs and associated activities. This office also works with the State Board of Agriculture and many other entities and individuals to support the mission and goals of the ODA.

In January 2024, ODA provided a consultation letter to tribal leaders and staff on ODA’s rulemaking and other key activities planned for 2024. The purpose of the letter was to assist in advance communication and allow for more engagement opportunities in areas of tribal interest.

ODA’s Tribal Liaison represented ODA at both the Cultural Resource Cluster (CRC) and the Natural Resource Workgroup (NRWG) meetings. ODA’s tribal liaison continued her role as the co-chair for the NRWG

Cluster throughout 2024. The position works with the tribal co-chair to set the agenda, lead meetings, and assist agency members on state-tribal relations. At the meetings, the tribal liaison shared relevant agency information with tribal governments and arranged presentations on agency programs. The tribal liaison then shared relevant information about the meetings with ODA’s Executive Team and program staff as needed.

Additionally, as ODA became aware of funding opportunities, they were shared with the tribes. This includes the USDA Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure and Equipment Only Grant Program, ODA’s Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, Farm to School Producer Equipment & Infrastructure Grant Program, and Oregon Meat Processing Grant opportunities. Invitations to participate on ODA-related boards, commissions, councils, and workgroups were also shared with tribal representatives to ensure diverse perspectives and interests have an opportunity to be represented and heard. Examples of such efforts are listed under each program area section.

In 2024, ODA maintained its record destruction notification process to ensure tribes could identify and receive documents of potential interest before they are permanently destroyed.

This process also informs tribes about the types of records ODA maintains. Additionally, ODA's tribal liaison continued to guide other state agencies going through their inventory and record destruction process for items held at the State Archives.

ODA hosts an [Oregon Tribes webpage](#) that provides information and resources for ODA employees and the public. The tribal liaison regularly engages with ODA staff across the agency to develop effective and respectful outreach and communication strategies to tribal nations. Serving as the agency's primary point of contact, the tribal liaison coordinates consultation matters between ODA and tribal nations as needed. Tribal relations training is offered within the agency on an individual basis, with regular communication with ODA staff seeking guidance on program-specific initiatives.



Natural Resources Programs

Natural Resource programs include Agricultural Water Quality Program, Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD), Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO), Land Use, Fertilizer, Pesticide Compliance and Enforcement Program, Pesticide Licensing and Certification, Pesticide Product Registration, Pesticide Stewardship Partnership, and the Pesticide Analytical and Response Center.

Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD). Program staff have been engaged in conversation with the Tiicham SWCD, a non-profit 501(c)(3) associated with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation. ODA staff assisted with on-boarding training and strategic planning to develop their Seven Generations Plan (Long Range Business Plan).

In 2024, the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians Natural Resources staff were involved in the South Umpqua Strategic Implementation Area (SIA) Planning Meeting, SIA Partner Meeting, and

the beginning stages of the SIA Monitoring Plan development. The Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians have one property in the SIA.

In July 2024, ODA sent out consultation letters to several tribes, inviting their participation in the Klamath Headwaters Agricultural Water Quality Management Area Rulemaking. The proposed rulemaking aimed to align the Klamath Headwaters Management Area rules with those in other management areas throughout the state.

Agricultural Water Quality (AgWQ) Program. In September 2024, ODA extended invitations to key tribal representatives from the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon to participate in the AgWQ [Program Advisory Committee](#).

The AgWQ Program also focused on recruiting Local Advisory Committee members, emphasizing the importance of tribal input during the biennial reviews of Area Plans and Rules.

Pesticides Program. ODA continued its work on pesticide applicator licensing associated with individuals and corporations doing business for, or on behalf of, a federally recognized tribe on Oregon's non-tribal lands. This was in response to inquiries from the previous year that identified barriers to ODA's licensing authority on tribal sovereign nations. Concurrently, during the 2023 legislation session, [HB 2687](#) was introduced, and subsequently signed into law in May.

In accordance with ORS 634.116(18), before issuing or renewing any pesticide license or certificate for pesticide applications made to land within Oregon's jurisdiction, ODA and the tribal government must enter into a mutually acceptable agreement. The Pesticides Program has been working to make the process more efficient and streamlined. To comply with HB2687, ODA added a tribal-related question to the online license renewal system and license application forms.

In addition to the outreach conducted on this topic in 2023, ODA Pesticide Licensing staff continued engagement efforts in 2024 with tribal representatives and applicators from the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, and Coquille Indian Tribe to discuss how this may impact their pesticide application practices. ODA has successfully entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Burns Paiute Tribe. ODA's Pesticide Licensing staff continue to work with tribal representatives to identify a pathway to gain lawfully issued applicator license for tribal employees when needed.

ODA's Pesticide Stewardship Specialist gave a presentation at both CRC and NRWG meetings in 2024 on the Environmental Protection Agency's new strategies to protect endangered and threatened species from pesticide use, which will impact pesticide users. ODA's Citizen Advocate also shared webinar opportunities with tribal representatives who may be interested in learning more about this topic. Additionally, ODA continued to collaborate with other state agencies, commodity groups, and growers to implement the strategies in Oregon.

Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO).

ODA sent a consultation letter to Oregon's federally recognized tribes in late December 2023 to discuss [Senate Bill 85 \(2023\)](#) related to Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO). A follow-up email was sent in June 2024 to NRWG and CRC tribal contacts and key tribal staff on the public notice and hearing information. The bill makes significant changes to the CAFO permitting process including:

- Creating new definitions,
- Requiring a preapplication consultation between applicants and relevant agencies,
- Requiring water supply plan, construction approval and pre-populations inspections,
- Creation of a nutrient application permit for producers receiving animal nutrient from a permitted CAFO and applying to land in a Ground Water Management Area, and
- Limiting exempt stock water use for new or expanding CAFOs to 12,000 gal/day.

Additionally, ODA reached out to tribes in September 2024 on proposed pre-application letters that are required to be sent to all nine federally recognized tribes when an applicant in planning to submit a CAFO application. ODA appreciated public comments received by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. Due to the broad impacts of the legislation on the permitting process and the new requirements, the CAFO program paused processing of new applications until the rulemaking was completed in September 2024.

In June 2024, ODA invited the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation to participate in discussions on the Proposed Remedial Action plan for Canyon Farms located in Boardman Oregon. This proposal addresses groundwater cleanup actions related to decommissioning and permit cancelation

of a former confined animal feeding operation (CAFO) at 73956 Homestead Lane, Boardman, Oregon, in Morrow County. These cleanup actions will continue until the water quality in impacted monitoring wells reaches background limits established in the permits.



Plant Protection and Conservation Programs

ODA Plant Protection Division includes Insect Pest Prevention and Management (IPPM), Native Plant Conservation, Noxious Weed Control, Hemp, and Nursery & Christmas Tree. These programs protect Oregon's agricultural industries and the natural environment from harmful plant pests, diseases, and noxious weeds; enhance the value and marketability of exported nursery stock; assist industry to produce hemp plants and products within regulatory guidelines; and conserve threatened and endangered plants.

Native Plant Conservation Program. Created by ODA in 2022, the Native Plant Conservation Workgroup is comprised of members from state, local, federal, nonprofit and tribal partners including representatives from the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, and the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation. The purpose of the workgroup is to provide a forum to keep interested parties updated on program activities such as the status of the state list review and to foster collaboration and knowledge sharing. The workgroup met twice in 2024.

Oregon Administrative Rules 603-073-0060 directs ODA to conduct a periodic review of the State List of Threatened & Endangered plants. Recognizing that tribes have a vested interest in the conservation of native and culturally important plants, ODA invited tribes to engage in this review process in 2024. ODA completed its rulemaking in May 2024 and added six additional plants to the state's list of threatened and endangered plants. An additional consultation letter will be sent out at the start of the 2025 review process.

ODA, in partnership with several other state, federal, non-profit organizations, and tribes continued work on development and implementation of the Oregon Native Seed Strategy guidance document in 2024. Culturally significant plants and tribal nursery needs are addressed throughout the Strategy. ODA included \$100,000 of financial assistance to tribal nurseries and native plant programs in a 2024-2025 project supported by the Natural & Working Lands Fund. ODA presented on this opportunity at the State-Tribal Cultural Resource Cluster and Natural Resource Work Group meetings in 2024. ODA also held a tribal listening session in October of 2024 to get tribal guidance on the efficient and equitable delivery of these funds. ODA will accept formal proposals for funding through December 27, 2024.

Noxious Weed Program. ODA's Noxious Weed Program completed rulemaking to update the state's noxious weed list and quarantine. This rulemaking was initiated by the Oregon State Weed Board's vote (2023) to remove and de-regulate ten species. Prior to beginning the rulemaking process, ODA requested feedback from land managers and stakeholders, including tribal partners. The rules were formally adopted on October 1, 2024.

In 2024, the Noxious Weed Program began implementing a large-scale rangeland resilience project supported by the Natural & Working Lands Fund and federal funds. This project will create two new Rangeland Health Specialists (RHS). These staff will prioritize working with tribal partners and tribally affiliated organizations wherever possible. The first RHS started at the agency in December 2024.

In recent years, the program has prioritized our work with tribal partners and the environmental justice community. The program will host a special tribal luncheon in December 2024 as part of the biannual Interagency Noxious Weeds Symposium. The luncheon will feature a facilitated conversation about the importance of storytelling in natural resource conservation and protection work.

Each year, the program administers the Oregon State Weed Board Grant Program. The program distributes millions of dollars each biennium to support noxious weed work across the state and is open to tribes. The program is currently performing an analysis of funding distribution and project support with respect to environmental justice communities, including tribes.

Insect Pest Prevention and Management (IPPM). In collaboration with the Oregon Department of

Forestry (ODF), ODA has been implementing effective management strategies for Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) through the SLAM Strategy (Slowing Ash Mortality) fieldwork approach. ODA partnered with land managers to identify and mark wild Oregon Ash Trees for use as trap trees or treatment trees for future assessment and management.

Following a [permanent quarantine for EAB](#) established in December 2023, EAB was confirmed in three new counties in 2024. The following counties are currently under quarantine: Clackamas, Yamhill, Marion, and Washington. The quarantine restricts the movement of ash, olive, and white fringe tree materials, including but not limited to logs, green lumber, nursery stock, scion wood, root stock, chips, mulch, stumps, roots, branches, and hardwood firewood. Moving nursery stock and wood materials from restricted species out of the quarantine area requires a compliance agreement with the ODA. EAB is now recognized as the most destructive forest pest in North America, having killed hundreds of millions of ash trees. Partner agencies, including ODA, are aware of the cultural significance that Oregon native ash (*Fraxinus latifolia*) holds for many tribal nations and seeks to preserve this plant species for as long as possible. ODA provided outreach, collaboration and training opportunities to Oregon tribal representatives on EAB throughout 2024.



Food Safety & Animal Health Programs

The Food Safety Program works to help prevent the spread of foodborne illness. This is accomplished through monitoring Oregon's food industry, enforcing state sanitation laws, inspecting food establishments in Oregon, and working to ensure the consumer gets food that is not contaminated, mislabeled, misrepresented, or changed in any way that would impair safety, wholesomeness, or purity.

The Animal Health Program is responsible for protecting the health of Oregon livestock. This responsibility is carried out through four primary statutory responsibilities – Livestock Disease Control and Response, Animal Disease Traceability (ADT), Animal Emergency Planning and Response, and providing veterinary oversight to the State Meat Inspection Program. Three additional programs with similar missions – Animal Health Laboratory, Commercial Feed Licensing, and Animal Rescue Entity Licensing – also exist within the Animal Health Program.

ODA's Food Safety Program assisted the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Head Start Preschool staff with inspection and licensing information for custom meat processing firms to incorporate traditional meats into the Tribe's school menu program.

In July 2024, ODA's staff from the Food Safety Program participated in the Columbia River Indian Fisher Expo hosted by the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC) in the Dalles to discuss and share information about their program.

A staff member from the CRITFC continues to sit on ODA's Food Safety Program Advisory Committee and provide insight on how certain rule changes may impact tribal activities. ODA appreciates the tribal participation that provides valuable insight and feedback to the Food Safety Program on relevant outreach, education, and funding opportunities available to tribal communities.



Market Access and Certification Programs

The Market Access and Certification Program includes a group of closely intertwined programs that operate statewide to assist Oregon's agricultural producers and businesses to successfully sell and ship products to local, national, and international markets. Programs also provide regulatory oversight and technical assistance. Market Access and Certification programs include Livestock

Identification, Certification, Plant Health, Produce Safety, Seed Regulatory, Shipping Point Inspection, Smoke Management, and Weights and Measures.

Agricultural Development and Marketing Program. This program assists producers, ranchers, fishers, and food processors reach their market goals, whether at local farm stands or through international trade agreements. Through strategic partnerships, grant opportunities, and market development initiatives, the program ensures that Oregon's products remain competitive and are recognized worldwide for their quality.

Meat Processing Grant Program. A member of the Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe served as a member of the grant review committee. ODA received a grant application for a new USDA-inspected meat processing facility to be built on the Umatilla Reservation. The application included a strong letter of support from the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and aimed to support the processing of indigenous animal processing. Ultimately, the project was not selected for funding.

USDA Resilient Food System Infrastructure (RFSI) Grant Program. ODA, in partnership with USDA-AMS, is administering \$5.9 million in RFSI funds to develop middle-of-the-supply-chain activities for Oregon food systems. In addition to working with tribal producers and processors to develop an estimated \$1.7 million in projects on tribal lands, this program conducted a thorough environmental resource review to ensure there are no significant impact to environmental or cultural resources in Oregon from these developments. ODA is collaborating on consultations with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation for two prospective infrastructure projects, which would bring a combined \$1.14 million in federal funds and private investment into those communities. In accordance with USDA policy, specific details will only be announced once the projects successfully complete the environmental reviews and pending acceptance by USDA.

Farm to School Program (F2S). The Farm to School Program works to connect Oregon farmers, ranchers, seafood harvesters, and food processors with school cafeterias, early childcare centers, summer meal sites, and tribal meal programs. This enables more Oregon agricultural products to be served in the lunch line and helps connect youth to food production through school gardens, farm field trips, and grower visits to the classroom.

More than 800 school gardens across the state are supported by F2S, providing an educational setting to teach students about conservation, environmental stewardship, ecosystem habitats, and how to grow their own crops. The Farm to School Producer Equipment and Infrastructure Grant program provides funds for eligible equipment and infrastructure expenses to producers intending to sell food produced or processed in Oregon to schools, early childcare centers, summer food program sponsors, and tribal meal programs. In 2024, ODA modified the Farm to School Producer Equipment and Infrastructure Grant to allow tribal entities to receive funding for projects that provide native and first foods in tribally managed meal programs outside of USDA National School Meals Program.

2024 Activities included:

- Participation in a Seafood/Fish to School working group with schools, private industry, non-profit organizations, and tribal representatives from Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission to explore markets for tribal caught fish, seafood and aquaculture products.
- Participation in the Columbia River Indian Fishers Expo in July 2024. The one-day event provides support and resources for Columbia River treaty fishers including Yakama, Umatilla, Warm Springs, and Nez Perce tribal members. Nine tribal fishers registered for a fish to school consultation.
- Attending the annual NW Intertribal Agriculture Council in Pendleton, OR in September 2024.
- Coordination of a RFSI Roundtable with USDA AMS Undersecretary Jennifer Lester Moffit and ODA Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson. Two representatives from the Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission were in attendance.

ODA's Agricultural Development and Marketing program continued outreach to the Intertribal Agricultural Council

(IAC), which includes participation from multiple tribes and affiliated members. Through this collaboration, the program aims to connect and share information on funding opportunities and programs available to tribal nations and affiliated tribal members. The efforts included USDA Agricultural Trade Mission opportunities, 2024 Good Food Mercantile booth discounts in Portland, and ODA grant funding programs.

Weights & Measures Program. Although measurement devices on tribal lands are not subject to state weights and measures laws, Oregon tribes, and some tribal members have requested that the Weights and Measures program license and test their equipment. In 2024, ODA licensed and inspected devices at the following locations:

- Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation – fish market, Cascade Locks.
- Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians-multiple devices at multiple locations.

CONCLUSION

ODA deeply values the wealth of knowledge tribes in Oregon bring to the stewardship of our state's natural resources. We are grateful for the collaborative relationships we have built and look forward to strengthening these partnerships in the year ahead. As we work together, ODA is committed to learning more from all nine federally recognized tribes and identifying ways to enhance the services and support we provide. By sharing knowledge and perspectives, we can continue to improve how we serve tribal communities.

A resilient future for Oregon agriculture depends on our collective ability to adapt to challenges. Together, we can build systems that uphold environmental stewardship, foster economic growth, and support the well-being of our rural communities. ODA looks forward to continuing this important work with tribes, ensuring that our shared efforts contribute to a thriving and resilient agricultural future for all.

*Agenda Item number 04 – ODA’s Budget and Legislative Update
December 17-19, 2024, Board Meeting.*

MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture

From: Karla Valness, Senior Policy Advisor

Subject: Agenda Item number 04 – ODA’s Budget and Legislative Update

I. Introduction

The 2025-27 Governor’s budget was released on December 2, 2024. The agency has prepared a 25-27 ODA’s Governor Budget Summary included in the meeting packet. The summary includes a chart of funding by fund type and a list of significant changes.

II. Background

The Governor and CFO review agency request budgets and other considerations in light of available revenues to compile the Governor’s Budget. That budget reflects the Governor’s priorities, and the policies set in statute as well as any changes proposed by the Governor. Once final, the recommended budget and a series of statewide numbers are collected and printed as the Governor’s Budget.

ORS 291.218 requires transmission of the Governor’s budget to each member of the Legislature by December 1, 2024. The Governor’s Budget is the starting point for budget negotiations during the legislative session. A Tax Expenditure Report, compiled by the Department of Revenue, is published concurrently with the Governor’s Budget.

See the [2025-27 State of Oregon Governor’s Budget](#).



