



2025-2027

Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Subcommittee on Natural Resources

Agency Budget Presentation



OWEB

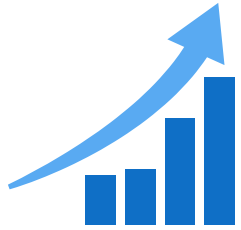
OREGON WATERSHED ENHANCEMENT BOARD



Today



- **Our work**
- **Our people**
- **Our results**
- **Looking forward**



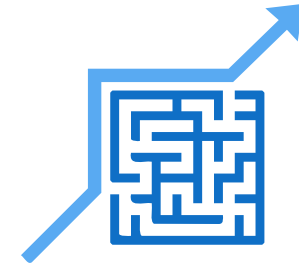
Rapid Growth

- **New programs**, funding, and partnerships
- Increasing **complexity**
- Heavy reliance on **limited-duration** positions



Our Challenge

- Maintain classic OWEB strengths in a dynamic world
- **Responsive**
 - **Accountable**
 - **Community-centered**



Clear Course

- **Stabilize** staffing
- **Modernize and integrate** internal systems
- **Simplify** programs and processes

Our work



To protect and restore healthy watersheds and natural habitats that support thriving communities and strong economies.

Grantees and Partners

- 💧 Watershed Councils
- 💧 Soil & Water Conservation Districts
- 💧 Tribes
- 💧 Non-profit Organizations
- 💧 Schools and Universities
- 💧 Land Trusts
- 💧 Local Governments



Other Key Participants

- 💧 State and Federal Agencies
- 💧 Private Landowners and Managers
- 💧 Not directly grant eligible, but critical project partners

As a funder and grant administrator, OWEB will strive for:

AWARENESS



ENGAGEMENT



**CAPACITY &
PARTNERSHIPS**



MONITORING

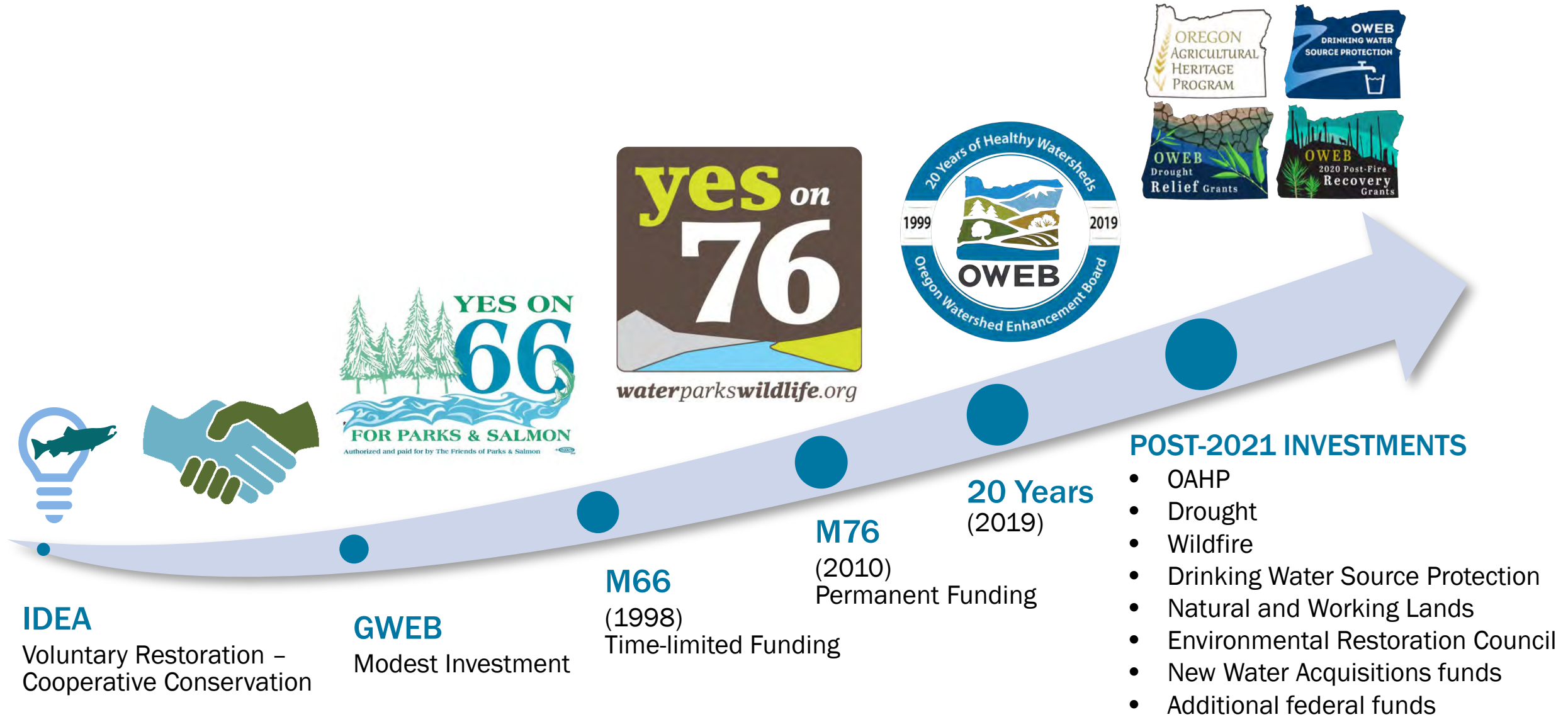


**URBAN &
WORKING
LANDS**



**CLIMATE
RESILIENCY**

Historical Context





OWEB's Grantmaking "Lane" - Watershed Health



Land & Water Acquisition
& Conservation
Drinking Water Source Protection

Upland Forest
and
Oak Habitat

Floodplain Restoration

Irrigation Modernization
Drought Resilience
Natural & Working Lands
Agricultural Heritage

