

## Department of State Lands Pearson

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**Request:** Authorization to apply for a federal grant of \$25,000 for the wetlands program from the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

**Recommendation:** Approve the request.

**Discussion:** The Department of State Lands (DSL) is requesting authorization to apply for a federal grant to improve its aquatic resources mitigation program.

DSL is responsible for aggregate removal-fill permitting in Oregon while other state and federal agencies also have responsibilities for aquatic resources. Since 1990, DSL has received grants from the Wetland Program Development Grant program at the EPA to improve coordination among responsible parties and to increase program effectiveness. Previous grant awards have supported efforts to develop wetland assessment tools. This grant would fund updating and implementation activities and builds on prior grant awards. The project will build on existing grant work for the Oregon Wetland Assessment Protocol, which is a tool designed to increase efficiency in the wetland program.

The grant requires a 25 percent match, which will be met by existing budgeted state activities.