2025-27 Governor's Budget

	2023-25 Legislatively Approved Budget	2025-27 Current Service Level	2025-27 Governor's Budget
General Fund	\$ 57,988,648	\$ 40,620,844	\$ 40,285,347
General Fund Debt Svc	-	-	1,921,642
Lottery Funds	9,323,768	9,924,467	9,877,824
Other Funds – Project OneODA	-	-	15,160,000
Other Funds	97,593,748	99,227,688	97,774,774
Federal Funds	24,616,353	19,220,464	24,222,694
Total Funds	189,522,517	168,993,463	189,240,281
Positions	523	507	482
Full-Time Equivalent (FTE)	402.26	391.09	396.89

2025-27 Significant Changes

Policy Packages –Fee Changes

- 210 – **Food Safety Fee Adjustment \$140,152** (Revenue only): HB 2059 (2019) extended the sunset until 2026 which allowed for 3% annual increases. This package proposes to remove the sunset and allow for annual 3% increases. This allows for smaller more sustainable increases. Pkg. 210 contains a revenue estimate for a 3% increase for the licensing period starting 07/01/26.
- 220 – **Weights and Measures Fee Cap Increase \$447,140** (Revenue only): Proposes to raise fees 10% for each of the licensing periods beginning July 1, 2026, and July 1, 2027, in attempt to maintain operating reserves for the program. There is a corresponding legislative concept that raises the statutory fee caps to allow for the proposed increases. The program will continue to monitor program resources ahead of the 2027 Legislative session. Administrative rules adjust fees within the cap.
- 320 – **Pesticide Registration Fee Cap Increase \$1,242,400** (Revenue only): A corresponding legislative concept raises the statutory maximum pesticide product registration fee from the current \$400 per product to meet both federal and state core requirements to ensure safe and effective use of pesticides. Revenue included in Pkg. 320 assumes raising the current fee by \$40 to the current maximum \$400 cap effective 9/30/2025.
- 462 – **Agency Fee Ratification \$1,861,200 OF** (Revenue only): This package ratifies changes to fees and charges for services that were adopted administratively by ODA during the 2023-25 biennium (Livestock ID, Unique ID Number – Food Safety, Animal Rescue Entities, Hemp, Certifications).

Policy Packages – Budget Enhancements

- 120 – **Agency Strategic Modernization \$750,000 GF / \$1,921,642 GF Debt Svc / \$15,160,000 OF Project Costs / \$190,000 OF / \$18,021,642 Total:** Requests XI-Q General Fund Bonding necessary to procure and deploy hardware and scoping of modern business applications to deliver a comprehensive customer and user experience. Investment efforts will advance core elements of ODA’s Strategic Plan and mission and may mitigate future resource asks by leveraging technology available today but currently not utilized by ODA. The request includes a limited duration accountant and a limited duration information systems specialist.
- 310 – **Pesticide C&T – Core Support \$898,910 OF:** The Pesticide Certification and Training program requires increased capacity to maintain its core functions while implementing the program’s EPA-approved pesticide applicator Certification and Training (C&T) plan. This request includes a Natural Resource Specialist 4, an Operations & Policy Analyst 2, and a limited duration Natural Resource Specialist 3.

Policy Packages – Budget Continuation

- 230 – **Avian Influenza Program \$202,665 FF:** This package will continue the limited duration position for ongoing work with USDA related to the umbrella cooperative agreement in the Animal Health Program. The cooperative agreement includes funding for an avian health coordinator. Detections of highly pathogenic avian influenza in Oregon emphasized the importance of education, outreach, and testing for the disease to producers and backyard flock owners.
- 410 – **Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) Grant Continuation \$2,400,000 FF:** The purpose of the RFSI Program is to assist U.S. states and territories to coordinate initiatives to build resilience in the middle- of- the-supply-chain and strengthen local and regional food systems for food crops. This package continues limitation and limited duration positions approved during the 2024 legislative session for the remainder of the grant cycle.
- 430 – **Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (SCBGP) Continuation \$1,000,000 FF:** The SCBGP enhances the competitiveness of specialty crops, defined as fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, Christmas trees, turf type grasses and nursery crops (including floriculture and horticulture). This continues additional limitation approved by the 2024 legislative session on an ongoing basis to match federal awards.
- 440 – **Food Safety and Modernization Act (FSMA) \$1,400,000 FF:** Operating under a cooperative agreement with the FDA, ODA receives federal funds to provide education and training to Oregon’s producers covered under the FSMA Produce Safety Program. This package will continue receiving those federal funds and accompanying five positions.
- 461 – **Agency Position Clean Up \$814 GF / \$579 LF / \$5,107 OF / \$6,500 Total:** This package makes technical and budget adjustments to existing positions’ class and compensation.

Revenue Shortfalls – Pkg 070

Balances Other Funds expenditures with available resources through elimination of vacant positions in the Livestock ID (Livestock ID position proposed for re-establishment in Pkg. 462) and Shipping Point programs and reductions in Services & Supplies and Capital Outlay in Smoke Management, Hops/Hay/Grain, Certifications, Commodity Commission Oversight, and Shipping Point programs. (\$2,331,476) OF, (38) Pos/ (7.20) FTE

Base Budget Adjustments Phase out one-time monies for:

- Costs associated with moving ODA laboratories to the North Valley Complex,
- Wolf Depredation Compensation and Financial Assistance Grant Program,
- Agricultural Workforce Housing grant program HB 2001 (2023),
- Laboratory equipment from 23-25 Pkg 230,
- Meat infrastructure grants HB 3410 (2023),
- Japanese Beetle eradication from 23-25 Pkg 310,
- Vine mealy bug SB 5506 (2023), grasshopper suppression SB 5701 (2024),
- Natural Working Lands funds in Weed Control and Native Plant programs,
- Invasive Species Council SB 5701 (2024),
- Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) 23-25 Pkg 440,
- Resilient Food System Infrastructure and
- Specialty Crop Block Grants included in SB 5701 (2024).

Technical adjustments move:

- Wolf Financial Assistance and Grants program out of the Admin and Support Services Policy Area and into the Market Access Policy Area.
- Within the Admin and Support Services Policy Area, the Cannabis Policy Coordinator position and Farm Mediation position are moved into Admin and Support Services.
- This package also abolishes the agency Payroll position and shifts limitation to Services and Supplies for the move to DAS Shared Payroll.
- Livestock ID and Predator Control programs out of the Food Safety / Consumer Protection Policy Area and into the Market Access Policy Area.
- Within the Food Safety / Consumer Protection Policy Area, the Laboratory Services program is moved from the Measurement Standards program area to its own program area.
- Within the Market Access Policy Area new program structure is established for Field Services and Certification. Numerous programs are moved from Agriculture Development and Marketing into that new program structure. Program structure is also established for Grant Programs and Climate Smart Agriculture and Resilience.

CFO Package Adjustments

- 090 – **Analyst Adjustments (\$931,508 GF)**: This makes vacancy savings adjustments agencywide, eliminates Predator Control Payments and eliminates a vacant position in the Market Access Policy Area.
- 092 – **Statewide AG Adjustment (\$13,907 GF/ \$1,910 LF/ \$91,064 OF / \$401 FF) Total Reduction (\$107,282 AF)**: This package reduces Attorney General rates.
- 093 – **Statewide Adjustments to DAS Charges (\$140,896 GF/ \$45,312 LF/ \$411,653 OF / \$2,034 FF) Total Reduction (\$599,895 AF)**: This package represents adjustments to State Government Service Charges and DAS pricelist charges for services.

*Agenda Item number 05 – Panel discussion on Agricultural Worker Overtime
December 17-19, 2024, Board Meeting.*

MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture

From: Karla Valness, Senior Policy Advisor

Subject: Agenda Item number 05 – Panel discussion on Agricultural Worker Overtime

I. Introduction

The panel will discuss the impacts of Agricultural Worker Overtime in Oregon. Representatives on the panel include:

- **Molly Pearmine McCargar**, Owner/President, Pearmine Farms Inc.
- **Nargess Shadbeh**, Farmworker Director, Oregon Law Center
- **Ira Cuello-Martinez**, Policy & Advocacy Director, PCUN
- **Lesley Tamura**, Tamura Orchards and Columbia Gorge Fruit Growers
- **Bobbi Harrold Frost**, Harrold’s Dairy and President, Oregon Dairy Farmers Association

In November 2025 the Board of Agriculture drafted a Resolution on Agricultural Overtime that can be found in your board packet under tab 14.

II. Background

In April 2022, [HB4002](#) was signed into law. HB4002 established an overtime pay mandate for employers of agricultural workers. In addition, HB4002 allows employers to claim a tax credit equal to a percentage of the overtime pay.

For calendar years 2023 and 2024, overtime must be paid to agricultural employees who worked more than 55 hours in a work week. For calendar year 2025 and 2026, employers are required to pay overtime for more than 48 hours per work week. Starting in 2027, overtime is paid to employees who worked more than 40 hours per work week.

Additionally, HB4002 allows employers to claim a tax credit equal to a percentage of the overtime pay.

In March 2023, [HB2058](#) directed Business Oregon to develop and administer repayable award program to provide financial assistance to eligible employers.

Attached for your reference is the Oregon Department of Revenue Agricultural Employer Overtime Tax Credit information sheet.

Agricultural Employer Overtime Tax Credit

Oregon law requires agricultural employers to pay certain workers for overtime hours worked (ORS 653.272) and provides for a refundable personal or corporate income tax credit for employers for a percentage of wages paid as overtime pay (ORS 315.133). The wage requirement and credit began in the 2023 tax year.

Overview

The AEOTC Application is available online only through Revenue Online (ROL). Taxpayers who apply for the tax credit by January 31 are granted an automatic filing extension. They may start filing their returns after they receive an acknowledgment notice of their eligible credit amount. Taxpayers will claim the refundable credit on their income tax return. The law specifies the hour threshold at which an employer must pay overtime for different years, industries, and number of employees.

Agricultural Employer Overtime Tax Credit

Year	Tax credit as a percentage of overtime paid				
	Overtime threshold	More than 50 FTE*	26 to 50 FTE* & dairies with more than 25 FTE*	Not more than 25 FTE*	Dairies with not more than 25 FTE*
2023	55 hours	60%	75%	90%	100%
2024	55 hours	60%	60%	80%	100%
2025	48 hours	45%	60%	80%	100%
2026	48 hours	30%	50%	60%	100%
2027	40 hours	15%	50%	60%	100%
2028	40 hours	15%	50%	60%	100%

*FTE is full-time equivalent

The tax credit is for a percentage of the difference between the overtime pay and the base wage. The annual limit for credits to all eligible employers is \$55 million. If the total amount of approved applications is greater than the annual credit limit, all approved credit amounts are proportionality reduced to meet the limit. The law also includes a provision allowing a three-year net operating loss carryback (ORS 317.346).

Annual Application Timeline:

- Application period – January 1 - 31
- Department of Revenue (DOR) reviews applications for eligibility criteria – January to February
- Appeal requests in response to denied or adjusted applications – Due from applicant within 30 days of notice
- DOR notifies qualified applicants of their approved credit – By June 1
- Taxpayers file returns claiming the credit by extension deadline – October 15

Applications for tax year 2023

The first application filing period for the AEOTC was January 1 – 31, 2024, for overtime paid during calendar year 2023.

Applications

The department received **369** applications for tax year 2023 and issued **344** Notice of Acknowledgement letters. Of these applicants, **32** were from the dairy sector. The total amount of credit requested was **\$7.8** million, but **\$5.3** million in credits was ultimately allowed.

During the initial review, **45** applications were denied, however some were later approved or adjusted through the appeal process. Appeal requests must have been submitted within 30 days of the denial or adjustment notice.

The entity types that filed:

- Corporations (including S-Corps) – 52 percent
- Partnerships – 25 percent
- Personal income tax – 23 percent

Commodities

Agricultural employers who qualify for the tax credit grow a variety of commodities. The applicant is required to list a North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code on the application. Many of the codes that were listed were generic to “crop farming” in addition to codes for dairies, ranching, nursery, and other agricultural industries. Dairies have different qualifications and are eligible for a larger credit, so we tracked their codes specifically.

The average allowed credit was estimated¹ to be:

- Dairy sector (NAICS 11212 and 112120) – \$24,000.
- Crop Production (NAICS 111) – \$13,000.
- Animal Production and Aquaculture (NAICS 112) – \$10,000, not including dairy.

The total agriculture overtime hours were estimated² to be:

- Dairy sector (NAICS 11212 and 112120) – 151,000 hours.
- Crop Production (NAICS 111) – 728,000 hours.
- Animal Production and Aquaculture (NAICS 112) – 55,000 hours, not including dairy.

Outreach

The department has been proactive in sharing information about the AEOTC with agricultural employers. In 2023, staff attended 27 county fairs and 18 other in-person events, informing agricultural sector employers and taxpayers about the program. DOR staff attended the Dairy Farmers Convention, Nursery Convention, agricultural shows in western and eastern Oregon, agricultural employer conferences, and the Governor’s Occupational Safety and Health Conference. When there was opportunity, DOR presented at those events, several times in both English and Spanish. In 2024, the department has continued active outreach including, but not limited to, attending and presenting at FARWEST (Nursery Convention) and hosting an informational booth at the Oregon State Fair.

Observations - next steps

- Encourage employers and applicants to establish their ROL account and access early, and to start the application process early.
- Require pass-through entities (PTE) to submit shareholder or partnership information as part of the application process.
- Increase understanding of the difference between base wages versus overtime wages. The credit is allowed for a percentage of the overtime portion over the base wage.
- Employers that perform agricultural and farm labor contractors (FLCs) activities need to separate the wages and hours from their agricultural business since FLCs may not apply for the tax credit. See our infographic for [FLCs and Actual Hours Worked Examples](#).

The **2024 application period will open by January 1, 2025**. Applications must be submitted no later than January 31, 2025. The department will make minor changes to the application that reflect taxpayer experience feedback in 2024. The number of applications is expected to increase each application period as the qualifying threshold of overtime hours decreases.

Contact

View resources and FAQs on the [Agriculture Employer Overtime Tax Credit web page](#). [Subscribe to DOR’s agriculture overtime email list](#) to receive updates.

Contact DOR’s Agriculture Overtime team at Ag.Overtime@dor.oregon.gov

^{1 & 2} The average allowed credits and overtime (OT) hours are calculated by pro rating the allowed credit and OT hours based on the percentages of business activity in each NAICS code, determined by the percentage of total employee hours in each NAICS code as reported by the taxpayer. The application submitted by the taxpayer does not pro-rate OT hours and allowed credit on the application, instead provides the total number. To split the allowed credit and OT hours into appropriate NAICS code, this pro rating was required.

Agricultural Overtime Panel

Lesley Tamura

Columbia Gorge Fruit Growers

Specialty Crop: Tree Fruits

- Require significant amounts of hand labor for seasonal needs in specific windows of time (pruning, thinning, harvest).
- No opportunities for automation to significantly reduce labor.
- Labor shortages have already forced us to turn to foreign labor programs at a higher cost.

Our Expenses

- Labor costs are already **60-70%** of our total expenses each year.
- Pay retail prices for expenses, earn wholesale prices for the sale of commodities.
- We are price takers, not price makers.

Problems with Current Ag Overtime Law

- No ability to reduce labor needs; the only options are added labor expense that we cannot afford, or to cap hours.
- Limited ability to hire more employees due to housing
 - In our region of the state, housing is not affordable or available. A large majority of employees (year-round and seasonal) utilize on-farm housing. Our ability to hire additional employees is limited by our ability to provide housing for them.
 - We anticipate losing housing capacity when OR-OSHA Ag Labor Housing rules are finalized.; labor shortages will worsen.
- Reducing hours for employees will reduce income, forcing some to find second jobs.
- Financial assistance offered as part of Ag Overtime legislation not helpful.
 - Temporary tax credit that reduces as ag overtime costs increase.
 - Loans that farmers already know they cannot pay back.

What is the Solution?

- Permanent overtime threshold higher than 40 hours
- Seasonal allowance at higher overtime threshold
- Permanent financial support programs
- Other states have modeled this workable approach: Hawaii, Colorado, Minnesota, New York

There are solutions that will allow Oregon to create a workable agricultural overtime policy, but it will require changes to the current system.

Agricultural Overtime Laws by State

	<i>Permanent Overtime Threshold</i>	<i>Seasonal Allowance</i>	<i>Transition</i>	<i>Financial Assistance</i>
Hawaii	40 hours	48 hours for any 20 weeks of the year		
New York	40 hours	None	10+ year transition; reduced by 4 hours every 2 years.	Farm Overtime Credit: Provides a refund for hours worked between the state threshold and 60 hours (via advanced payment certificate, or receive the credit when filing income tax return). Credit equals 118% of cost of eligible overtime to account for unemployment insurance and workers comp expenses.
Colorado	48 hours	56 hours for 22 “peak weeks” for highly seasonal employers	3-year transition to permanent threshold.	
Minnesota	48 hours ** Exempt if paid salary greater than \$797.48/week for large employers and \$650.48/week for small employers.	None		
California	40 hours	None	3-year transition to permanent threshold; reduced by 5 hours each year. Large employers (26+ workers) started permanent threshold in 2022, small employers in 2025.	
Washington	40 hours	None	2-year transition to permanent threshold; reduced by 8 hours each year.	
Oregon	40 hours	None	4-year transition to permanent threshold; reduced by 8 hours every 2 years.	Temporary tax credit that reduces over time and ends after 2028 (at the latest; can be removed prior). Loan available through the state.

Oregon State Board of Agriculture

Wednesday, December 18, 2024 -- Public Comments – verbal testimony sign-up

Speaker	Name	Topic	Date Received	Virtual
1	Name P:			
2				
3				
4				
5				

As of 11/19/2024

Oregon State Board of Agriculture
December 2024

Written Public Comments

Item	Name	Topic	Date Received
Item 01	Robert Emmons, President LandWatch Lane County	Resolution 314	11/27/2024
Item 02			
Item 03			
Item 04			
Item 05			
Item 06			
Item 07			
Item 08			
Item 09			
Item 10			
Item 11			
Item 12			
Item 13			



*Protecting Our Natural Heritage
From the Coast to the Cascades*

P.O. Box 5347 • Eugene, OR 97405 • (541) 741-3625 • www.landwatch.net

November 27, 2024

TO: Oregon State Board of Agriculture
FROM: LandWatch Lane County
SUBJECT: RESOLUTION 314

Vice-Chair Harper and Members of the Board,

LandWatch Lane County is a small nonprofit which was established in 1997 with a mission to protect farm and forest lands for farm and forest uses, including protecting sensitive and natural areas from incompatible uses and development.