Forest Health
Post-Wildfire Watershed
Recovery
Soil Health

Invasive Weed Control

Wildlife Passage
Fish Passage

Aquatic Habitat
Water Quality

Juniper Removal
Sage-grouse Habitat

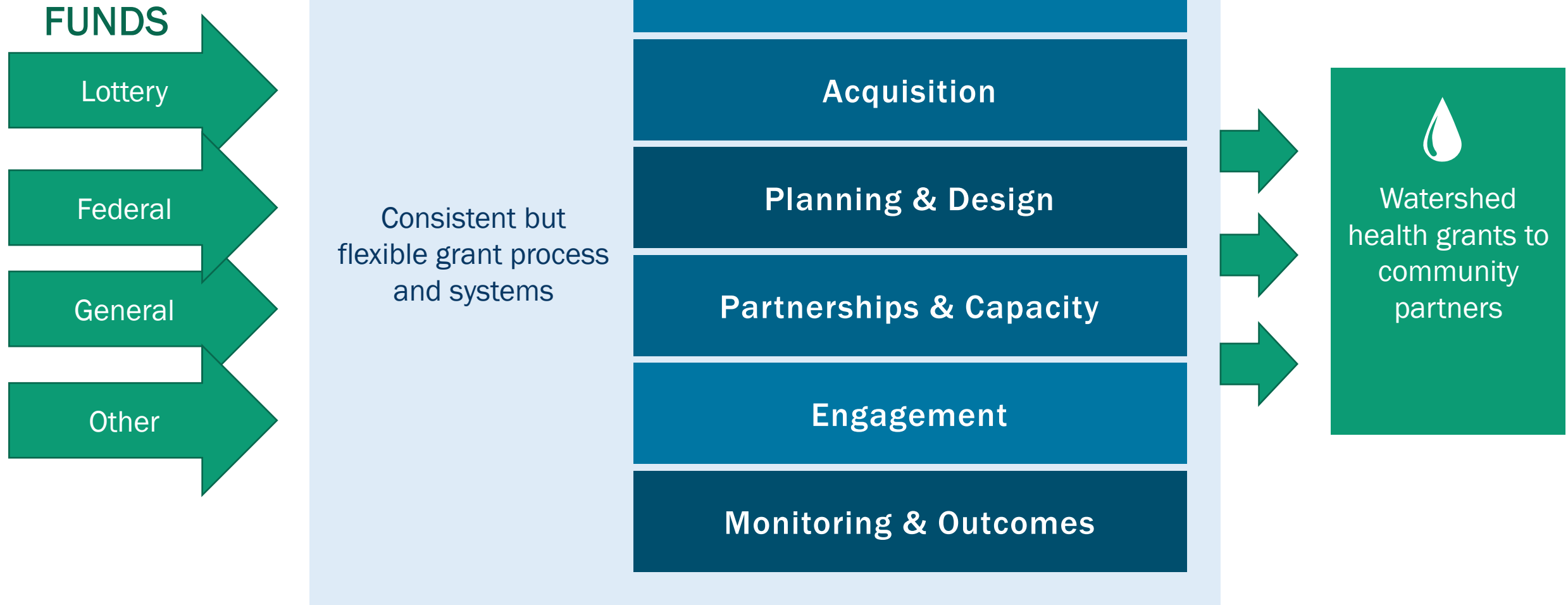
Urban Restoration

Tide Gate Replacement
Estuary Habitat

Streamside Restoration
Off-channel Livestock Watering



OWEB's Grant Program Structure



Build and operate watershed health grant programs



Establish **grant program rules**



Maintain in-house **grant systems**



Run **technical review processes**



Award grants and create **grant agreements**



Track investments to show outputs and outcomes

Award and administer individual watershed health grants