We support the proposed August 14th changes to Resolution 314 titled "Permitted Uses on Lands Zoned Exclusive Farm Use and on High-Value Farmland." The trend of using lands zoned exclusive farm use for uses other than agriculture has had unintended consequences, enabling the defacto conversion of farmland to urban uses.

Rural cities, unincorporated areas, and other areas within urban growth boundaries are better suited for the nonfarm uses being proliferated on lands zoned for exclusive farm use. Not only are these other areas better suited for nonfarm uses such as events and lodging, these more urban areas are often in need of economic development assistance, which many of the problematic nonfarm uses being proliferated on farmland could potentially help provide.

We also oppose efforts to amend the Resolution to include support for nonfarm commercial uses and agri-tourism on lands zoned for exclusive farm use.

Robert Emmons
President, LandWatch Lane County

*Agenda Item number 07 – Appointments to the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission
December 17-19, 2024, Board Meeting.*

MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture

From: Karla Valness, Senior Policy Advisor

Subject: *Agenda Item number 07 – Appointments to the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission*

I. Introduction

In your meeting packet are three applications for the Board of Agriculture to review and consider for one farmer/rancher position and one agricultural water quality position on the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission.

II. Background

The State Legislature established the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program (OAHP) in 2017 to help address fragmentation of farmland, conversion of farmland to non-farm uses, complex regulations, and planning for generational transfers. The program provides voluntary incentives to farmers and ranchers to support practices that maintain or enhance both agriculture and natural resources such as fish and wildlife on agricultural lands.

As required by statute (ORS 541.986) five members of the Oregon Agriculture Heritage Commission shall be recommended by the Board of Agriculture. Specifically:

(2) (a) Four members shall be persons recommended by the State Board of Agriculture who are actively engaged in farming or ranching. The members must represent diverse types of agricultural commodities and be from geographically diverse areas of this state.

(2) (d) One member shall be a person recommended by the State Board of Agriculture who has expertise in agricultural water quality.

Current representatives recommended by the Board of Agriculture serving on the Commission are:

Commissioner	City	Represents	Term Ends
James Robert Collins	Mitchell	Farmer/rancher	January 2028
Laura Masterson	Portland	Farmer/rancher	January 2027
Doug Krahmer	St. Paul	Farmer/rancher	January 2026

Woody Wolfe	Wallowa	Farmer/rancher	January 2025
Lois Loop	Salem	Agricultural water quality	January 2025

Commissioner terms are 4 years with the ability to serve no more than two consecutive terms.

The second term for Commissioner Woody Wolfe, farmer/rancher position will end January 1, 2025. Commissioner Wolfe is not eligible for re-appointment.

The second term for Commissioner Lois Loop, agricultural water quality position will end January 1, 2025. Commissioner Loop is not eligible for re-appointment.

III. Action/Discussion

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) on behalf of the Agricultural Heritage Commission conducted an open recruitment period to request applications to fill the farmer/rancher and agricultural water quality positions.

The Commission received the following applications for your review and recommendation.

Farmer/rancher applications

Name	City	Position
Penny Feltner	Eugene	Farmer/rancher
John O’Keeffe	Adel	Farmer/rancher

Agricultural Water Quality applications

Name	City	Position
Penny Feltner	Eugene	Agricultural Water Quality
Jan Lee	Sandy	Agricultural Water Quality

The BOA will need to review applications and provide a recommendation to the OWEB prior to December 27, 2024.

A motion and vote from the board will be necessary to make the recommendations to OWEB.



Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission



This form is used to obtain general information and qualifications of persons interested in serving on the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission. This information will be used by the Oregon boards and commissions that recommend applicants to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB), and also by the OWEB Board, which will appoint the commissioners. Agencies are required to pay per diem compensation and expenses for "qualified members," defined as members who are (1) not in full-time public service, and (2) have an adjusted gross income for the previous tax year of less than \$50,000, or less than \$100,000 reported on a joint income tax return. The only exception to the requirement is if the qualified member declines compensation. The agency will reimburse board members for travel expenses.

Applicant Information

Name John O'Keeffe
Affiliation Livestock Industry
Occupation
 Retired **Rancher**
Mailing address POBox 115
Town/City Adel **State** OR **Zip Code** 97620
Phone Number 541-219-1111 **Cell or Alternate #** 541-219-1111 **Fax Number**
Email johnhok@hotmail.com

Applicant Signature

By signing above, you certify that:

- All of the information on this form is true;
- You are a legal citizen of Oregon and the United States of America;
- You will accept appointment to the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission if selected by the OWEB Board;
- You have an email address and are able and willing to check your email on a near-daily basis and conduct some commission business via email; and
- You will be able to attend scheduled meetings across the state.

Position Sought

Check the box next to each position for which you are currently applying. You may select multiple boxes. This information may be used to contact you for the Rules Advisory Committee or for future vacancies on the commission.

- Farmer or Rancher** (recommended by the State Board of Agriculture)
- Fish and Wildlife Habitat** (recommended by the State Fish and Wildlife Commission)
- Agricultural Water Quality** (recommended by the State Board of Agriculture)
- Conservation Easements and Similar Land Transfers** (recommended by the Land Conservation and Development Commission)
- Indian Tribal Interests** (selected by the OWEB Board)
- Natural Resource Value Interests** (selected by the OWEB Board)

Statement Of Interest

Use the space below to explain why you are interested in being a representative on the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission and why you will be a good commissioner.

I was involved in the start-up of the OAH Program, I believe in the program and would like to be part of helping the program continue.

Easements have always been controversial to the livestock industry. I was involved in the start up of OAHP and I was involved in the start of the Oregon Rangeland trust. The discussions that occurred gave me a good understanding of how the livestock industry views these programs. I feel these insights would allow me to participate in commission deliberation in ways that could lessen controversy and promote acceptance of OAHP.

Ranchers tend to run hot or cold about easements, I feel the thoughtful approach I bring to the discussion could help to bridge some of the gaps that exist.

Escalating land prices, under financed young producers, key wildlife parcels owned by aging producers, urban sprawl, going forward it is going to be important to spend our OAHP funds wisely, this will take thoughtful guidance.

Experience/Involvement

Please describe any work experience and/or involvement that has provided you with knowledge, skills, or abilities to successfully represent the interests of the position(s) for which you are applying and to fulfill the duties of a member of the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission. Include any previous experience on boards or commissions.

You may attach a résumé and/or work history.

Lifelong Rancher

Chairman Lake County Weed Board

Lake County District 21 School Board

Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center Advisory Board

Chairman Goose and Summer Lake Basin Landowner Advisory Committee (SB1010)

President Oregon Cattlemen's Association

Chairman NCBA Federal Lands Committee

Chairman Public Lands Council Sage Grouse Committee

Rancher Representative Oregon Sage Con

Member Steering Committee Tri-Corner Community Collaborative

President Warner Valley Rangeland Fire Protection Association

Rancher Representative Oregon Wildfire Programs Advisory Council

Industry Representative USDA Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission

Supplemental Question

Describe what you believe to be the main issues facing the future of Oregon agriculture and the fish and wildlife habitat and other natural resources on Oregon's agricultural lands.

Climate Change/atmospheric carbon will need to be addressed in a thoughtful manner, we are a long way from viable electric tractors and sustained long haul large trucks (Livestock transports can't stop every 200 miles to charge for hours). Alternate fuels will need to bridge the gap between petroleum based fuels and all electric vehicles.

Agriculture will have to be flexible, thoughtful and adaptive as climate change progresses.

With the rural/urban divide getting worse every year it is important to have those that will voice the contribution agricultural working lands make to Oregon's wildlife. I can be one of those voices.

References

Please identify three references that may be contacted if you are selected as a top candidate. Individuals or representatives of associations/organizations are acceptable.

Letters of support from relevant staff, associations, or similar groups are encouraged; feel free to attach any such letters to your application.

Reference #1

Name Matt Mc Elligott
Affiliation (if any) OCA
Mailing Address 49026 HWY 30
City/Town North Power
State OR
Zip Code 97867
Phone Number 541-805-8210
Alternate #
Fax #
Email lmLivestocknp@gmail.com

Reference #2

Name Mark Owens
Affiliation (if any) Oregon Legislature
Mailing Address POBox 746
City/Town Crane
State OR
Zip Code 97732
Phone Number 541-589-2379
Alternate #
Fax #
Email Rep.MarkOwens@public.govdelivery.com

Reference #3

Name Marc Hudson
Affiliation (if any) Oregon Agricultural Trust
Mailing Address POBox7359
City/Town Salem
State OR
Zip Code 97303
Phone Number 971-221-5660
Alternate #
Fax #
Email marc@oregonagtrust.org

Please send your completed application via email to nicole.bettinardi@oweb.oregon.gov or via mail to:

Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program
ATTN: Nicole Bettinardi
Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
775 Summer Street NE #360
Salem, Oregon 97301

Applications must be sent via email or mailed (post-marked by August 25, 2024) in order to be considered for a position.



PROTECTED GROUP STATUS FORM

Committee/Board Member

Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission



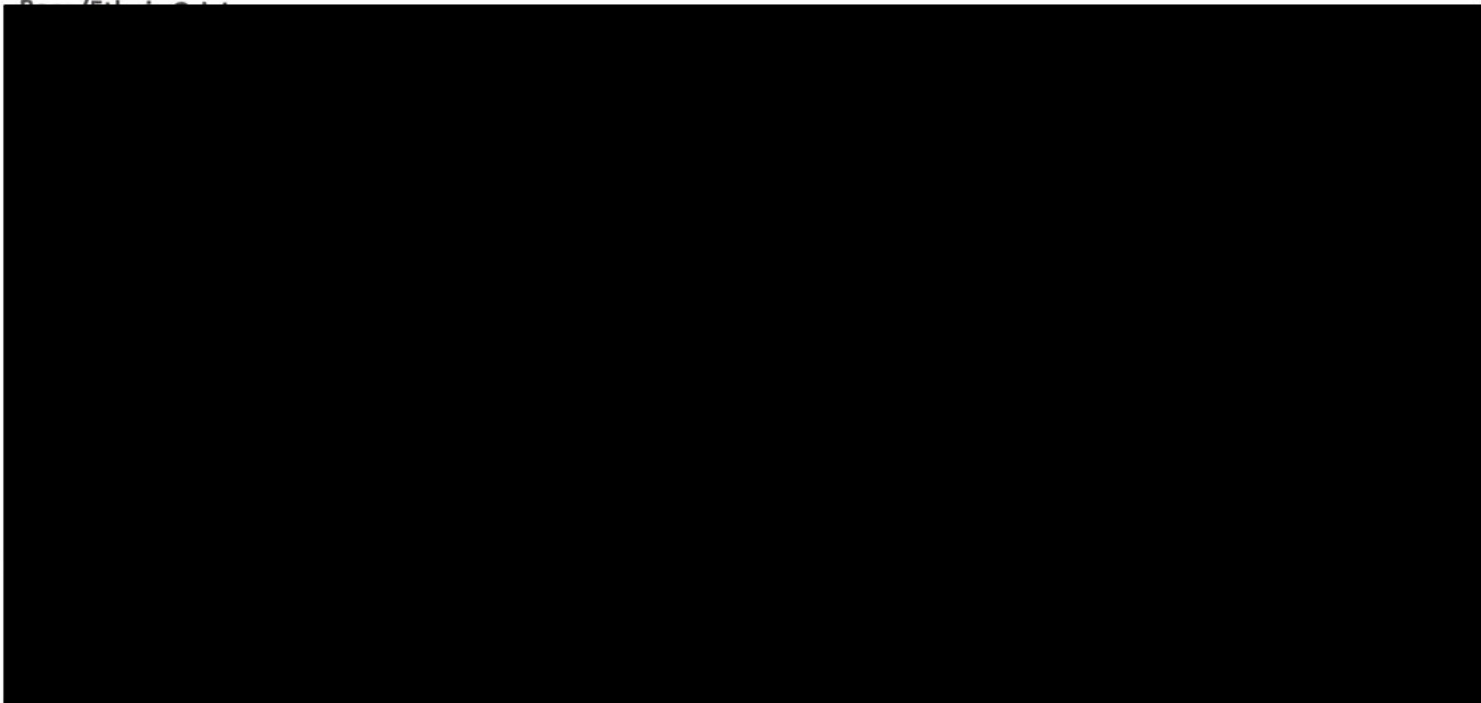
Name

Date

Department/Committee Board Name: **Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission**

Federal and State laws require the Board to make its programs, activities, and services available to all persons regardless of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and sex. The Board is attempting to monitor the selection of and participation by women, minorities, and people with disabilities on its committees, advisory groups, etc.

The following information will be used for statistical reporting only, and is voluntary. **Information obtained will be kept confidential and will be destroyed as soon as the responses on the form are captured numerically.**

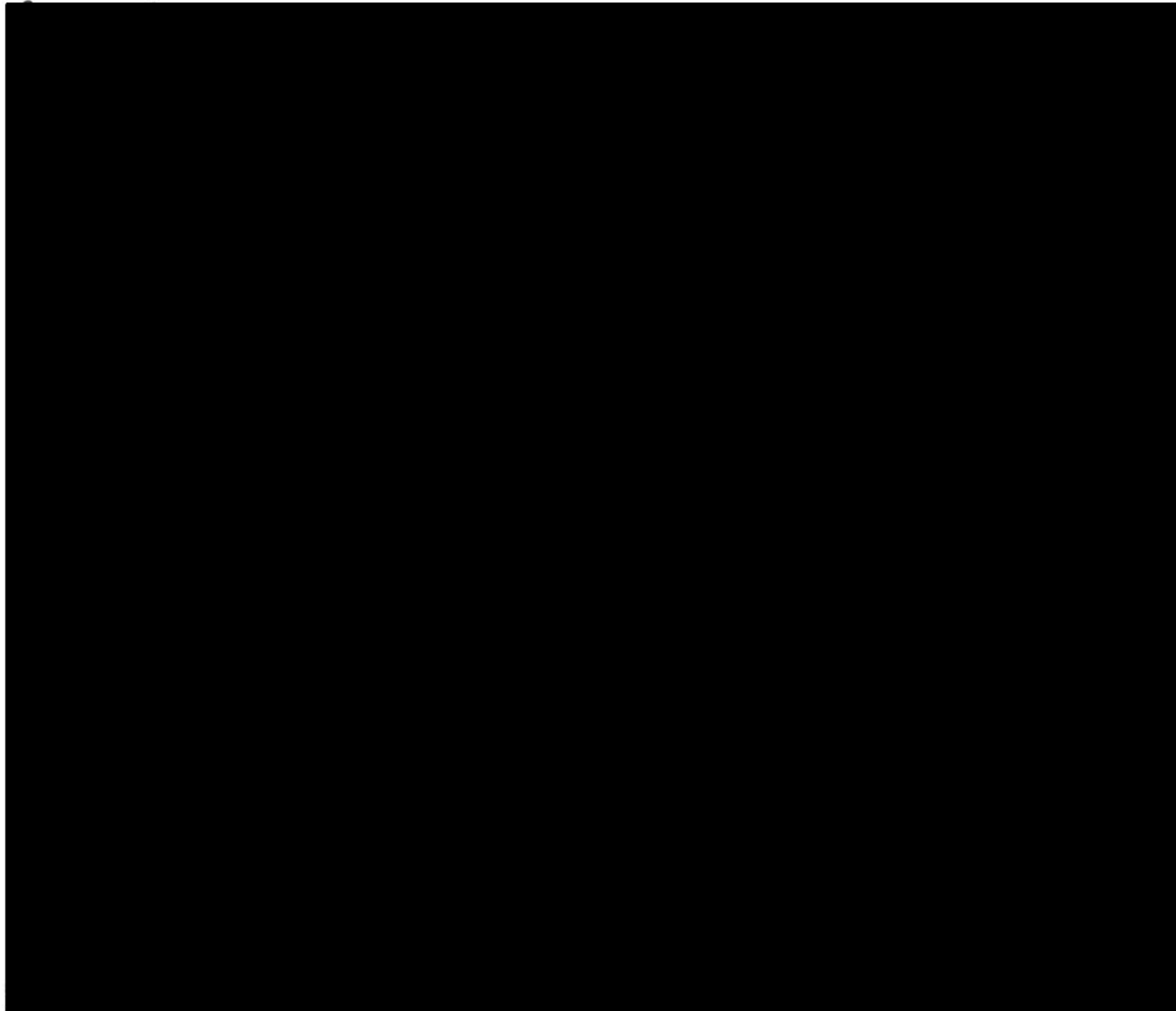


Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission Per Diem Stipend Qualification Form

For Tax Filing Year [2025]

Member Name (First and Last): _____ John
O'Keeffe _____
(Print)

Address, City, State, ZIP: POBox 115 Adel OR
97620 _____
(Print)



By signing this form, I hereby affirm that all information provided by me on this form is true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: John P. O'Keeffe Date: 11/5/24



INTEREST FORM

Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission



This form is used to obtain general information and qualifications of persons interested in serving on the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission. This information will be used by the Oregon boards and commissions that recommend applicants to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB), and also by the OWEB Board, which will appoint the commissioners. Agencies are required to pay per diem compensation and expenses for "qualified members," defined as members who are (1) not in full-time public service, and (2) have an adjusted gross income for the previous tax year of less than \$50,000, or less than \$100,000 reported on a joint income tax return. The only exception to the requirement is if the qualified member declines compensation. The agency will reimburse board members for travel expenses.

Applicant Information

Name: Penny Feltner
Affiliation: Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council
Occupation: Retired Working Lands Program Manager
Mailing address: 992 Lincoln St.
Town/City: Eugene State: Oregon Zip Code: 97401
Phone Number: (513) 335-3379 Cell or Alternate #: Fax Number:
Email: penny@coastfork.org

Applicant Signature: *Penny Feltner*

By signing above, you certify that:

- All of the information on this form is true;
- You are a legal citizen of Oregon and the United States of America;
- You will accept appointment to the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission if selected by the OWEB Board;
- You have an email address and are able and willing to check your email on a near-daily basis and conduct some commission business via email; and
- You will be able to attend scheduled meetings across the state.