Grantee and applicant **consultations and assistance**



Project manage awarded grants



Ensure consistency with grant conditions

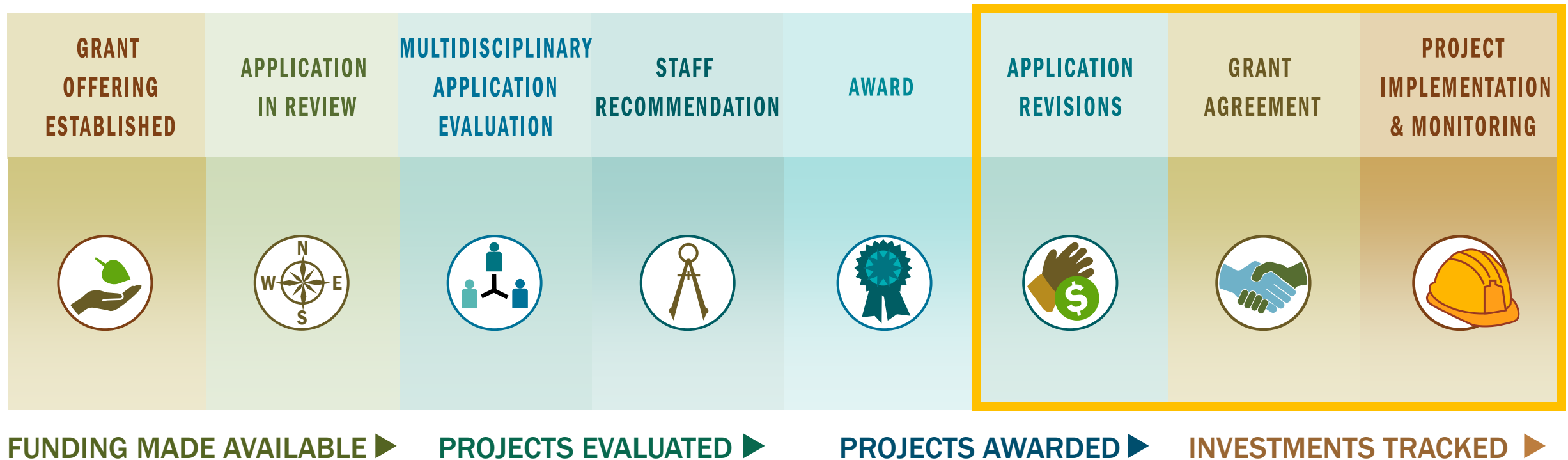


Issue payments for grantee expenses



Fund monitoring & evaluation of results

OWEB'S Grant Process



OWEB Reimbursement Process

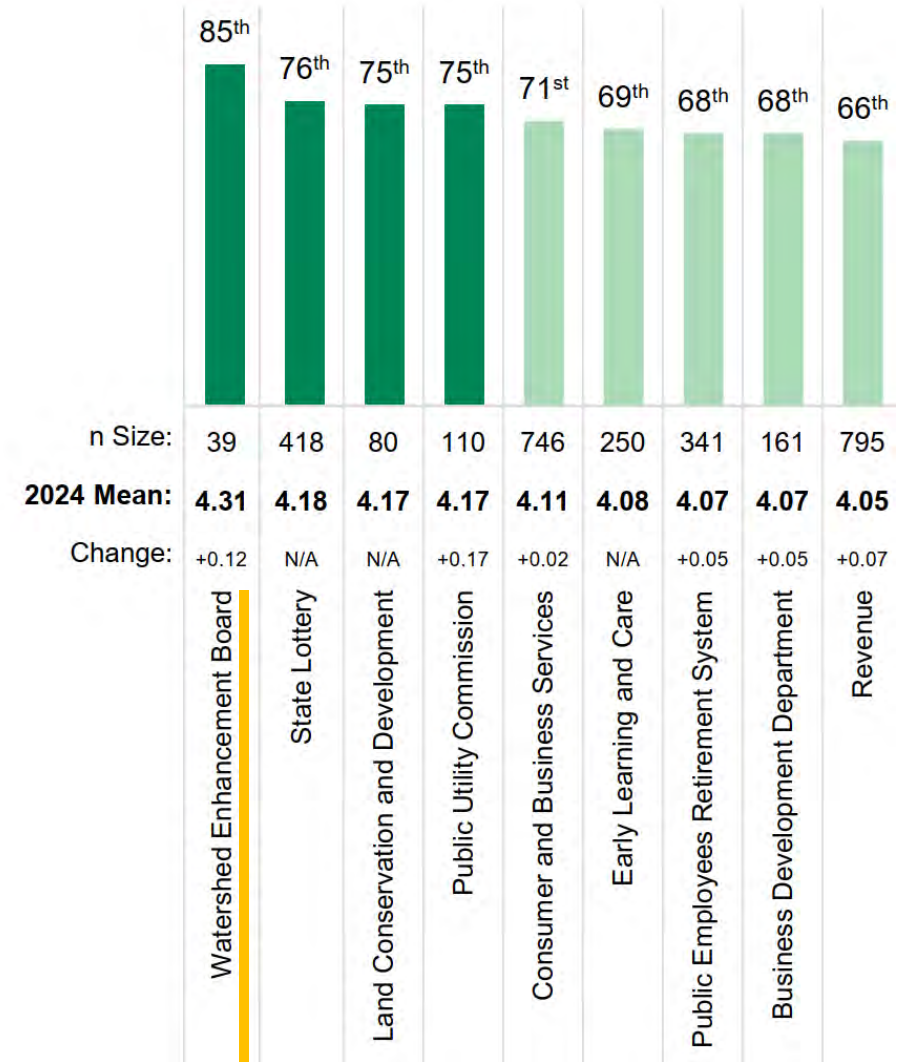
Many OWEB-funded restoration projects are **complex, multi-year projects**



GRANTEE REQUESTS **REIMBURSEMENTS** AS NEEDED THROUGHOUT PROJECT

Our People

Our Commitment to Partnership



Board Structure



Agency Staff Roles

Staff Across All Regions



49 total budgeted positions in 23-25 biennium
(16 are Limited Duration Positions)



Restoration
Grants &
Regional
Rep staff



Fiscal,
Admin,
& IT staff



Monitoring &
Reporting staff



Acquisitions &
Special
Programs staff



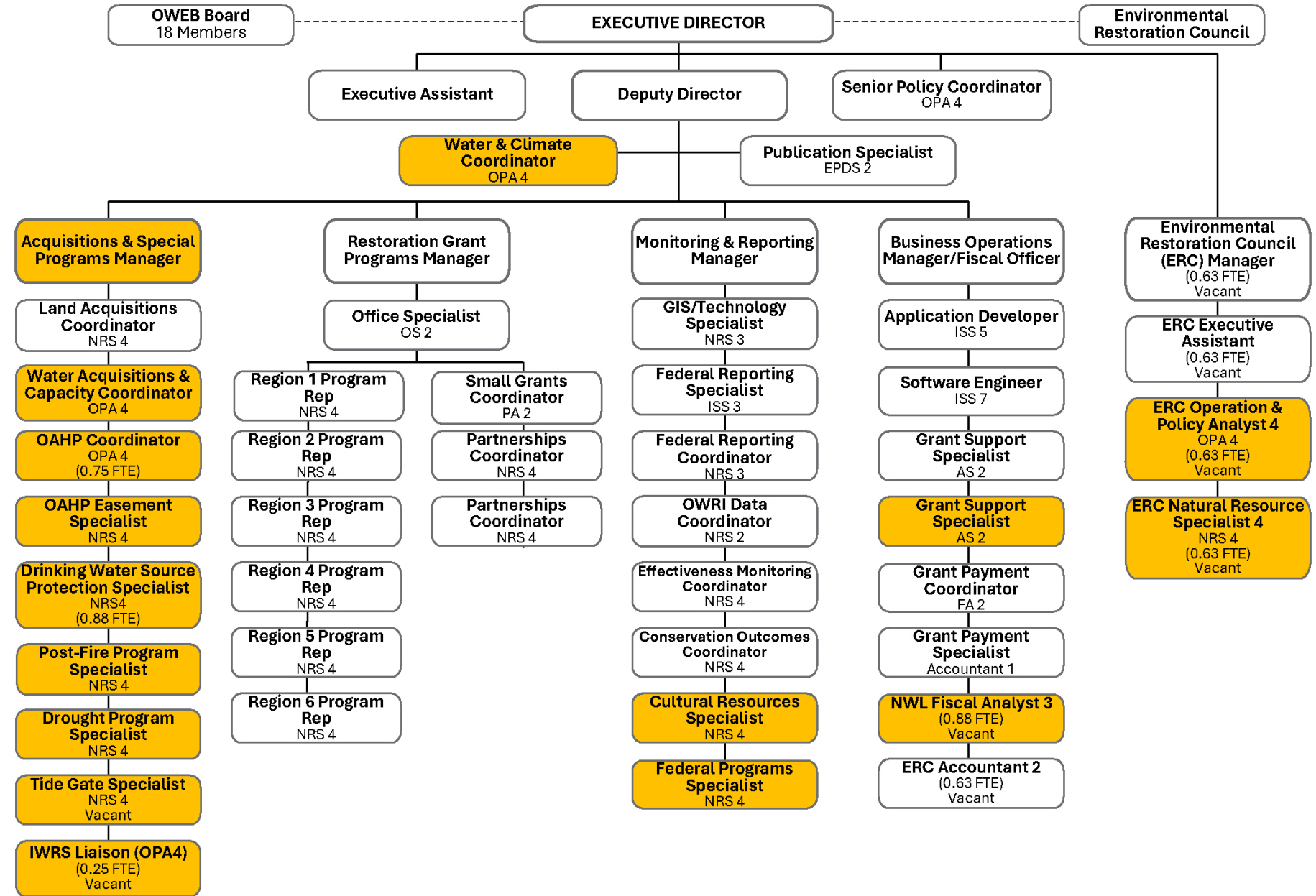
Agency
Leadership &
Support staff



Staff Support to
Environmental
Restoration
Council

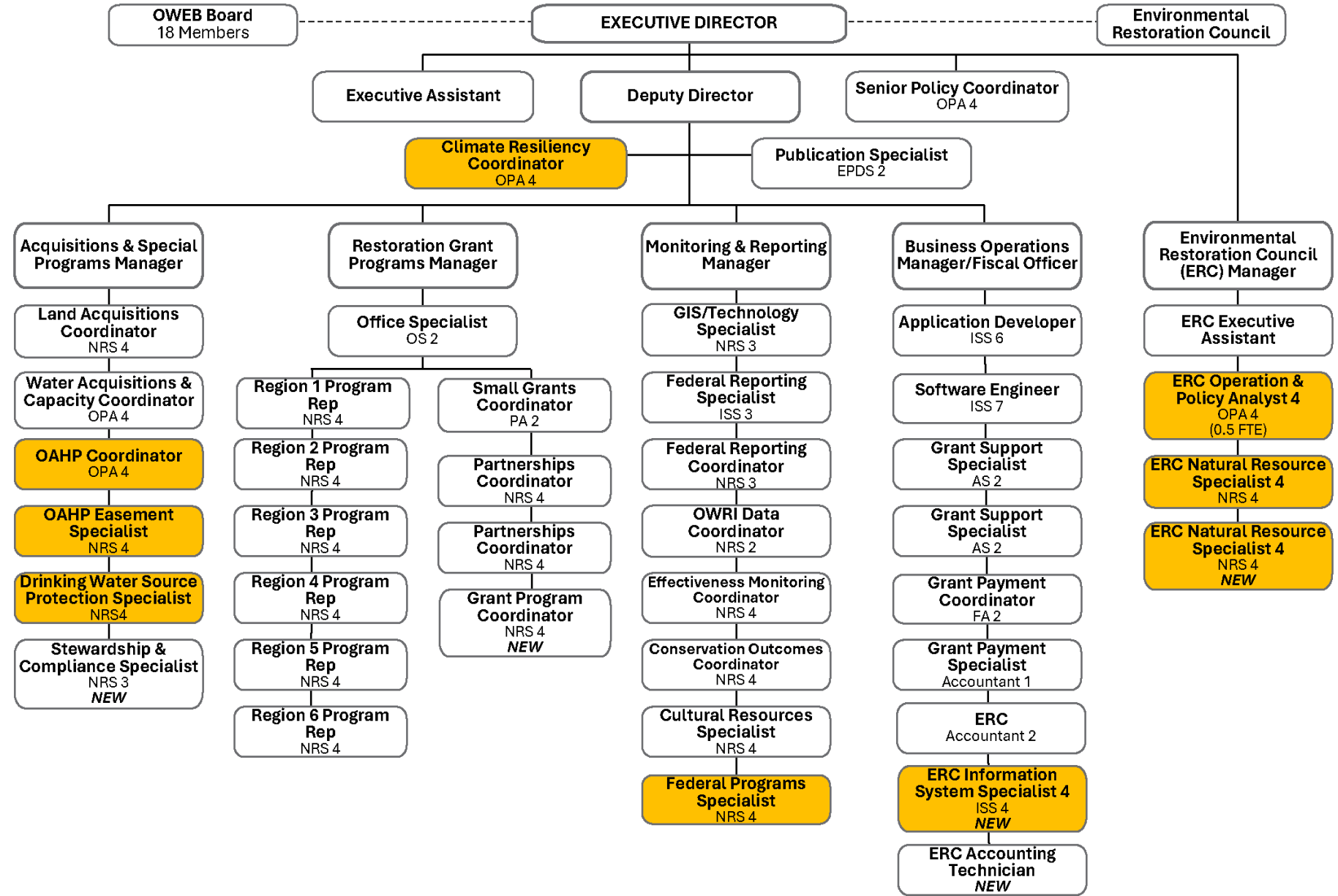
OWRD Shared Services Agreement

2023-2025 Legislatively Adopted Budget



Permanent Position
Limited Duration Position
FTE: 31.89 – Permanent; 14.02 – Limited Duration
Positions: 33 – Permanent; 16 – Limited Duration
Total FTE = 45.91
Total Positions = 49

2025-2027 Governor's Budget



Permanent Position

Limited Duration Position

FTE: 40 – Permanent; 8.5 – Limited Duration **Total FTE = 48.5**

Positions: 40 – Permanent; 9 – Limited Duration

Total Positions = 49



Our Results



What do Oregonians Get for the State's Investment?