Position Sought

Check the box next to each position for which you are currently applying. You may select multiple boxes. This information may be used to contact you for the Rules Advisory Committee or for future vacancies on the commission.

- Farmer or Rancher (recommended by the State Board of Agriculture)
- Fish and Wildlife Habitat (recommended by the State Fish and Wildlife Commission)
- Agricultural Water Quality (recommended by the State Board of Agriculture)
- Conservation Easements and Similar Land Transfers (recommended by the Land Conservation and Development Commission)
- Indian Tribal Interests (selected by the OWEB Board)
- Natural Resource Value Interests (selected by the OWEB Board)

Statement Of Interest

Use the space below to explain why you are interested in being a representative on the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission and why you will be a good commissioner.

My professional interests have always been at the intersection of environmental stewardship and agricultural management: the management of complex systems often at odds, but never mutually exclusive, and both necessary for social and economic wellbeing. I've worked for 15 years in diverse environments tackling the issues that arise from this nexus of land management. I ran a water quality monitoring lab in southwest Ohio, where our primary pollutants were agricultural runoff from the vast corn, soybean, and cattle operations. I served as an agricultural advisor in the Caribbean, helping farmers to adapt their operations for greater resiliency in the face of climate change and natural disasters. In my current work as the Working Lands Program Manager at the Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council, I support farmers and ranchers in developing plans and accessing resources to adapt their operations for climate resilience and enhanced ecological uplift.

Agricultural practices can be extractive, polluting, and destructive. However, I believe that these managed landscapes have tremendous potential for regenerating the ecological function of our region while providing critical social, cultural, and economic value for our communities. For these reasons I'm very interested in the work of the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program and the role it can play in preserving our state's unique agricultural character and enhancing their function as thriving agroecosystems. Furthermore, our farmers and ranchers face a critical juncture as the pressures of climate change make previously reliable agricultural practices untenable. This monumental task is on the shoulders of individuals who must balance the needs of their families, the viability of their operations, the solvency of their businesses, and their role as stewards of our lands and waters.

The Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program is positioned to provide a vital support structure for the adaptation of farms to our increasingly unpredictable context. Without this support, operations may continue with an outsized negative impact of water quality, habitat, and soil resources. Without this support, generational farms may be transitioned out of agriculture completely. I believe the sensitivity I bring to these complex challenges would allow me to make valuable contributions to the Commission. I'm well acquainted with the landscape level changes and challenges to our agricultural sector, as well as the personal struggles our farm communities face as they grapple with the everyday operation of their farms and ranches. I'm also aware of the overwhelm these farm managers experience when attempting to understand their environment, identify their needs, and find support for keeping their farms afloat. I'm highly motivated to contribute to the work to assess and identify appropriate solutions for the mutual benefit of our state's natural resources and agricultural production.

Experience/Involvement

Please describe any work experience and/or involvement that has provided you with knowledge, skills, or abilities to successfully represent the interests of the position(s) for which you are applying and to fulfill the duties of a member of the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission. Include any previous experience on boards or commissions.

You may attach a résumé and/or work history.

[See attached resume](#)

Supplemental Question

Describe what you believe to be the main issues facing the future of Oregon agriculture and the fish and wildlife habitat and other natural resources on Oregon's agricultural lands.

I believe the main issues faced by Oregon agriculture and the natural resources of Oregon's agricultural lands are the direct and indirect impacts of climate change on ongoing farm viability and sustainable land stewardship in an increasingly globalized marketplace. Private lands account for just over half of Oregon's land base and the land management decisions made by a patchwork of private landowners has a direct impact on the health of our natural resources, as well as the social and economic wellbeing of rural communities.

Agricultural land managers have always maintained a vested interest in balancing the demands of production with preservation of natural resources. Striking this balance between production and conservation takes place while ensuring commercial viability. Maintaining the economic viability of a farm has long functioned as a limiting factor for stewardship. Currently, increased competition from global markets, rising costs of production, and ballooning land values have made it difficult to maintain the sustainable production of agricultural lands through traditional management. With the rising age of farm operators (58.6 years as per the 2022 USDA census of agriculture) many of these lands are on the precipice of transition and we find ourselves in a climate wherein those who have farms may choose not to keep them, and those seeking land to farm can't afford access.

Adding additional complexity to this situation is the impact of a changing climate, which is notably affecting agricultural production across Oregon through increasing temperatures, decreasing plant productivity, and creating more favorable conditions for pests. The timing and amount of precipitation has changed and is affecting streamflow patterns and water availability for irrigation. Traditional approaches to farm management must shift in order to compensate for these (often unpredictable) challenges, and this behavior change cannot happen in isolation from social, cultural, and economic constraints.

It is therefore imperative that these individual operators have support for the transitions necessary in order to maintain the state's agricultural character: Transition to climate-resilient land management, transition to climate-smart production systems, transition of farmland from one generation of farmers to another.

References

Please identify three references that may be contacted if you are selected as a top candidate. Individuals or representatives of associations/organizations are acceptable.

Letters of support from relevant staff, associations, or similar groups are encouraged; feel free to attach any such letters to your application.

Reference #1

Name [Amanda Gilbert](#)
Affiliation (if any) [Executive Director, Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council](#)
Mailing Address [28 S. 6th St, Suite 2](#)
City/Town [Cottage Grove](#)
State [Oregon](#)
Zip Code [97401](#)
Phone Number [\(541\) 767-9717](#)
Alternate #
Fax #
Email coordinator@coastfork.org

Reference #2

Name [Megan Kemple](#)
Affiliation (if any) [Executive Director, Oregon Climate & Agriculture Network](#)
Mailing Address
City/Town [Eugene](#)
State [Oregon](#)
Zip Code
Phone Number [541-225-8807](#)
Alternate #
Fax #
Email megan@oregonclimateag.org

Reference #3

Name [Sydney Nilan](#)
Affiliation (if any) [Director, Upper Willamette Stewardship Network](#)
Mailing Address [945 Olympic St.](#)
City/Town [Springfield](#)
State [Oregon](#)
Zip Code [OR 97477](#)
Phone Number [503-443-5686](#)
Alternate #
Fax #
Email

Please send your completed application via email to april.mack@oweb.oregon.gov or via mail to:

Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program

ATTN: April Mack

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

775 Summer Street NE #360

Salem, Oregon 97301

Applications must be sent via email or post-marked by Oct 26th, 2022 in order to be considered for a position.



PROTECTED GROUP STATUS FORM
Committee/Board Member
Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board



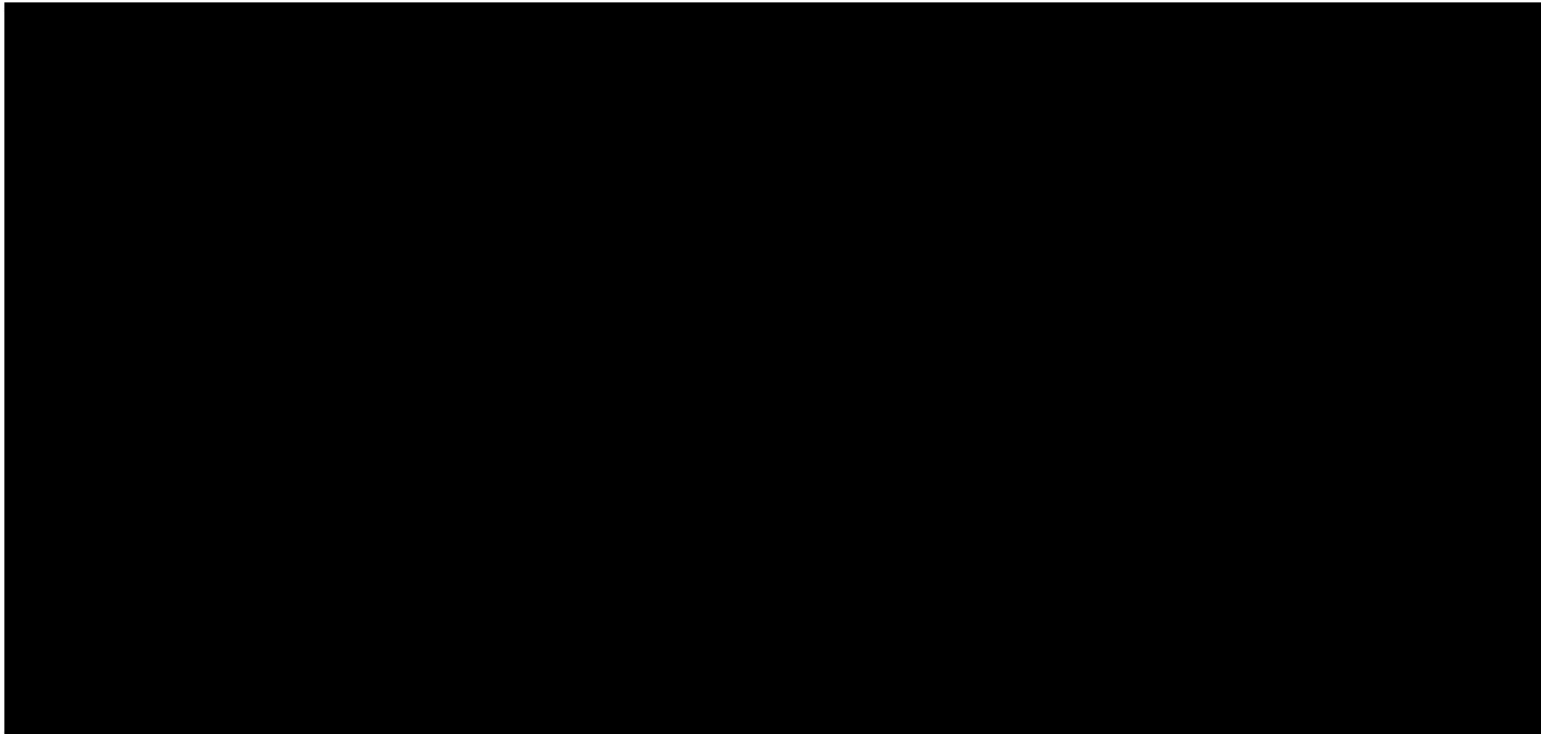
Name **Penny Feltner**

Date **11/5/24**

Department/Committee Board Name: **Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission**

Federal and State laws require the Board to make its programs, activities, and services available to all persons regardless of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and sex. The Board is attempting to monitor the selection of and participation by women, minorities, and people with disabilities on its committees, advisory groups, etc.

The following information will be used for statistical reporting only, and is voluntary. **Information obtained will be kept confidential and will be destroyed as soon as the responses on the form are captured numerically.**



Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission Per Diem Stipend Qualification Form

For Tax Filing Year **2024**

Member Name (First and Last): Penny Feltner
(Print)

Address, City, State, ZIP: 992 Lincoln St. Eugene, Oregon 97401
(Print)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

By signing this form, I hereby affirm that all information provided by me on this form is true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: *Penny Feltner* Date: 11/4/24

PENNY FELTNER

EXPERIENCE

WORKING LANDS PROGRAM MANAGER

*Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council
Cottage Grove, Oregon*

- Conducts research on farmer needs and service gaps in the adoption of agricultural best-practices for conservation
- Develops tools and resources to assist farmers in the adoption of regenerative practices
- Conducts assessments and produces reports on program performance on an annual basis
- Develops and maintains working relationships with organization and sector partners and collaborates on shared projects
- Provides technical assistance to farmers to create transition plans, adopt new practices, and navigate grant and cost-share incentive programs
- Conducts outreach to area farmers, ranchers, and foresters on the role of regenerative land management practices
- Contributes to fundraising efforts for the Working Lands Program and its activities
- Hires, trains, and supervises additional program staff

AGROFORESTRY ADVISOR

*US Peace Corps
Jamaica, West Indies*

- Designed, facilitated, and evaluated best-practice training for farmers in rural Jamaica
- Co-created a strategic planning training series in collaboration with regional extension staff
- Developed and delivered culturally appropriate environmental education and outreach activities, events, & workshops for adults
- Led project design & management, reporting and evaluation for community, regional, and national projects
- Represented the organization to national media outlets

PROGRAM DEVELOPER

*Corporation for National & Community Service
Billings, Montana*

- Developed education curriculum
- Collaborated with community stakeholders, including the Bureau of Land Management, and representatives from the Crow and Blackfoot Nations to create and evaluate culturally-sensitive teaching materials.
- Fundraising for essential program infrastructure
- Created Volunteer Recruitment, Marketing, and Fundraising plans for ongoing sustainability

LABORATORY MANAGER

*Miami University
Oxford, Ohio*

- Supervised the processing of water samples for a volunteer water quality monitoring organization
- Trained and supervised laboratory technicians
- Conducted community outreach
- Monitored and evaluated laboratory protocol and quality data collection
- Conducted routine analysis of water quality indicators
- Presented findings on at local, regional, and international conferences

AGRICULTURE EDUCATOR

*Gorman Heritage Farm
Cincinnati, Ohio*

- Developed and delivered community educational programming on sustainable farming and gardening techniques and practices
- Supervised volunteers
- Designed and co-facilitated weekly farm camp activities for youth
- Led educational tours of the farm for community members
- Cultivated crops and cared for livestock

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

*Thomas More College Biology Field Station
Crestview Hills, Kentucky*

- Assisted with completion of a survey of aquatic wildlife in Miami Whitewater Lake, in Southwest Ohio
- Managed raw data input and conducted statistical analysis on fish biodiversity
- Prepared findings for publication and presentation to the general public.

PROJECTS

WILLAMETTE VALLEY GRAZING LANDS CONSERVATION INITIATIVE

*Willamette Valley, Oregon | October 2022-
August 2028*

WORKING LANDS FARM CONSERVATION VIDEO PRODUCTION & PROMOTIONAL CAMPAIGN

*Lane County, Oregon | September 2022-
August 2023*

LIVING ON THE LAND: RURAL LAND MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP SERIES

*Junction City & Lowell, Oregon | September-
November 2022, 2023*

RURAL AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (RADA) EXECUTIVE BOARD TRAINING SERIES

St. Andrew, Jamaica | January-June 2017

PUBLICATIONS

CRLA TRAINING MANUAL (OPEN EDUCATION RESOURCE)

Salem, Oregon | January-June 2020

RADA EXECUTIVE BOARD TRAINING MANUAL AND PARTICIPANT HANDBOOK

April 2017-January 2018

LOCAL FOOD CULTURE AND AGROECOSYSTEM HEALTH: A CASE STUDY

2014 | OhioLink

https://etd.ohiolink.edu/pg_10?::NO:10:P10_ETD_SUBID:95330

MIAMI UNIVERSITY GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY AND CARBON FOOTPRINT REPORT

Oxford, Ohio | 2012-2013

GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY HANDBOOK

Oxford, Ohio | 2012-2013



OWEB Board:

I am writing on behalf of Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network to express my strong support for Penny Feltner for the Water Quality or Farmer/Rancher interest seats on the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission.

OrCAN has partnered with Penny on our work to build a state-wide soil health network providing farmers and ranchers with resources including technical assistance and financial incentives. Penny's engagement on our Farm Service Provider Advisory Committee has been extremely valuable to our planning process and has resulted in a stronger network and provision of resources to producers.

Penny is knowledgeable about conservation practices and she has worked extensively to understand the context of Oregon farms to address the needs of agricultural land managers and provide effective technical assistance and conservation planning support. She is also intimately familiar with OAHP's grantmaking process--I believe she is one of only two successful applicants for OAHP's Conservation Management Planning (CMP) grants. The Commission has been primarily focused on covenants and easements and Penny would bring valuable experience and perspective to the CMP grant making process, which will be important with the recent influx of Natural Climate Solutions Funds. Penny would be a valuable voice on the Commission.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Megan Kemple". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Megan Kemple, Executive Director
Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network (OrCAN)



INTEREST FORM

Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission



This form is used to obtain general information and qualifications of persons interested in serving on the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission. This information will be used by the Oregon boards and commissions that recommend applicants to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB), and also by the OWEB Board, which will appoint the commissioners. Agencies are required to pay per diem compensation and expenses for “qualified members,” defined as members who are (1) not in full-time public service, and (2) have an adjusted gross income for the previous tax year of less than \$50,000, or less than \$100,000 reported on a joint income tax return. The only exception to the requirement is if the qualified member declines compensation. The agency will reimburse board members for travel expenses.

Applicant Information

Name

Affiliation

Occupation

Retired

Mailing address

Town/City State Zip Code

Phone Number Cell or Alternate # Fax Number

Email

Applicant Signature

By signing above, you certify that:

- All of the information on this form is true;
- You are a legal citizen of Oregon and the United States of America;
- You will accept appointment to the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission if selected by the OWEB Board;
- You have an email address and are able and willing to check your email on a near-daily basis and conduct some commission business via email; and
- You will be able to attend scheduled meetings across the state.

Position Sought

Check the box next to each position for which you are currently applying. You may select multiple boxes. This information may be used to contact you for the Rules Advisory Committee or for future vacancies on the commission.

- Farmer or Rancher (recommended by the State Board of Agriculture)
- Fish and Wildlife Habitat (recommended by the State Fish and Wildlife Commission)
- Agricultural Water Quality (recommended by the State Board of Agriculture)
- Conservation Easements and Similar Land Transfers (recommended by the Land Conservation and Development Commission)
- Indian Tribal Interests (selected by the OWEB Board)
- Natural Resource Value Interests (selected by the OWEB Board)

Statement Of Interest

Use the space below to explain why you are interested in being a representative on the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission and why you will be a good commissioner.

I am interested in serving on the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission to be able to assist landowners and managers to effectively carry out natural and working lands practices on our agricultural lands with voluntary practices while also protecting the natural resource attributes on those lands.

My career and community experiences, as detailed in the attached resume and as referred to later in this application, have provided me with the ability to work with farmers and ranchers to carry out conservation practices, to provide education and training, and to assist them in seeking financial opportunities to develop those practices. I believe that experience and commitment would enable me to be a strong Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission member.