Whychus Creek Floodplain Restoration



Juniper Removal and Sagebrush Steppe Restoration

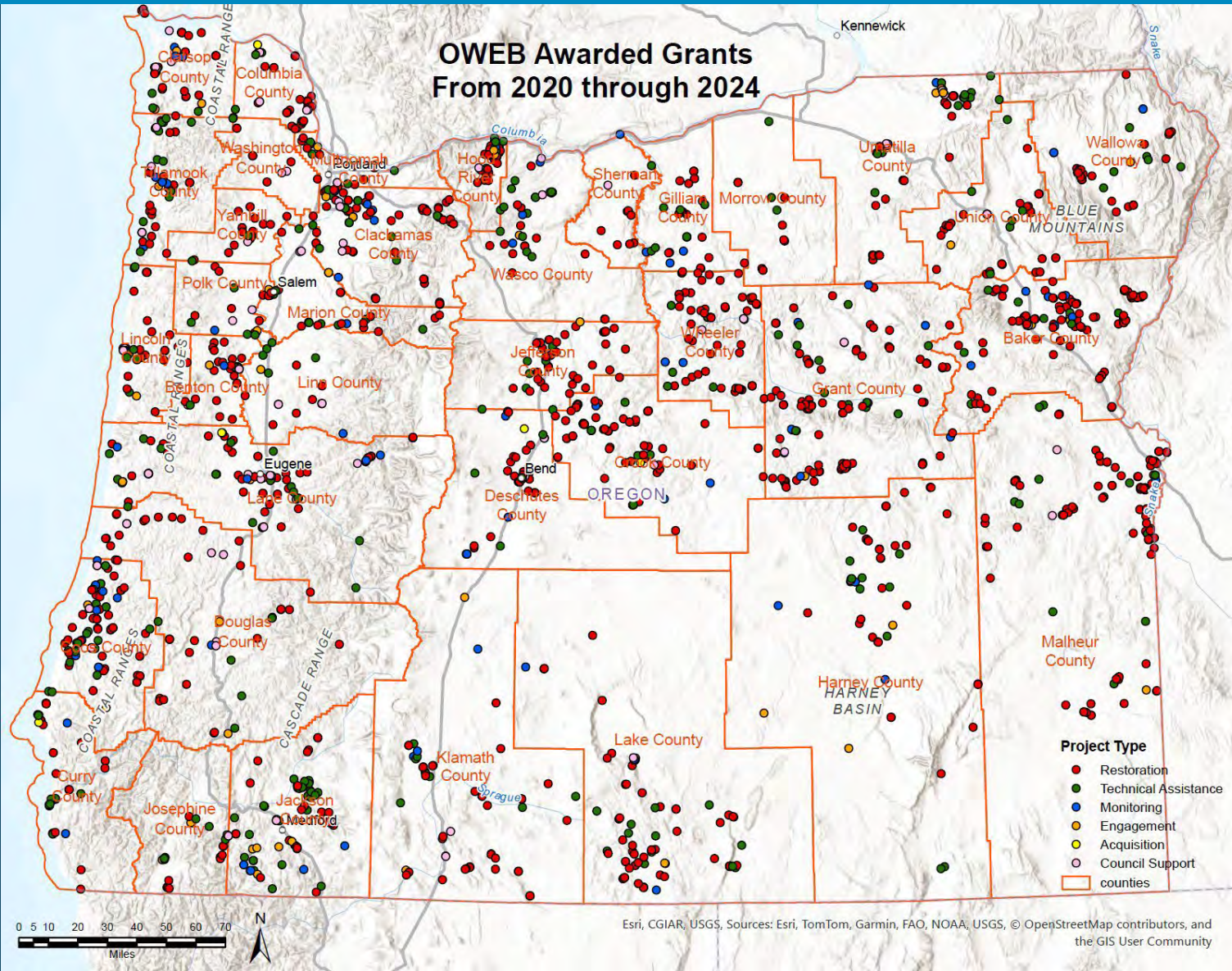


Wahl Ranch - OAHP Conservation Easement



McKenzie River Post-fire Watershed Restoration

2,238 Awarded Projects in Oregon within the Last 5 Years



In-stream restoration



Upland forest health



Sagebrush-steppe restoration

Esri, CGIAR, USGS, Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

Numbers Served ('23-'25 to date)



During the current biennium we:

- Managed approx. **1,273 open grants*** with total committed funding of **\$172M**
- Processed approx. **925 new grant applications**
- Issued **3,347 payments** totaling **\$104,272,794**
- Held easements or 3rd party rights for **over 100 land and water transactions**

*as of 1/14/25



OAHP Tour with Tualatin SWCD



Tour in the Reedsport Clear Lake Watershed, hosted in partnership with the Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts (COLT)

Status Update of New State Investments:

- 💧 **\$8.7M** in grant funds committed in OAHP grants to protect **12,090 acres** through easements and covenants
- 💧 OWEB received **\$6M** in grant applications for first round of DWSP with a total of **\$5M** available
- 💧 Natural and Working Lands (NWL) funds allocated to 4 agencies by Oregon Climate Action Commission
- 💧 OWEB offering **\$2.25M NWL** funds as grants



Performance and Outcome Measures: Key Performance Measures 2024



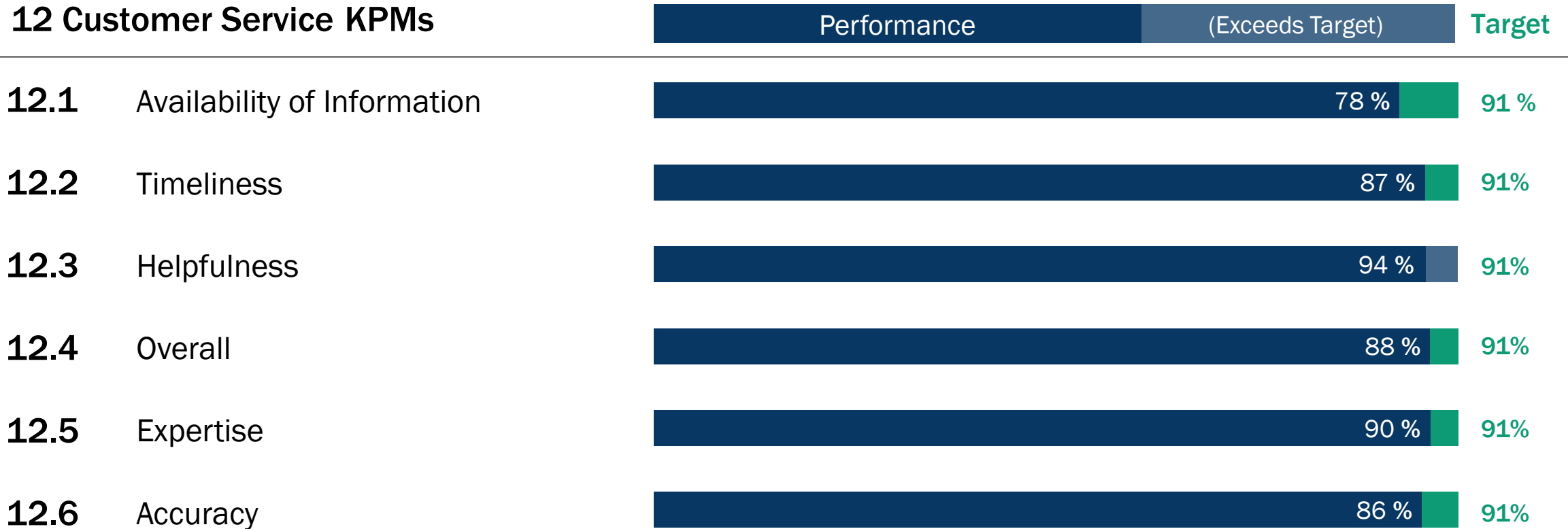
Key Performance Measures	Performance	(Exceeds Target)	Target
1 Total funding used in agency operations		12 %	11 %
2 Funding from other sources		55 %	60%
3 Grant-making across Oregon		92 %	92%
4 Timeliness of grant agreements	48 %		75%
5 Native fish population		94 %	75%
6 Watershed council governance		96 %	100% <small>*last reported in Fall 2023</small>
7 Timeliness of grant payments		95 %	100%
8 Miles of streamside habitat	168 miles		313 miles
9 Acres of upland habitat		39,582 acres	48,703 acres
10 Native fish & water quality		89 %	90%
11 Miles of native fish habitat opened		124 miles	82 miles