I worked with Nellie McAdams and others in lobbying for the 2017 legislation that enacted the OAHP program and have subsequently attended a number of the commission's meetings and provided testimony. Being able to assist in providing incentives through the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Fund to project implementers, both for conservation easements and covenants, as well as conservation management plans, is an important goal for me.

The 2022 enabling legislation for the state's Natural and Working Lands Program and the ability to support the reduction of greenhouse gases through conservation and carbon sequestration is a goal I have a strong interest in implementing as well. While serving as Executive Director of the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts, I developed the content for the Soil Health and Carbon Sequestration website and the accompanying guidebook: <https://oacdcarbon.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Carbon-Sequestration-and-Soil-Health-Guidebook-v.1.1.pdf>. These tools outline practices, financing, and marketing related to sequestration and conservation work. Water quality is an important offset achieved in sequestration work. I was also a member of the Oregon Global Warming Commission Advisory Council, appointed by the Commission to develop planning for a natural and working lands program. I believe this experience will enable me to serve the OAHC with a knowledge background.

I have followed the development of OAHP's newly revised guidance for "Review & Feasibility Determination of Methodologies for Valuing Agricultural Conservation Management Actions". This will be an extremely helpful tool in valuing natural resource benefits from OAHP projects and rating project requests. Water quality is an important attribute of that program.

As a board member of the Clackamas Soil & Water Conservation District, I have also worked with the SIA water quality program and have attended some meetings of our local water quality work group. The work that districts do statewide to implement the Department of Agriculture's water quality program is significant and restorative.

As a recent retiree, I am able to travel to serve on the commission and devote time to the commission's work on rulemaking and grant approvals. I have over my career both sought and implemented grants, as well as providing monitoring, so I can bring those skills.

Experience/Involvement

Please describe any work experience and/or involvement that has provided you with knowledge, skills, or abilities to successfully represent the interests of the position(s) for which you are applying and to fulfill the duties of a member of the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission. Include any previous experience on boards or commissions.

You may attach a résumé and/or work history.

A resume of my work and service experience is attached.

Last fall I retired as Executive Director of the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD). During that time I worked with soil and water conservation districts and assisted in developing the programs we provided for the farmers and ranchers served. Part of that work included a large NRCS grant for restoration and protection of sage grouse habitat enabling me to work with district managers and their constituents in developing and monitoring habitat protection programs and individual farm/rancher plans.

I have served on the board of the Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District for 16 years, in various officer roles and currently as the chair of our Working Lands Committee and our Advocacy Committee. I also participate as a member of the OACD Working Lands Committee and on the Working Lands Committee of the Oregon Conservation Partnership, headed by the Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts. I have enjoyed my work on the conservation district board as it gives me the opportunity to work with landowners and managers in implementing conservation practices on the ground through workshops and other educational efforts.

In the 2000s I worked with the Clackamas River Basin Watershed Council (CRBC), as a board member and as board chair in part of that period. This was another opportunity to work with people on the land to accomplish conservation and natural resource protection. As CRBC was one of the founding members of the Network of Watershed Councils I had the ability to work with other councils in that role toward our common goal. Our district still works closely with all 10 of the watershed councils in our county to help carry out water quality and restoration projects.

As my resume details, I also worked for two irrigation districts as well as serving as that state association's (OWRC) executive director in the past. Between 2006 and 2009 as manager of the Swalley Irrigation District in Bend, I worked with the Deschutes River Conservancy, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation, state and federal agencies and others to pipe 5 miles of canal, oversee construction of a hydro facility and lead our district to commit 20 cfs of 1890 water rights instream. One of the merits of working for the districts was to be able to assist our customers in taking part in various programs to better their conservation and natural resource efforts, including such programs as ODFW's habitat conservation wildlife programs, instream water right leasing, and NRCS and Bureau of Reclamation conservation practice trainings. While I am not myself a farmer, I have worked with farmers and ranchers for over 25 years.

I have followed natural resource issues throughout my career. As a legislator in the early 2000s, I served on the Land and Water Committee and was Vice-Chair of the Stream Restoration and Species Recovery Committee which worked with agencies to provide ESA and other fish-related recovery programs and the Oregon Plan for salmon and watersheds. Earlier I had served on the ODFW Fish Passage Task Force so I understand the need for protection of our Oregon fishery resource. Water has also been a mainstay of my career, working with water quality, quantity and restoration issues over my career. I currently serve on the Oregon Water Resources Commission. In all of these roles, water quality was as of much importance as water quantity.

Supplemental Question

Describe what you believe to be the main issues facing the future of Oregon agriculture and the fish and wildlife habitat and other natural resources on Oregon's agricultural lands.

I believe there are a number of issues facing the future of Oregon agriculture and the related natural resources, including fish and wildlife habitat protections, which could be mitigated by implementing OAHF programs.

First, we must protect the land base for agriculture--it is limited and irreplaceable. The OAHF easement and covenant program is a major tool toward that goal as well as OWEB's acquisition and easement protection programs and the NRCS programs that provide matching dollars. Our land use goals, and primarily the Farm and Forest Programs of the Department of Land Conservation and Development under statewide planning goal 3, provide a strong base for protection. I currently serve on the Farm/Forest RAC to assist in ensuring that program remains relevant to current needs. Incorporating protection from the continuing growth of exceptions for development on farmland is more necessary than ever to maintain the land base. From 1954 to 2022 we lost almost 6 million acres of farmland to other development and 5.5% of our farms.

We must at the same time assure economic viability for our agricultural base which brings substantial dollars into Oregon's economy. Agriculture has a \$28.9 billion footprint in Oregon. It provides 15% of our economy and 1 out of every 8 jobs. External issues such as material costs, labor, marketing pressures and other operational expenses continue to make it more difficult to achieve strong economic results.

And climate change impacts further aggravate the economics and viability and must be addressed. Drought and wildfire have created substantial losses in the farm economy. We Oregonians need the food and products our local farmers produce and we need to ensure they can continue operation to provide our needs and serve the export markets Oregon has developed. And while they operate we need to provide them with assistance in the protection of water quality among other benefits to our natural resources.

An aging land ownership and management force internally requires a viable succession program, another tool that the OAHF program will implement. Over 64% of our farms will change ownership in the next 20 years. The average age of a farmer is now 60 and over and 81% of those farmers do not have a succession plan. This part of the OAHF program is badly needed.

Farmers and ranchers want to protect the natural resources that are important to our state as well as their needs and they require programs that will assist their voluntary efforts. With current federal funding that has been significant to Oregon we have been able to finance some of the needed tools and incentives. But with the Farm Bill lingering and federal dollars diminishing, it is incumbent upon our state to fill the gap to help maintain our agricultural economy. Any programs we can support and fund are strong tools for that effort.

People working the land want to do the right thing. Programs such as the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's (ODFW) tax exemption for providing wildlife habitat, the Oregon Water Resources Department instream leasing, funding through the ODFW Fish Passage Task Force, and many of the OWEB programs, are providing farmers and ranchers with programs and incentives to enhance protection of our natural resources. The cooperation of conservation districts in carrying out ODA's water quality program provides opportunities for districts to fund SIA projects.

The same development encroachments that can diminish our farmland can also bring harm to our natural resources. Protecting natural resources and farmland goes hand-in-hand and Oregon's OAHF program will benefit both.

References

Please identify three references that may be contacted if you are selected as a top candidate. Individuals or representatives of associations/organizations are acceptable.

Letters of support from relevant staff, associations, or similar groups are encouraged; feel free to attach any such letters to your application.

Reference #1

Name [Meta Loftsgaarden](#)
Affiliation (if any) [former OWEB Director; current Forest Supervisor, Mt Hood National Forest](#)
Mailing Address [16400 Champion Way](#)
City/Town [Sandy](#)
State [Oregon](#)
Zip Code [97055](#)
Phone Number [503-668-1700](#)
Alternate # [971-378-9704](#)
Fax #
Email meta.loftsgaarden@usda.gov

Reference #2

Name [Nellie McAdams](#)
Affiliation (if any) [Oregon Agricultural Trust](#)
Mailing Address [P.O. Box 7359](#)
City/Town [Salem](#)
State [Oregon](#)
Zip Code [97303](#)
Phone Number [503-272-1720](#)
Alternate #
Fax #
Email nellie@oregonagtrust.org

Reference #3

Name [Kate Fitzpatrick](#)
Affiliation (if any) [Deschutes River Conservancy](#)
Mailing Address [700 NW Hill Street](#)
City/Town [Bend](#)
State [Oregon](#)
Zip Code [97703](#)
Phone Number [541-382-4077](#)
Alternate #
Fax #
Email kate@deschutesriver.org

Please send your completed application via email to nicole.bettinardi@oweb.oregon.gov or via mail to:

Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program
ATTN: Nicole Bettinardi
Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
775 Summer Street NE #360
Salem, Oregon 97301



PROTECTED GROUP STATUS FORM

Committee/Board Member

Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission



Name **Jan Lee**

Date **August 27, 2024**

Department/Committee Board Name: **Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission**

Federal and State laws require the Board to make its programs, activities, and services available to all persons regardless of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and sex. The Board is attempting to monitor the selection of and participation by women, minorities, and people with disabilities on its committees, advisory groups, etc.

The following information will be used for statistical reporting only, and is voluntary. Information obtained will be kept confidential and will be destroyed as soon as the responses on the form are captured numerically.

[Redacted]

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- [Redacted]

[Redacted]

- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted]

[Redacted]

Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission Per Diem Stipend Qualification Form

For Tax Filing Year [2023]

Member Name (First and Last): Janet L. Lee
(Print)

Address, City, State, ZIP: 36702 Ichabod Street, Sandy, OR 97055
(Print)

[REDACTED]

By signing this form, I hereby affirm that all information provided by me on this form is true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Jan Lee Date: August 28, 2024

JAN LEE

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

POLICY WORK IN NATURAL RESOURCES
ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT
GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE AND ADVOCACY

WORK HISTORY

Water & Energy Resource Services

Owner and consultant from 1983-present
Contract association management, grants and projects

Executive Director, 03/2018 – 10/31/2023 Now Retired

Oregon Association of Conservation Districts, Salem, Oregon

- represent the 45 Soil and Water Conservation Districts statewide
- building programs for districts to serve landowners
- providing communications
- conference and workshop implementation
- advocacy with state and federal agencies
- grant seeking and development

Executive Director, 04/2009 - 02/2018

Northwest Hydroelectric Association, Portland, OR

- providing services to Northwest utilities with hydropower projects
- supporting new small hydropower projects in irrigation districts/cities
- developing communications
- assisting members with regulatory issues
- implementing conferences and workshops
- developing grants with BPA and NW Power Council

Manager, 02/2003 - 03/2009

Swalley Irrigation District, Bend, OR

- manage irrigation system
- work with city of Bend, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs and 6 other irrigation districts in developing water conservation projects basinwide and a habitat conservation plan
- management of 5-mile pipeline project adding a small hydropower plant, including permitting, finance and construction management, confirming rights-of-ways through federal court process
- advocacy with state and federal agencies; grant and fiscal management of \$14 million investment
- managing land use actions on district lands at city/county level

State Representative, 01/2001 - 12/2002 Oregon

 Sandy, OR 97055

 (503) 545 -9420

 janleewater@gmail.com

SKILLS

- Natural Resource Policy
- Rulemaking
- Grant Management
- Advocacy
- Executive Leadership
- Land Use Review
- Agriculture/Forestry Services

House District 51

- Member Water and Land Use Committee
- Vice-Chair Stream Restoration and Species Recovery Committee
- Health and Human Resources Committee
- ability to shepherd Oregon hydropower relicensing legislation and other natural resource policy

Executive Director, 05/1985 - 12/2000

Oregon Water Resources Congress (OWRC), Bend and Salem, OR (irrigation districts of Oregon)

- advocate and develop programs for the state's irrigation districts
- working with the Water Resources Commission, the department, and other state and federal agencies
- advocating at the state and federal level
- board member National Water Resources Association

EDUCATION

Masters, Public Administration/Natural Resources, 05/1989

Lewis & Clark College - Portland, OR

Bachelor of Science, Management, 05/1983

Linfield College - McMinnville, Oregon

GOVERNMENT EXPERIENCE

CURRENT

Board Member, Clackamas Soil & Water Conservation District – 16 years
City of Sandy Planning Commission
Commissioner, Oregon Water Resources Commission
Budget Committee, Clackamas County
Board Chair, Oregon Association of Conservation Districts

FORMER

Oregon State Representative, HD 51
City Council, City of Sandy
Chair, Clackamas River Basin Council
Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board Member
Oregon Global Warming Commission, member of Natural and Working Lands Advisory Committee to OGWC on climate issues
Served on USFS NW Forest Management Plan Advisory Committee
Clackamas County Planning Commission



OREGON
AGRICULTURAL
TRUST

Monday, 8/26/2024

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to convey my strong support for Jan Lee as a candidate for the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission. I have worked with Jan for years in her roles at Oregon Association of Conservation Districts and have tremendous respect for her knowledge of conservation and agriculture in Oregon, her diplomacy, and her ability to understand and inform state programs.

Please let me know if you have any questions: 971.409.6806, nellie@oregonagtrust.org.

Best regards,

Nellie McAdams

Executive Director

OAHP

Kate Fitzpatrick <kate@deschutesriver.org>

Mon 8/26/2024 11:43 AM

To:janleewater@gmail.com <janleewater@gmail.com>

Hi Jan,

I enthusiastically support your service on the OAHP Commission. This program is critical to support both conservation goals as well as the state's goals to preserve working landscapes. Your depth of experience working on conservation issues in Oregon, your knowledge of carbon sequestration opportunities, and your level of understanding and vision about this program will add great value to the Commission. In addition, your balanced, even, and no-nonsense style and ability to get things done will serve this role well.

Please let me know if I can help further.

All the best,

Kate

Kate Fitzpatrick
Executive Director

541 382-4077 x 118



www.deschutesriver.org

Check out our [2023 Impact Report!](#)

Re: Support for Jan Lee and OAHP nomination

Jan Lee <janleewater@gmail.com>

Wed 8/28/2024 12:49 PM

To: Loftsgaarden, Meta - FS, OR <Meta.Loftsgaarden@usda.gov>

Thank you so much for taking the time to add this to your list of all you already have to do!!

From: Loftsgaarden, Meta - FS, OR <Meta.Loftsgaarden@usda.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2024 12:48 PM

To: Jan Lee <janleewater@gmail.com>

Subject: Support for Jan Lee and OAHP nomination

Jan – please accept this note as my confirmation that I support your application for the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program. Given your extensive background and experience both directly in agricultural land conservation, and in many roles adjacent to this important work, I think you bring a perspective that is important to the success of the program. Please share this message as appropriate, and I'm glad to talk further if needed.

Meta



Meta Loftsgaarden *(she/her/hers)*

Forest Supervisor

Forest Service

Mt Hood National Forest

c: 971-378-9704

meta.loftsgaarden@usda.gov

16400 Champion Way

Sandy, OR 97055

www.fs.usda.gov/mthood



**Caring for the land and serving
people**

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Monday, 8/26/2024

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to convey my strong support for Jan Lee to serve on the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission. I have worked closely with Jan in her roles at Clackamas Soil & Water Conservation District and here at OACD. She has extensive knowledge and experience working with conservation and agriculture throughout Oregon. She also has invaluable experience working on commissions and on state policies. Finally, she is a very easy person to work with, her diplomacy and ability to collaborate, yet express her own opinions strongly would be a great asset to the OAHC.

Please let me know if you have any questions: 971-988-9929 or andrea.kreiner@oacd.org.

Best regards,

A large, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke that curves upwards at the end.

Executive Director

*Agenda Item number 08 – Panel Discussion on Agri-tourism and Land Use
December 17-19, 2024, Board Meeting.*

MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture

From: Karla Valness, Senior Policy Advisor

Subject: Agenda Item number 08 – *Panel Discussion on Agri-tourism and Land Use*

I. Introduction

The panel will discuss topics related to Agri-tourism and land use in Oregon.

Representatives on the panel include:

- **Peter Kenagy**, Ag for Oregon
- **Barb Iverson**, Wooden Shoe Tulip Farm
- **Samantha Bayer**, Oregon Property Owners Association
- **Gordon Howard**, Department of Land Conservation and Development

II. Background

Additional information on Agri-tourism and land use in Oregon will assist board members as they consider the status of Board of Agriculture Resolution 314 - Permitted Uses on Lands Zoned Exclusive Farm Use and on High-Value Farmland.