Performance and Outcome Measures: Key Performance Measures 2024



12 Customer Service KPMs





Performance and Outcome Measures: Key Performance Measures 2024



Retain current staff. Continue to convene periodic listening sessions...

OWEB seems to be constantly shifting and changing and it seems hard for staff to keep up sometimes.

Continue to streamline the grant applications.

...difficult to navigate for **information about upcoming or existing grant cycles.**

I have nothing but praise for OWEB staff, people are caring and competent

Out of all the agencies we work with, OWEB staff are the most **helpful and friendly.**





2023-2025 accomplishments

- 💧 Application streamlining
- 💧 Offering new Tribal project development grants
- 💧 Small grant team compensation
- 💧 Reduced match funding requirements to enhance accessibility
- 💧 Responded to customer planning & design needs for post-wildfire landscape restoration
- 💧 Engagement to meet intent of Natural and Working Lands Funds

The Oxbow Conservation Area is a part of the Intensively Monitored Watersheds and one of many projects with Tribal partnership.

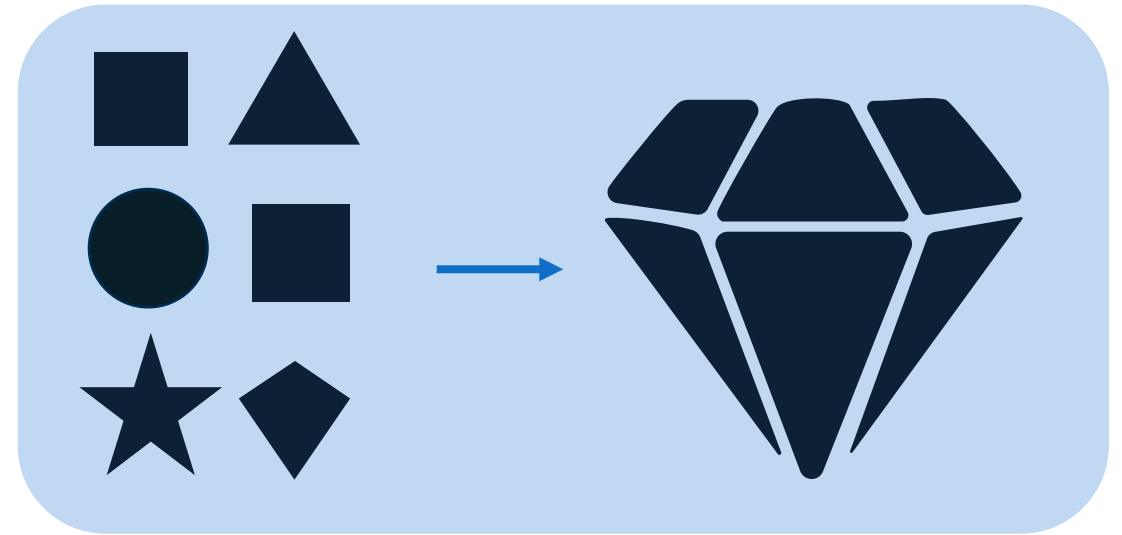


Presentation of Natural and Working Lands Funds at the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts Conference