Board of Agriculture
Afternoon site visit to Hatfield Marine Science Center
Wednesday, December 18, 2024

2:45 PM Depart
Best Western Plus – Agate Beach Inn
3019 North Coast Highway
Newport, OR 97365

Directions:

1. Head toward Oregon Coast Highway (US-101) on 25th
2. Turn right onto Oregon Coast Highway (US-101) – go for 3.3 miles
3. Turn right onto SW Abalone St – go for 0.3 miles
4. Turn slight right onto SE OSU Drive – go for 0.5 miles
5. Take the 1st exit from roundabout – go for 472 feet
6. Arrive Hatfield Marine Science Center

2:55 PM Arrive
Hatfield Marine Science Center (HMSC)
2030 SE Marine Science Center Dr
Newport, OR 97365

3:00 PM Meet Dr. Robert Cowen, HMSC Director, Associate VP for Marine Research
Operations
[Gladys Valley Marine Studies Building](#)
Wet Lab Classroom 146 (GVMS 146)
Hatfield Marine Science Center

Contact:

Tami O'Connor | Operations Supervisor
Hatfield Marine Science Center | Oregon State University
2030 SE Marine Science Drive, Newport, OR 97365
Direct Line: 541-867-0203
tami.oconnor@oregonstate.edu | <http://hmsc.oregonstate.edu>

4:30 PM Depart HMSC

Directions:

1. Head west – go for 302 feet
2. Continue toward SE OSU Dr – go for 79 feet
3. Take the 3rd exit from roundabout onto SE OSU Dr – go for 0.5 miles
4. Turn left onto SE Pacific Way – go for 0.2 miles
5. Turn right onto Oregon Coast Highway (US-101) – go for 0.7 miles
6. Turn sharp right onto SE Naterlin Dr toward Waldport – go for 390 feet
7. Turn left onto SW Naterlin Dr – go for 0.2 miles

8. Turn right onto SW Bay St – go for 210 feet
9. Continue on SW Bay Blvd – go for 0.5 miles

4:45 PM Arrive

5:30 PM Dinner Reservation – *No Board business scheduled during dinner.*
 Local Ocean Seafoods
 213 SE Bay Blvd
 Newport, OR 97365

Evening Return to Hotel

Carpool 1 – Driver: Karla Valness

Karla Valness
 Chad Allen
 Barbara Boyer
 Ty Kliewer

Carpool 2 – Driver: Jonathan Sandau

Jonathan Sandau
 Miguel Lopez
 Elin Miller
 Bill Miller

Carpool 3 – Driver: Isaak Stapleton

Isaak Stapleton
 Sunny Summers
 Eric Orem
 Ryan Scholz

Josh Zielinski

Carpool 4 – Driver: Chris Benemann

Chris Benemann
 Staci Simonich
 Lisa Charpilloz Hanson
 Lindsay Eng

Carpool 5 – Driver: Rusty Rock

Rusty Rock
 Casey Prentiss
 Laura Passage*

Carpool 6 – Driver: Erick Garman

Erick Garman *

*If Laura does not attend the tour, Erick can move to carpool 5

*Agenda Item number 10 – OSU College of Agricultural Sciences and Oregon Agricultural Experiment Stations Update
December 17-19, 2024, Board Meeting.*

MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture

From: Karla Valness, Senior Policy Advisor

Subject: Agenda Item number 10 – OSU College of Agricultural Sciences and Oregon Agricultural Experiment Stations Update

I. Introduction

Ex-officio board member Staci Simonich, Dean of OSU's College of Agricultural Sciences and Director of the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Stations will give an update.

II. Background

Quarterly the Dean/Director will provide an update to the board on topics of interest at OSU and for the agriculture food and fiber industries in Oregon.

*Agenda Item number 11 – ODA collaboration with coastal agriculture, dairies, and fisheries
December 17-19, 2024, Board Meeting.*

MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture

From: Karla Valness, Senior Policy Advisor

Subject: Agenda Item number 11 – ODA collaboration with coastal agriculture, dairies, and fisheries.

I. Introduction

To provide board members a more in-depth look at ODA Divisions and programs, ODA will give an overview of Division programs and responsibilities, and address questions from board members. Today you will hear from the ODA Food Safety and Animal Health Division, and the Ag Economic & Trade Development program discussing the collaboration with coastal agriculture, dairies, and fisheries.

Representatives on the panel include:

- **Rusty Rock**, Food Safety and Animal Health Division Director
- **Dr. Ryan Scholz**, State Veterinarian and Program Manager
- **Erick Garman**, Trade Manager, Ag Economic & Trade Development

II. Background

Food Safety

The mission of the Oregon Department of Agriculture Food Safety Program is to help prevent the spread of foodborne illness.

We accomplish this mission through the following:

- Monitoring Oregon's food industry
- Enforcing state sanitation laws
- Inspecting food establishments in Oregon
- Working to ensure the consumer gets food that is not contaminated, mislabeled, misrepresented or changed in any way that would impair safety, wholesomeness or purity

Production of safe food begins at the farm, and continues with the processors, retailers, and even you, the consumer.

Animal Health

The Oregon Department of Agriculture's (ODA) Animal Health Program, under the direction of the Oregon State Veterinarian, is responsible for protecting the health of Oregon livestock.

This responsibility is carried out through four primary statutory responsibilities – Livestock Disease Control and Response, Animal Disease Traceability (ADT), Animal Emergency Planning and Response, and providing veterinary oversight to the State Meat Inspection Program.

Three additional programs with similar missions – Animal Health Laboratory, Commercial Feed Licensing, and Animal Rescue Entity Licensing – also exist within the Animal Health Program.

Ag Economic & Trade Development

The Ag Economic & Trade Development program support the ODA's mission to promote economic development within Oregon's agricultural sector. This program identifies and creates marketing opportunities for Oregon's food and agricultural products both domestically and internationally. Additionally, the Farm to School initiative leverages public and private resources to increase the availability of locally grown and processed foods in Oregon schools, fostering healthy eating habits among children and supporting local farmers.

Oregon State Board of Agriculture

Thursday, December 19, 2024 -- Public Comments – verbal testimony sign-up

Speaker	Name	Topic	Date Received	Virtual
1	Name P:			
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As of 11/19/2024

Agenda Item number 13 -- Overview of Board of Agriculture Resolutions under review in 2025, December 17-19, 2024, Board Meeting.

MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture

From: Jonathan Sandau, Deputy Director
Casey Prentiss, Ag Services Division Director
Isaak Stapleton, NRPA Division Director

Subject: Agenda Item number 13 -- Overview of Board of Agriculture Resolutions under review in 2025
December 17-19, 2024, Board Meeting

I. Introduction

This staff report provides an overview of the Board of Agriculture Resolutions scheduled for review in 2025. Staff have reviewed and provided recommendations to keep the background statement as written or recommend proposed edits to background statement for each Resolution.

II. Background

Based on the Board Policy and Procedures for Resolutions, the following resolutions are scheduled for review in 2025.

The State Board of Agriculture will be accepting public comment on these resolutions during public comment opportunities listed on the board agenda beginning at the 2025 Q1 meeting.

Proposed action beginning in 2025 Q1 meeting: Board members to review and determine what action needs to be taken on each resolution. Based on ODA review and public comments, board members will 1) accept/decline ODA review of background statement 2) determine if resolution statement should remain a) Active with no edits b) Active and review for possible edits c) No longer active and archive resolution.

For a list of State Board of Agriculture Resolutions go to:
<https://oda.direct/BOAResolutions>

III. Evaluation Process and Recommendations

Each of the following Resolutions, scheduled for review in 2025, have been reviewed by ODA staff members to determine if the Resolution background statements are complete or if the staff have any recommended edits for Board members to consider.

A. Resolution 107 – Priority for Agricultural Use of Water

Reviewed by: Isaak Stapleton, NRPA Division Director

This resolution was created in April 1984 and last reviewed in August 2022.

Recommendation: Review in 2025

Background Update:

- Include references to recent drought conditions and their impact on Oregon’s agriculture.
- Highlight the role of climate change in altering precipitation patterns and water availability, emphasizing its implications for agricultural sustainability.
- Incorporate specific examples of agricultural conservation initiatives, such as irrigation modernization projects, water banking efforts, or watershed restoration partnerships, to showcase proactive contributions by the agricultural sector.

Resolution Refinement:

- Advocate for increased state and federal investment in agricultural water infrastructure to support irrigation efficiency, water reuse, and storage capacity.
- Emphasize the importance of collaboration between agricultural, municipal, and environmental partners to balance water resource allocation and ensure equitable outcomes for all users.

B. Resolution 281 – Conservation Plan for the Oregon Coast Coho

Reviewed by: Isaak Stapleton, NRPA Division Director

This resolution was created in February 2007 and last reviewed in August 2022.

Recommendation: No changes recommended

C. Resolution 301 – Minimizing conflicts of coexistence in agriculture

Reviewed by: Jonathan Sandau, Deputy Director

This resolution was created in June 2011 and last reviewed in May 2022.

Recommendation: No changes recommended

D. Resolution 307 – Farmworker Housing

Reviewed by: Jonathan Sandau, Deputy Director

This resolution was created in September 2011 and last reviewed in November 2022.

Recommendation: Review in 2025

Background Update:

- Include updates on OR-OSHA's proposed agricultural housing standards that address health and safety standards
- Highlight the Agriculture Workforce Housing Tax Credit (AWHTC) and the critical need for funding sources for improving farmworker housing.

Resolution Refinement:

- Reaffirm the Board's support for addressing the housing needs of Oregon's agricultural labor force, emphasizing access to safe, affordable, and adequate housing.
- Employee housing standards should protect the health and safety of agricultural employees.
- Support increased funding and incentives, such as tax credits and grants, to help farm housing providers mitigate the capital costs associated with meeting updated standards and regulations.

E. Resolution 309 – Coordinated Streamside Management Approach to Water Quality

Reviewed by: Isaak Stapleton, NRPA Division Director

This resolution was created in March 2012 and last reviewed in May 2022.

Recommendation: Review in 2025

Background Update:

- Clarify that unlike Strategic Implementation Areas (SIAs), Focus Areas do not receive dedicated funding.

- Note that Focus Areas are no longer a requirement for SWCDs to receive their scope of work funding.
- Update the number of active Focus Areas to reflect the current count of 12.
- Emphasize that SIAs are now the primary vehicle for outreach, technical assistance (TA), monitoring, and restoration efforts.
- Remove or revise the term "Coordinated Streamside Management Approach," as it is not commonly used, but maintain references to ongoing coordination with DEQ, OWEB, and ODFW for streamside management.
- Formatting consistency

Resolution Refinement:

- Support integration of SIAs as the cornerstone of the Coordinated Streamside Management Approach, ensuring adequate funding and support for outreach, TA, monitoring, and restoration projects.
- Highlight the importance of leveraging multi-agency collaboration to maximize resources and enhance streamside management outcomes.
- Advocate for additional state and federal funding to strengthen SWCD and watershed council efforts in streamside restoration.
- Emphasize the critical role of ODA in compliance enforcement to support the effectiveness of the Agricultural Water Quality Management Program.

F. Resolution 313 – Water Quality Strategic Implementation Areas (SIAs) and SWCD Focus Areas

Reviewed by: Isaak Stapleton, NRPA Division Director

This resolution was created in December 2014 and last reviewed in May 2022.

Recommendation: No changes recommended

G. Resolution 317 – Oregon Department of Agriculture’s role in the Food Safety Modernization Act Produce Rule Implementation

Reviewed by: Casey Prentiss, Ag Services Division Director

This resolution was created in June 2016 and last reviewed in November 2022.

Recommendation: Review in 2025

Background Update:

- Include an update on ODA’s initiatives in implementing the FSMA Produce Safety Rule, particularly efforts in outreach, education, and technical assistance to support compliance.

- Highlight the FDA’s final rule on pre-harvest agricultural water provisions, issued in July 2024, and its implications for Oregon’s produce industry.
- Describe ODA's collaborations with partners such as Oregon State University Extension to provide training and resources for producers.
- Provide an update on the voluntary farm inventory development and its progress under the cooperative agreement.

Resolution Refinement:

- Support ODA’s continued focus on outreach, education, and technical assistance as critical components of FSMA Produce Safety Rule implementation.
- Advocate for sufficient federal funding to ensure ODA can sustain its role in produce safety while minimizing financial burdens on farmers.
- Encourage engagement through collaborative partnerships and input to address implementation challenges and ensure compliance.
- Recommend that ODA reevaluate the potential for conducting on-farm inspections, considering available resources and stakeholder preferences, to enhance food safety efforts.

H. Resolution 318 – Siting of Energy Transmission and Generation Facilities on Agricultural Land

Reviewed by: Jonathan Sandau, Deputy Director

This resolution was created in June 2018 and last reviewed in August 2022.

Recommendation: Review in 2025

Background Update:

- Reference recent updates to LCDC’s administrative rules (OAR 660-033-0130(37) and (38)) designed to guide solar siting on EFU lands.
- Review language for consistency

Resolution Refinement:

- Review resolution language that DLCD’s solar siting updates since this policy was last updated.

I. Resolution 319 – Climate Change Policy Considerations

Reviewed by: Jonathan Sandau, Deputy Director

This resolution was created in December 2019 and last reviewed in November 2022.

Recommendation: Review in 2025

Background Update:

- Highlight Oregon’s leadership in producing over 250 diverse commodities and the importance of preserving this diversity amidst changing climate conditions.
- Reference USDA programs, such as the Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry Partnership Initiative, which promotes carbon sequestration and sustainable farming practices.
- Incorporate recent data on climate impacts in Oregon, including drought, wildfire, and water shortages, to underscore the urgency of addressing these issues.

Resolution Refinement:

- Review Oregon’s water management policies to address shifting water availability and prioritize irrigation modernization and water storage development.
- Evaluate the effectiveness and accessibility of current voluntary incentive programs for carbon sequestration and climate adaptation in agriculture.
- Ensure offset programs and climate incentives are inclusive and workable for farms of all sizes and production systems.
- Recommend sustained funding for climate resilience programs that support soil health, water conservation, and carbon-smart agricultural practices.

IV. Next Steps

The State Board of Agriculture will accept public comment on these resolutions during public comment opportunities listed on the board agenda beginning at the 2025 Q1 meeting.

Proposed action beginning in 2025 Q1 meeting: Board members to review and determine what action needs to be taken on each resolution.

Based on ODA review and public comments, board members will:

- 1) accept/decline ODA review of background statement
- 2) determine if resolution statement should remain
 - a) Active with no edits
 - b) Active and review for possible edits
 - c) No longer active and archive resolution

Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution	
Title: Priority for Agricultural Use of Water	Number: 107 Effective Date: 08/18/2022
Workgroup A: Harper, Allen, Miller, Orem, Santamaria ODA Staff Contact: Isaak Stapleton	Next Review Date: 00/00/2025 Date of Last Review/Revision: 08/18/2022 Original Resolution Date: 04/12/1984
Board Chair: Bryan Harper	Signature on file

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Background

- I. Agriculture is a major industry in Oregon, providing a vital and important economic base for citizens of the state.
- II. Agriculture is a water user in the state and must be recognized as being a beneficial use of water and in the public interest; and
- III. As our state faces unprecedented water supply challenges, it is critical that communities come together to engage in water supply planning and watershed investments that meet all needs in the basin.
- IV. Oregon agriculture has a long history of engaging in conservation projects which have provided positive environmental benefits in all basins around Oregon. This work is valuable and should be continued.

Resolution

The Board of Agriculture believes that agriculture, along with other beneficial uses and users of water, must be considered equally and coordinated with all water resource planning and management activities in the state; and

Current and future agricultural uses of water must be accounted for as the state develops new instream water rights. We support the continued use of reservations to ensure that agricultural needs are accounted for as the state develops new instream water right applications.

Summary

Agricultural uses of water should be considered equally with all other beneficial uses in water resource planning and management activities within Oregon.

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution	
Title: Conservation Plan for the Oregon Coast Coho	Number: 281 Effective Date: 08/18/2022
Workgroup A: Harper, Allen, Miller, Orem, Santamaria ODA Staff Contact: Isaak Stapleton	Next Review Date: 00/00/2025 Date of Last Review/Revision: 08/18/2022 Original Resolution Date: 02/23/2007
Board Chair: Bryan Harper	Signature on file

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Background

The state completed a Conservation and Management Plan for the Oregon Coast (OC) Coho Salmon in 2007 to ensure that coastal coho populations fully recover. This planning effort included considerable agency input and public involvement. In January 2007, then Governor Theodore Kulongoski requested that state natural resource agencies and their boards provide visible leadership, support, and endorsement to this effort. The status of OC Coho has been reviewed three times since the plan was completed, and while there have been positive trends in some areas, the status of the species is still listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) will contribute to this effort through implementation of the CAFO, Agricultural Water Quality, Pesticides, Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD), and Weeds and Invasive Species programs. Also needed are additional voluntary fish habitat improvements not covered under the existing regulatory programs.

When this resolution was passed in 2007, the 38 Area Plans and Rules that form the backbone of the ODA Agricultural Water Quality Program (AgWQP) had only been fully developed and in place for 3 years. From 2004 through 2012, AgWQP compliance efforts were predominantly complaint-based and supported by voluntary implementation of conservation efforts by farmers and ranchers. Coastal Area Plans and Area Rules are designed to meet the requirements of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments (CZARA) and to implement agriculture's part of Oregon's non-point pollution control plan. The need for more strategic approaches to water quality issues was recognized, resulting in the Focus Area and Strategic Implementation Area Initiatives (2012+). SIAs received additional support for monitoring and local partner capacity in 2014. Focus Areas concentrate delivery of SWCD landowner technical assistance in small geographic areas to promote voluntary efforts. The SIA initiative takes a similar voluntary, partnership approach but also has an ODA water quality rule compliance lens.

Resolution

Be it resolved that the Oregon State Board of Agriculture endorses the Oregon Department of Agriculture's efforts toward assisting with state efforts to fully recover coast coho populations. The board in cooperation with the Director of the Department of Agriculture will provide leadership and support to this effort, including efforts to help landowners achieve voluntary fish habitat improvements not covered under the existing regulatory programs.

Summary

The Board supports efforts of the state to ensure the recovery of the Oregon Coastal Coho Salmon population. Resolution number: 281

Resolution title: Conservation Plan for the Oregon Coast Coho

Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution	
Title: Minimizing conflicts of coexistence in agriculture	Number: 301 Effective Date: 05/05/2022
Workgroup B: Boyer, Johnson, Lopez, Svaty, Zielinski ODA Staff Contact: Jim Johnson, Rusty Rock, Jess Paulson	Next Review Date: 00/00/2025 Date of Last Review/Revision: 05/05/2022 Original Resolution Date: 06/07/2011
Board Chair: Bryan Harper	Signature on file

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Background

Whereas a broad spectrum of production systems and technologies exist in agriculture;

Whereas farmers should, of their choosing, be able to pursue and utilize all available legal technologies and agriculture production systems to grow crops and raise livestock;

Whereas those engaged in production of agricultural crops or livestock are entrepreneurs, venturing their own knowledge, capital, resources, and ideals to bring products to market with the intent to make a profit;

Whereas all growers have the responsibility for good stewardship of natural resources, and farmers and ranchers must make management decisions that support such stewardship regardless of production system;

Whereas deliberate communication between neighboring producers about practices and cropping choices is essential to maintain crop integrity, resolve potential conflicts between neighboring operations, and help maintain successful farm operations;

Whereas Oregon farms vary in scale, organizational structure, and length of time in operation – some new, some over a century in the same family farm business – all contributing to the mosaic of agriculture in our state;

Whereas farmers have opportunities and responsibilities to many markets, including those nearby (local), regionally, and internationally, any of which may involve selling direct to consumers or wholesale, via contract or open market pricing;

Whereas those engaged in agricultural pursuits recognize that improvements in production processes require research, technological advances, and infrastructure to support adoption of new methods;

Whereas providing a sustained global food supply will require every available production methodology and technology, adapted to local conditions, that improves output while enhancing natural resources;

Resolution

Therefore, the State Board of Agriculture supports:

Resolution number: 301

Resolution title: Minimizing conflicts of coexistence in agriculture

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- a) Stewardship of all production systems on farmlands and agriculture applications, striving for economic viability, sound natural resource management, good neighbor and employee relations, and community connections;
- b) Ongoing, constructive communication between growers about farm management plans and practices to minimize coexistence conflicts;
- c) Growers retaining the legal and economic opportunity to choose production technologies and resources, size of operation, and business structures necessary to produce products that meet the markets they choose to serve.
- d) Growers using Best Management Practices (BMPs) to minimize conflict between production systems as necessary, such as communication and coordination, use of conflict resolution tools including the Farm Mediation Program; agronomic practices, and buffers and isolation in space/time;
- e) State and Federal programs that encourage a variety of agriculture production systems with appropriate research, data gathering, infrastructure, tax policies and marketing support; facilitate commerce; support efficiencies in inputs, production and yields; sustain natural resources; conduct regulatory work; and provide financial and technical assistance when available and appropriate.
- f) Participation by ODA in efforts to proactively prevent and resolve coexistence conflicts, including participation in broad and inclusive efforts to discuss and identify solutions, and promotion of the Farm Mediation Program as a tool to resolve conflict.

Summary

Supports stewardship of natural resources; ongoing communication; choice of production technologies, practices, and business structures; BMPs to minimize conflict, and state and federal programs that support a variety of production systems.

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution	
Title: Farmworker Housing	Number: 307 Effective Date: 11/17/2022
Workgroup B: Boyer, Johnson, Lopez, Svaty, Zielinski ODA Staff Contact: Jim Johnson, Rusty Rock, Jess Paulson	Next Review Date: 00/00/2025 Date of Last Review/Revision: 11/15/2022 Original Resolution Date: 09/07/2011
Board Chair: Luisa Santamaria	Signature on file

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Background

Whereas Oregon’s agriculture, food and fiber industry is economically linked to 326,617 (13.8% percent) of full and part-time jobs in Oregon;

Whereas a large portion of the agricultural workforce related to production agriculture is seasonal (an estimated 87,000 compared to 32,000 year-round) and the housing needs for this population of workers are unique;

Whereas the number of on-farm housing and community-based housing opportunities do not meet the demand of the seasonal agricultural workforce;

Whereas farmers are concerned about the growing number of houses traditionally used for farmworker housing being converted to short-term rentals;

Whereas the refundable and carry-Forward tax credits are an important tool to help address the availability and livability of housing for seasonal and year-round farm workers in Oregon.

Resolution

Be it therefore resolved that the State Board of Agriculture supports the Carry-Forward Tax Credit Program and continues to encourage farmers to help address the need for farmworker housing. Also, be it resolved that the State Board of Agriculture encourages the Oregon legislature to consider additional strategies that would provide further opportunities to address the need for farmworker housing.

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution	
Title: Coordinated Streamside Management Approach to Water Quality	Number: 309 Effective Date: 05/05/2022
Workgroup A: Harper, Allen, Miller, Orem, Santamaria ODA Staff Contact: Isaak Stapleton	Next Review Date: 00/00/2025 Date of Last Review/Revision: 05/05/2022 Original Resolution Date: 03/08/2012
Board Chair: Bryan Harper	Signature on file

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Background

Since 2012, the Department of Agriculture (ODA), as directed by the Board of Agriculture (BOA), has developed and implemented a strategy to more efficiently and effectively prevent and control water pollution from activities on agricultural lands. That strategy has included systematic identification of Strategic Implementation Areas (SIAs) and Focus Areas in Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) to assess land conditions related to water quality and assist landowners in protecting and improving water quality. The approach has included: assessment based on existing public domain data, prioritization of need based on existing conditions, focused outreach, and enforcement action by the Department of Agriculture when warranted.

In November 2017, representatives of ODA and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) presented a concept to the Board of Agriculture to incorporate ODA's SIA and Focus Area activities into a more coordinated approach to streamside management that includes federal, state and local partners and is designed to leverage more resources for incentive-based conservation and monitoring, while sustaining ODA's role in compliance and enforcement of statutes and rules pertaining to agricultural water quality management. ODA and OWEB will jointly lead the coordinated approach.

Streamside areas have a significant influence on water quality and provide a variety of functions, including streambank stability, moderation of solar heating, and filtration of pollutants from overland flows. They are also a very visible sign of agriculture's commitment to protect water quality and implement the Agricultural Water Quality Program. Streamside areas also provide habitat for fish and wildlife.

While landowners have invested time and money to improve and restore their streamside areas, there are still areas in Oregon in need of improvement. Outreach, education, and technical assistance is essential to continue streamside restoration efforts along agricultural lands. Monitoring streamside conditions is also important to be able to show change in streamside conditions over time and evaluate the effectiveness of the Agricultural Water Quality Program. A regulatory backstop is provided by ODA to ensure compliance.

In a Coordinated Streamside Management Approach, improvements to the current SIA and Focus Area process will include: more funding for SWCDs and watershed councils for landowner outreach, technical assistance, and on-the-ground projects in SIAs; a multi-year framework for conservation and restoration work; watershed-scale monitoring of water quality trends; more support from state and federal agencies; and ability for ODA to focus on compliance in SIAs.

Resolution

Be it resolved that the Oregon Board of Agriculture supports integration of ODA's SIA and Focus Area activities into a Coordinated Streamside Management approach that expands multi-agency efforts focused on improvement of streamside areas through outreach and education, technical assistance and monitoring, and compliance enforcement to encourage streamside restoration and improve water quality in the agricultural community.

Summary

Recognizes the importance of streamside areas to water quality. Adopts a multi-agency coordinated approach to improving water quality and habitat for fish and streamside-dependent plants and animals in agriculturally-influenced areas. Directs resources towards outreach, education, technical assistance, monitoring, on-the-ground projects, and compliance enforcement to encourage streamside restoration in the agricultural community.

The Board of Agriculture supports ODA and OWEB jointly leading the coordinated approach, provided that ODA remain responsible for implementing the Agricultural Water Quality Management Program.

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution	
Title: Water quality Strategic Implementation Areas (SIAs) and SWCD Focus Areas	Number: 313 Effective Date: 05/05/2022
Workgroup A: Harper, Allen, Miller, Orem, Santamaria ODA Staff Contact: Isaak Stapleton	Next Review Date: 00/00/2025 Date of Last Review/Revision: 05/05/2022 Original Resolution Date: 12/03/2014
Board Chair: Bryan Harper	Signature on file

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Background

Since 1993, the Board of Agriculture has been actively involved with guiding the department's efforts to establish and implement Oregon's Agricultural Water Quality Program. Recognizing the need to provide quantitative measures of agricultural efforts to improve land condition, the Board passed a resolution in March of 2013 supporting development of a systematic approach to assess conditions on agricultural lands that may impact water quality. The Board also supported development of a mechanism for the program to strategically focus and prioritize resources to improve water quality associated with agricultural lands and activities. With the help of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD), the department has successfully developed a systematic approach using ODA Strategic Implementation Areas and SWCD focus areas to assess land conditions that are related to water quality and assist landowners in protecting and improving water quality.

Resolution

- 1) The Board of Agriculture supports the department's systematic approach to assess critical conditions on agricultural lands that may impact water quality. This includes both the assessments of focus areas by SWCDs and the department's use of Strategic Implementation Areas to focus compliance efforts.
- 2) The Board of Agriculture recommends that ODA in concert with other Natural Resource Agencies through the Coordinated Streamside Management Approach prioritize watersheds and develop an accelerated schedule for full-scale statewide implementation of the department's SIA and SWCD Focus Area approach. The schedule should describe what resources are needed to achieve that schedule, what actions are needed to acquire those resources, and how the Board can be of assistance.
- 3) The Board of Agriculture recommends that ODA remain the lead agency responsible for ensuring that both incentive-based and regulatory actions are taken in accordance with Oregon's Agricultural Water Quality Management Act (ORS 568.900 to 568.933) to address landscape conditions that could affect water quality and that could cause water pollution. ODA may utilize data and information from other natural resource agencies as part of the Coordinated Streamside Management Approach.
- 4) The Board of Agriculture recommends ongoing investment of resources by the department in widespread outreach efforts to inform farmers and ranchers of SIA and focus areas assessment results and what actions they can take to protect and enhance water quality on their land.

- 5) The Board of Agriculture recommends that the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between ODA and the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) be reviewed every biennium and updated as needed, and that the Board be briefed on changes to the MOA when they occur.

Summary

The Board supports accelerated implementation of ODA's systematic approach to identify and document existing conditions and changes on agricultural lands that could impact water quality over time using outreach, assessment and prioritization of geographic areas to address the most serious water quality problems and achieve agricultural TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) allocations.

The Board also supports ODA remaining responsible for documenting and controlling pollution on agricultural lands and using data and information from other natural resource agencies as part of the Coordinated Streamside Management Approach to document conditions on the landscape, including water quality impacts, and using this information to prioritize program activities. The Board recommends that the MOA between ODA and DEQ be reviewed every biennium and updated as needed.

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution	
Title: Oregon Department of Agriculture’s role in the Food Safety Modernization Act produce rule implementation	Number: 317 Effective Date: 11/17/2022
Workgroup B: Boyer, Johnson, Lopez, Svaty, Zielinski ODA Staff Contact: Jim Johnson, Rusty Rock, Jess Paulson	Next Review Date: 00/00/2025 Date of Last Review/Revision: 11/15/2022 Original Resolution Date: 06/08/2016
Board Chair: Luisa Santamaria	Signature on file

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Background

Whereas, the new Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) produce safety rule will have tremendous impacts to Oregon agriculture.

Whereas, Oregon’s produce industry has not been previously regulated with respect to food safety.

Whereas, these new rules will require, produce farms to have produce safety measures in place and may be inspected for compliance with the rule.

Whereas, ODA has the opportunity to participate in implementation of the FSMA produce safety rule in several ways.

Whereas, ODA has applied for cooperative agreement funding to support the following implementation activities:

- Capacity building
- Outreach
- Education
- Technical assistance
- Developing an inventory of covered farms (this is a required part of the cooperative agreement)

Whereas, if ODA chooses to participate in on-farm produce safety inspections and develop a produce safety regulatory program in future years, ODA would need either (1) statutory authority to conduct the inspections; or (2) to conduct inspections under FDA authority as commissioned officials.

Whereas, ODA has received a variety of feedback from stakeholders about the department’s role in inspections. Many stakeholders prefer for ODA to gain the authority to do produce safety inspections in Oregon, while others prefer to leave this responsibility to the FDA. Those in support of ODA-led inspections have indicated they believe ODA understands agriculture and has a good track record of successfully regulating Oregon farms in other areas.

Resolution

Be it resolved that the Oregon State Board of Agriculture:

1. Supports ODA's participation in produce safety rule implementation only if federal resources are available to support this work.
2. Recommends that ODA focus on capacity building, outreach, education, and technical assistance to help prepare Oregon's produce industry for FSMA.
3. Recommends that ODA develop the farm inventory required as part of the cooperative agreement using voluntary approaches.
4. Recommends that ODA consider applying for inspection funds if and when more information is available.

Summary

Supports ODA's involvement in FSMA produce safety rule implementation as long as federal resources are available to fully cover the cost of the department's work. Recommends initial focus on outreach and education and recommends that ODA wait until more information is available. Recommends a voluntary approach to developing an inventory of covered farms.

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution	
Title: Siting of energy transmission and generation facilities on agricultural land	Number: 318 Effective Date: 08/18/2022
Workgroup B: Boyer, Johnson, Lopez, Svaty, Zielinski ODA Staff Contact: Jim Johnson, Rusty Rock, Jess Paulson	Next Review Date: 00/00/2025 Date of Last Review/Revision: 08/18/2022 Original Resolution Date: 06/07/2018
Board Chair: Bryan Harper	Signature on file

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Background

WHEREAS, the State Board of Agriculture has heard from the agricultural community about concerns related to the location and development of power transmission facilities through agricultural lands, including underground and above ground transmission lines and land intensive generation facilities on highly productive agricultural lands.

WHEREAS, energy produced from renewable sources is an important part of the future for our state and nation.

WHEREAS agriculture is both land and soil dependent, while the siting of energy related facilities does not require soils with a high capability for agricultural production.

WHEREAS, deliberations regarding designation and treatment of agricultural lands under the statewide land use planning program have included consideration of actions that designate or treat differently lands zoned exclusive farm use based solely on soil quality without accounting for other factors that are conducive to the production of high-value agricultural products, including livestock.

WHEREAS numerous applications to develop solar energy generation have been approved or are under review throughout the state on highly productive agricultural lands.

WHEREAS the existing state “exceptions process” provides for the consideration and location of land uses otherwise not permitted when reasons merit

WHEREAS, the State Board of Agriculture has in the past been contacted by the State Soil and Water Conservation Commission regarding concerns it has related to the increased development of agricultural lands by solar energy generation facilities. In response to the letter from the Soil and Water Conservation Commission the Board discussed issues related to the siting of solar energy generation facilities on productive farmland and expressed several concerns related to location on productive agricultural lands. The discussion by the Board resulted in a written request to the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) asking that LCDC initiate an evaluation of the current administrative rules related the siting of solar facilities on lands zoned exclusive farm use.

WHEREAS the Department of Land Conservation and Development has since developed rules (see [OAR 660-033-0130\(37\) and \(38\)](#)) for solar energy siting on designated agricultural lands. These rules are intended to

Resolution number: 318

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Resolution title: Siting of energy transmission and generation facilities on agricultural land

direct energy development to lands that have limited value to wildlife and farming. For example, in the Willamette Valley solar panels are allowed up to 12 acres in areas with the best soil for farming. Up to 320 acres of land may be used for solar in areas with poor soils and no water rights. While these rules have had some impact in discouraging placement of large facilities in the Willamette Valley, they have not precluded the serial development of solar facilities. They have also not precluded the placement of solar facilities on productive irrigated cropland in Oregon outside the Willamette Valley.

Resolution

Be it resolved that the Oregon State Board of Agriculture is concerned about the conversion of high-value and productive farmland and the implications to ongoing and future agricultural operations by energy facility development on lands zoned exclusive farm use.

The Board:

1. Recognizes that energy produced from renewable sources is an important part of the future for our state and nation. We support developing renewable energy facilities at appropriate locations.
2. Recommends the Land Conservation and Development Commission continue to evaluate and monitor the effectiveness of existing administrative rules related to the siting of energy facilities on land zoned exclusive farm use.
3. Supports establishing review criteria to evaluate not only the individual impact of proposed energy development on agricultural lands, but also the cumulative impacts of existing and potential similar nonfarm land use on agricultural operations.
4. Supports the evaluation of the impacts of proposed linear energy transmission facilities on agricultural operations that focuses on individual segments of a linear facility that are comprised of similar agricultural characteristics.
5. Supports better definition of highly productive farmland (instead of “high-value farmland”) based on multiple factors such as soils, crop types, operational characteristics, and developed agricultural infrastructure.
6. Supports land use regulations that afford greater protection for highly productive farmland including, land use requirements that preclude the location of energy facilities on highly productive or less valuable farmland when otherwise reasonable alternatives exist.
7. Supports evaluation and reconsideration of existing land use regulation that promotes serial development of energy facilities to skirt other more stringent review standards.

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution

Title: Climate Change Policy Considerations	Number: 319 Effective Date: 11/17/2022
Workgroup A: Harper, Allen, Miller, Orem, Santamaria ODA Staff Contact: Isaak Stapleton	Next Review Date: 00/00/2025 Date of Last Review/Revision: 11/15/2022 Original Resolution Date: 12/05/2019
Board Chair: Luisa Santamaria	Signature on file

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Background

WHEREAS, climate change is adversely impacting Oregon agriculture including the well-being of farmers, ranchers, seafood producers and resource reliant communities because of intensifying extreme weather resulting in drought, wildfire events, water shortages, changing ocean conditions, and other impacts.

WHEREAS, activities with the potential to be net carbon sinks provide opportunities for farmers and ranchers to contribute to greenhouse gas mitigation and promote climate resilience and can provide co-benefits such as soil health, water quality, improved water retention and filtration on farms, and reduced energy input costs.

WHEREAS, improving soil health across Oregon lands improves soil security to sustain functionality for current and future generations, agricultural resilience, nutrient retention while reducing inputs, and provides ecosystem services including water quality and quantity, flood mitigation, air quality, and may be a net carbon sink.

WHEREAS, clean and abundant ground and surface water is critical for agriculture, and climate change is affecting annual rainfall and snowpack that provides water for agriculture.

WHEREAS, Oregon's agriculture industry is diverse in numerous ways, producing over 250 different commodities in various landscapes and climatic conditions, operating diverse production systems using a variety of inputs, depending on diverse markets both domestically and internationally, and partnering with numerous agriculture and food businesses to produce and process products.

WHEREAS, policies intended to help the state in adapting to changing climate conditions, such as policies to address water shortages and water quality issues, will affect agriculture and need to weigh the burden and benefits of such policies.

WHEREAS, Government and private sector programs, policies, and investments can help agriculture adapt and become more resilient to climate impacts and contribute to greenhouse gas mitigation and promote climate resilience and can provide co-benefits such as soil health, water quality, improved water retention and filtration on farms, and reduced energy and input costs.

WHEREAS, policies to address greenhouse gas emissions may also affect agricultural production, even if agriculture is exempted from these policies.

WHEREAS, policies that regulate greenhouse gas emissions will affect the costs of agricultural inputs including fuels, electricity, and fertilizer, impacting the cost of production as well as the cost of moving agriculture and food products to market.

WHEREAS, competition and regulatory issues can cause emissions intensive trade exposed industries to explore out of state or overseas opportunities, potentially affecting industries that add value to Oregon agricultural products and contribute to Oregon's agricultural and food economies.

WHEREAS, climate change policy may also benefit agriculture by mitigating some of the most serious impacts of climate change, and by providing incentives and tools to help agriculture reduce its emissions and adapt to climate change.

WHEREAS, offsets are one type of incentive, but the costs to measure and verify the mitigation benefits of offset projects can be prohibitive for certain project types.

WHEREAS, Oregon's Land Use Planning program is a major contributor to the protection of agricultural land that preserves the viability of Oregon agriculture by protecting farm and rangeland from development and thus ensuring soils and vegetation can continue to sequester carbon.

WHEREAS, other jurisdictions have experienced good participation from the agricultural sector in flexible, accessible, voluntary programs that invest allowance revenue into activities that help agriculture reduce its carbon footprint and adapt to climate change.

Resolution

Be it resolved that the Oregon Board of Agriculture recommends any climate change related policies should:

- Maintain a healthy agricultural economy, including processing and infrastructure that adds value to Oregon agricultural production, and retain agriculture's ability to grow crops and livestock, harvest seafood, pack and process agricultural products economically in Oregon.
- Consider the well-being of farmers, ranchers and rural communities and the need to sustain a resilient food supply, rural economy, and quality of life.
- Support Oregon's land use planning program's protection of natural and working lands as foundational for Oregon's agricultural viability and their contribution to climate mitigation through soil carbon sequestration.
- Balance the need to reduce emissions from intensive and trade exposed industries with the goal of retaining these industries in the state.
- Recognize that if processing or other facilities leave the state because of higher costs due to carbon policy, we have not achieved the goal of reducing carbon and have simply moved emissions to another location while harming our economy and industry.

- Provide compliance assistance, including longer compliance time frames, technical assistance, and low-cost compliance instruments, for energy intensive trade exposed industries that are at risk of loss to overseas or out of state competitors.
- Support exemptions or rebates for fuel used in on-farm activities.
- Consider the costs of transportation to move agricultural and food products to market, both within the state, domestically, and internationally, and maintain affordable transportation methods to move agricultural products to market both within and beyond the state.
- Structure offset programs so they are as workable and accessible as possible for farmers and ranchers with diverse farm sizes, crop types, and production systems. An aggregation or cooperative effort of small and mid-size operations should be allowed under any offset program.
- Structure programs to incentivize carbon sequestration and resilience on Oregon's agricultural lands to be as workable and accessible as possible for farmers and ranchers with diverse farm sizes, crop types, and production systems.
- Create sustained funding for voluntary incentive programs to assist Oregon agriculture in adapting to and mitigating the impacts of climate change.
- Provide incentives to address the potential impacts of climate change to water supplies and water quality, and support agricultural practices that support soil health, conserve water, modernize irrigation techniques, and develop water storage capacity.
- Consider adapting the state's water management policies to recognize the changes in climate conditions and water availability.
- Create flexible funding programs, recognizing the diversity in Oregon's commodities, production methods, farm size, and changing and evolving technologies and strategies used.
- Ensure both natural and working lands are included in climate policy and programs and position the state to leverage state and federal lands and investments to do so.
- Design incentive programs to be as accessible as possible, including a straightforward and simple application process, delivery systems that use local partners such as Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and simple reporting requirements.
- Support research into strategies that help agriculture adapt to impacts from climate change.
- Recognize the net carbon sequestration opportunities in agriculture and the benefits that longstanding stewardship activities such as protecting the soil, set aside lands with native or non-invasive vegetation.

Summary

Recommends that any climate change policies provide voluntary incentives for agriculture to mitigate and adapt to climate change; recognize agriculture's positive environmental and economic impacts; provide exemptions and compliance time frames to minimize adverse impacts to input costs and companion industries; support research into additional strategies; and support equitable long-term planning, resource allocation and policy changes to help the state adapt to climate change.

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

MEMORANDUM

To: State Board of Agriculture

From: Karla Valness, Senior Policy Advisor

Subject: Agenda Item number 14 – Board Business – 2024 Resolutions

I. Introduction

The purpose of this discussion is to discuss and consider recommendations on the remaining 2024 resolutions under review and the new resolution on Agricultural Overtime.

II. Background

2024 Workgroups A & B reviewed and recommended minor edits to background statements. Edits were posted for public comment.

Resolution	Title	Proposed Action
169	Need for Documented Agricultural Work Force	Recommend approval with minor edits.
266	Collective Bargaining for Agricultural Workers and Employers	Recommend approval with minor edits.
316	Federal Minimum Wage Parity	Recommend approval with minor edits.
314	Permitted Uses on Lands Zoned Exclusive Farm Use and on High-Value Farmland	

During the September Board of Agriculture meeting, the board established a workgroup to draft a new resolution on Agricultural Overtime. Workgroup members included: Chad Allen, Elin Miller, Ellie Norris, and Josh Zielinski. The draft new resolution was posted for public comment.

Resolution	Title	Proposed Action
NEW	Agricultural Overtime	

III. Action

To act, a motion will be required for each resolution to approve as written, or keep under review for further edits.

Date: November 18, 2024
To: State Board of Agriculture members
From: Karla Valness, Senior Policy Advisor
Subject: Resolutions

Based on the Board Policy and Procedures for Resolutions, the following resolutions are scheduled for review in 2024.

Proposed action: Active Resolutions under review and discussion in 2024*

Resolution	Title	Workgroup A--ODA Lead: Isaak Stapleton, Chris Benemann, Lindsay Eng Board members: Allen, Lopez, Norris, Zielinski
169	Need for Documented Agricultural Work Force	
266	Collective Bargaining for Agricultural Workers and Employers	
316	Federal Minimum Wage Parity	

Proposed action: Active Resolutions under review and discussion in 2024*

Resolution	Title	Workgroup B--ODA Lead: Jonathan Sandau, Rusty Rock Board members: Boyer, Kliewer, Miller, Orem
314	Permitted Uses on Lands Zoned Exclusive Farm Use and on High-Value Farmland	

* The State Board of Agriculture will be accepting public comment on these resolutions during public comment opportunities listed on the board agenda beginning January 2024.

Proposed New Resolution

Resolution	Title	Board members: Allen, Miller, Norris, Zielinski
NEW	Agricultural Overtime	

For a list of State Board of Agriculture Resolutions go to: <https://oda.direct/BOAResolutions>

Public Comment

Written comments – All written comments received will be posted on the ODA website and will be provided to the Board in advance of the meeting. Submit your written comments by email to: Karla Valness at karla.valness@oda.oregon.gov by **5:00 PM on Wednesday, November 27, 2024**.

Verbal comments – Verbal comments are limited to three minutes and will be heard in the public comment period on Wednesday, December 18, or Thursday, December 19, 2024.

In-person	Remote
<p>To provide verbal comments in-person you must sign-up, prior to the comment period on the agenda, at the meeting and provide your name and organization.</p> <p>If you have written material as part of your public comment, please provide the board assistant with 20 copies prior to your testimony. Comment time is limited to three minutes per person.</p>	<p>To provide verbal comment remotely, you must contact Karla Valness at karla.valness@oda.oregon.gov by 5:00 pm on Wednesday, November 27, 2024, and provide the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date you plan to provide verbal comments (Dec 18 or Dec 19) • Your first and last name • The topic of your comment • The telephone number you will be using when calling the meeting

Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution	
Title: Need for Documented Agricultural Work Force	Number: 169 Effective Date: 01/20/2021
Workgroup B: Boyer, Hallock, Johnson, Zielinski ODA Staff Contact: Jess Paulson	Next Review Date: 00/00/2024 Date of Last Review/Revision: 01/20/2021 Original Resolution Date: 05/21/1999
Board Chair: Stephanie Hallock	Signature on file

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Background

Whereas, Oregon agriculture’s farmgate value is over ~~\$5~~\$6.7 billion dollars;

Whereas, Oregon agriculture is ~~the third~~one of the largest economic sectors in the state;

Whereas Oregon farmers, ranchers, fishermen and processors need a reliable, qualified, and legal workforce to raise, harvest, and process over 225 different agricultural commodities produced in Oregon;

Whereas foreign-born workers comprise a significant portion of the Oregon agriculture and food processing workforce;

Whereas finding skilled, qualified agricultural labor is a growing challenge for Oregon’s farmers, ranchers, fishermen and food processors, as well as nationwide;

Whereas when domestic workers are not available, agriculturalists should have access to a guest farmworker program to ensure the continued production of locally grown, harvested and processed Oregon agricultural commodities.

Resolution

Be it resolved that the State Board of Agriculture supports the introduction of immigration laws that create a path forward for existing agricultural workers in the United States to obtain legal documentation. Be it further resolved that the Board strongly recommends to Congress that modifications be made to existing laws, particularly the H-2A Temporary Agricultural Workers Program, so all agricultural sectors have the opportunity to secure a qualified workforce.

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution	
Title: Collective Bargaining for Agricultural Workers and Employers	Number: 266 Effective Date: 05/19/2021
Workgroup B: Boyer, Hallock, Johnson, Zielinski ODA Staff Contact: Jess Paulson	Next Review Date: 00/00/2024 Date of Last Review/Revision: 05/19/2021 Original Resolution Date: 03/17/2005
Board Chair: Bryan Harper, Vice-Chair	Signature on file

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Background

WHEREAS, employees’ rights to form or join a union should continue to be protected by federal and state laws;

WHEREAS, neither federal nor state law provide for collective bargaining rules and regulations for Oregon farm workers and Oregon farm employers;

WHEREAS, the Oregon State Board of Agriculture does not believe that this represents a free and fair process to determine whether or not a majority of workers support forming a union;

WHEREAS, Oregon agricultural employers have for many years supported the establishment of Oregon law that would enable equitable rules and regulations to control collective bargaining for Oregon farm workers and their employers;

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Oregon agriculture to ensure a fair process for collective bargaining including the rights of employers to communicate freely with employees about the effects of unionization in the workplace.

WHEREAS, the bargaining process is free of coercion to ensure a fair process for all parties involved, such as the use of secret ballot elections as the means to determine whether employees want to be represented by a union.

Resolution

Be it resolved that the Oregon State Board of Agriculture supports extending collective bargaining protections to Oregon agriculture.

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution

Title: Federal Minimum Wage Parity	Number: 316 Effective Date: 01/20/2021
Workgroup B: Boyer, Hallock, Johnson, Zielinski ODA Staff Contact: Jess Paulson	Next Review Date: 00/00/2024 Date of Last Review/Revision: 01/20/2021 Original Resolution Date: 12/17/2015
Board Chair: Stephanie Hallock	Signature on file

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Background

Whereas 75 to 80 percent of the agricultural commodities produced in Oregon are sold outside of the state's borders;

Whereas Oregon agriculture is an important industry for the state's economy, comprising ~~13.2~~15.4 percent of Oregon's total sales; ~~agriculture is 3.2% of Oregon's GDP~~20.3 percent of jobs, and 12.9 percent of value-added processing for food and fiber.

Whereas Oregon agriculture's farmgate value is over ~~\$5~~6.7 billion;

Whereas ~~13.8~~20.3 percent of Oregon jobs are related to agriculture;

Whereas an increase in minimum wage makes it difficult to hire and support individuals seeking to gain experience in the agricultural industry when more experienced workers are also seeking employment;

Whereas an increase in minimum wage causes farmers and ranchers to increase the wage for all employees, ultimately increasing the costs of agricultural goods and services;

Whereas Oregon farmers and ranchers are in competition with other agricultural producers from across the country to sell their goods;

Whereas states with a lower minimum wage can produce agricultural goods with a lower cost of labor than Oregon farmers and ranchers thus reducing in-state and out-of-state market opportunities for Oregon's farmers and ranchers.

Resolution

Be it resolved, that the Oregon State Board of Agriculture supports a federal minimum wage parity to enable Oregon's farmers and ranchers to be competitive with their out-of-state counterparts as they grow, process, and harvest agricultural goods for the local, domestic, and international markets.

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution

Title: Permitted Uses on Lands Zoned Exclusive Farm Use and on High-Value Farmland

Number: 314
Effective Date: 05/19/2021

Work group B: Boyer, ~~Hallock, Johnson, Zielinski~~ Harper, Miller, Orem
ODA Staff Contact: Jim Johnson

Next Review Date: 00/00/2024
Date of Last Review/Revision: 05/19/2021
Original Resolution Date: 12/04/2014

Board Chair: Bryan Harper, Vice-Chair

Signature on file

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

8/14/2024 - proposed edits

Background

Whereas in 1973 Oregon's unique land use planning law was enacted to protect farm land by establishing exclusive farm use zones (EFUs);

Whereas since the law was enacted, the number of land uses permitted in EFUs has risen from the original five established by state law to over fifty;

Whereas an increasing number of nonfarm land uses and related activities present compatibility issues with farming practices and have implications for rural infrastructure and services, and such nonfarm uses are being permitted on lands zoned EFU and approved without adequate consideration of compatibility with surrounding farm practices;

Whereas conversion of agricultural lands into nonfarm uses such as aggregate mining, development of wetlands, public and private parks and other recreational uses, short-term rental housing (STRs), schools, energy generation and transmission facilities, landfills, and urban infrastructure such as sewer and water treatment facilities has serious implications for the future of Oregon agriculture;

Whereas litigation is increasingly being used to define otherwise undefined land uses within EFU's;

Whereas the 2022 Census of Agriculture shows that Oregon lost 4.17% (666,543 acres) of land in farms since 2017, for the first time a higher percentage than every western state except Washington state;

Whereas high-value agricultural soils compose less than 8% of Oregon's total lands and less than 6% of the lands located outside of urban growth boundaries that are designated for agricultural use under state land use planning goals;

Whereas the total area of irrigated, agricultural land harvested cropland in the state comprises 10.3% 10.4% of the total land in farms yet accounts for 39.3% 74.3% of the total market value of agricultural products sold;

Whereas irrigation and the necessary delivery infrastructure is key to maintaining and growing the state's agricultural industry;

Whereas no comprehensive statewide policy guidance has been provided regarding the increasing amount of nonfarm development within exclusive farm use zones (EFUs) on agricultural lands:

Whereas the Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) has initiated a multi-year effort to review the effectiveness of existing laws designed to protect agricultural lands and implement Exclusive Farm Use (EFU) zoning with a focus on improving consistency of application of standards and criteria to land use decisions across the state, reducing unnecessary appeals and identifying any policy improvements needed to achieve the objectives of Statewide Planning Goal 3 and ORS 215.243.

Resolution

Be it resolved, the Oregon State Board of Agriculture supports siting of nonfarm uses on high value agricultural land only upon a determination that the proposed nonfarm use does not adversely impact or can be mitigated to not adversely impact farming operations in the area;

Be it resolved that the Board recommends that a comprehensive analysis of the impacts of nonfarm development within the exclusive farm use zone on agricultural lands be conducted to include:

1. A reexamination of land uses currently permitted within EFUs with the goal of reducing those permitted uses, and determining which land uses should be permitted outright versus those that should be permitted subject to land use review;
2. Establishing review criteria to evaluate the compatibility of nonfarm land uses with farm uses in surrounding areas;
3. Better definition of what nonfarm land uses include;
4. Establishing land use regulations that provide for the recognition of high value agricultural areas, potentially including areas, such as productive rangelands, -that currently are not considered to be high-value farmland under Oregon land use law and establishing requirements that provide a greater degree of protection for identified areas;
5. include an analysis of the cumulative impact of the approval and location of all nonfarm uses on lands zoned exclusive farm use. Such an evaluation should include analysis related to the conversion of agricultural lands, and the implications of conflicts created by nonfarm land uses on the short and long-term ability of surrounding farm and ranches to operate efficiently and effectively.
- ~~5.6.~~ Include long-term monitoring and an evaluation of the effectiveness of the land use laws established to implement Goal 3, Agricultural Lands.

Proposed action: Active Resolution under review

Oregon State Board of Agriculture Resolution	
Title: Agricultural Overtime	Number: PROPOSED NEW RESOLUTION Effective Date:
Workgroup: Allen, Miller, Norris, Zielinski ODA Staff Contact: Lindsay Eng	Next Review Date: Date of Last Review/Revision: Original Resolution Date: DRAFT-November 2024
Board Chair:	

Proposed action: New Resolution under review

Background

Whereas, Oregon agriculture’s farmgate value is \$6.7 billion dollars based on the 2022 USDA NASS data;

Whereas, Oregon agriculture is one of the largest economic sector in the state, Constituting 15.4% of the state’s economy, and 20.3% of the workforce, and 12.9% of value-added processing is linked in some way to the agriculture food and fiber industry;

Whereas, Oregon farmers, ranchers, fishers, and processors need a reliable, qualified, and legal workforce to raise, harvest, and process over 225 different agricultural commodities produced in Oregon;

Whereas, Oregon agriculture and food products must remain competitive in the local, regional, and global marketplaces;

Whereas, Oregon’s diverse agriculture and food products require hand labor during seasonal harvest periods to preserve the quality of perishable goods;

Whereas, Oregon agriculture producers may have challenges improving workforce efficiencies and may transition to less labor-intensive agriculture and food products;

Whereas, historically agriculture has had overtime exemptions for labor in recognition of the irregular hours dictated by weather, seasonal harvests, and the life cycles of crops and livestock;

Whereas, the in 2023 the Oregon State Legislature passed a phased-in agricultural overtime law at 40 hours of work by 2026;

Whereas, Washington and California have passed similar laws that have impacted the available hours of work for agricultural workers and constrained production capacity of agricultural and food producers.

Whereas, relevant economic studies to examine the financial implications and impacts on Oregon farm workers and agriculture and food businesses should be considered.

Resolution

Be it resolved that the State Board of Agriculture supports the fair compensation of agricultural workers while also recognizing the need to maintain economic stability for Oregon’s agriculture and food producers. The

Board strongly recommends a collaborative approach to amending the 2023 legislation that provides equitable compensation to workers, respects the unique demands of peak harvest seasons, and sustains the economic vitality of Oregon’s agricultural communities. The Board encourages an open dialogue among all to address challenges constructively and develop solutions that supports the sustainability of Oregon agricultural.

Proposed action: New Resolution under review

DRAFT