Stabilize staffing

Modernize systems



Simplify programs

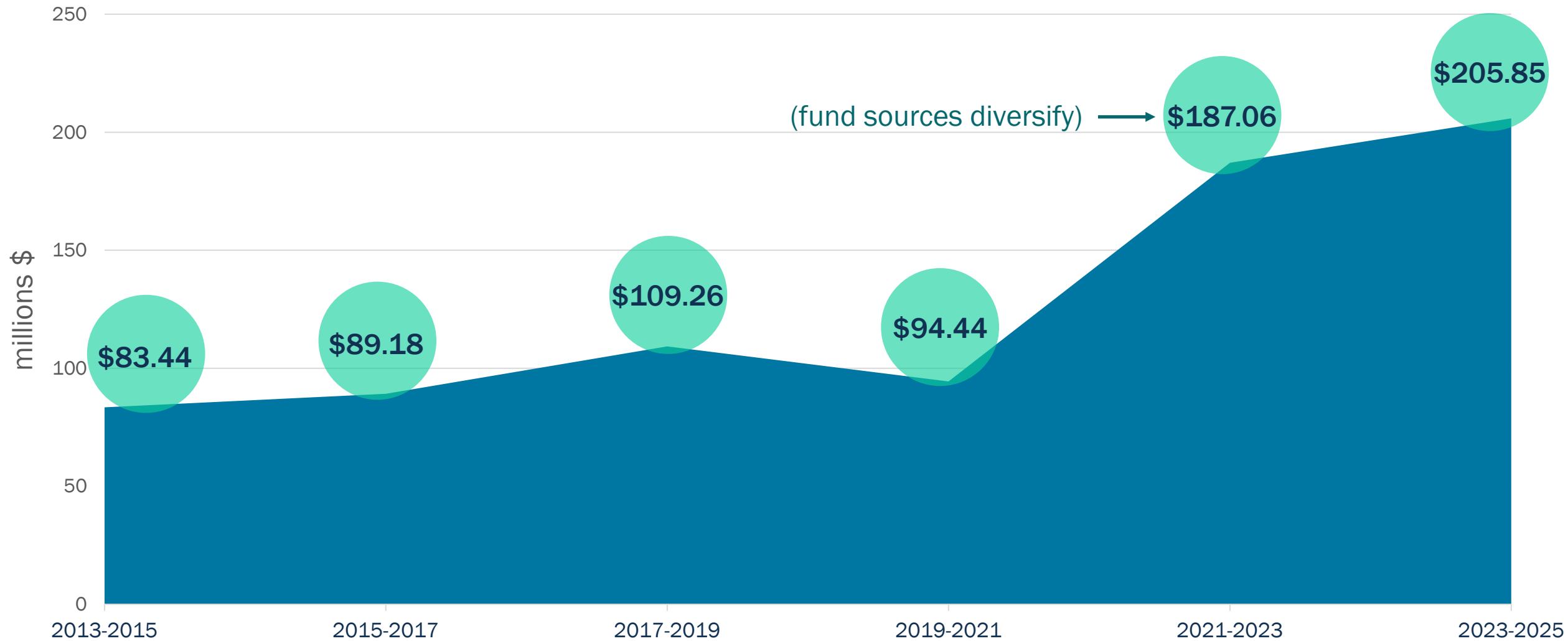
Looking Forward



OWEB Grant Funding Trend



Growth in Board Approved Grant Spending Plan



Major Agency Changes, Budget Drivers, and Risks



2021 - 2025

New watershed programs to serve Oregonians; unprecedented growth



2023 - 2025

OWEB helps deliver additional federal funds for watershed projects



2025

1/3 of agency is limited duration; new program workload extends into 2025-2027



2025

Approx 1/3 of agency staff are federally funded

Major Agency Changes, Budget Drivers, and Risks



Mid-Coast Water Infrastructure Tour, organized by the Legislative Water Caucus



Panelists from OWEB, ODA, ODF, and ODFW share about Oregon Climate Action Commission funded work at the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts

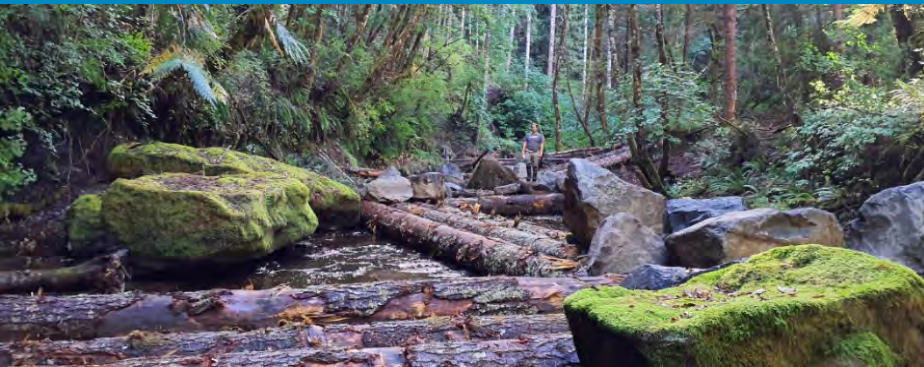
OWEB continues to serve as a responsive partner to take on new service responsibilities

- Developed Drinking Water Source Protection rules and launched grant offering; ready for bond sale

- Fiscal management & grant management of Natural and Working Lands Funds

- Fiscal agent and staff support to Environmental Restoration Council and Governor's Office

Major Agency Changes, Budget Drivers, and Risks



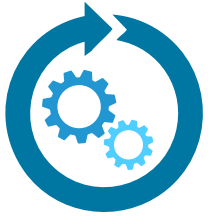
Large wood placed at South Sister Creek for habitat (BLM Good Neighbor)



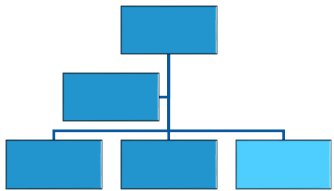
Lovelace dam removal and river restoration was the first BIL project in Oregon across the finish line

OWEB Delivered Federal and State Dollars

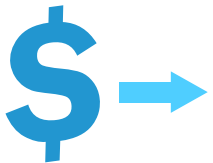
- Continued to administer \$23M in GF for post-wildfire and drought watershed health projects
- Continued to administer new investments in the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program
- Delivered federal funding to partners
 - Bureau of Land Management Good Neighbor Authority
 - US Dept of Ag – Natural Resources Conservation Service
 - Largest Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery award ever



Continuity of workload across biennia



Heavy reliance on limited duration positions

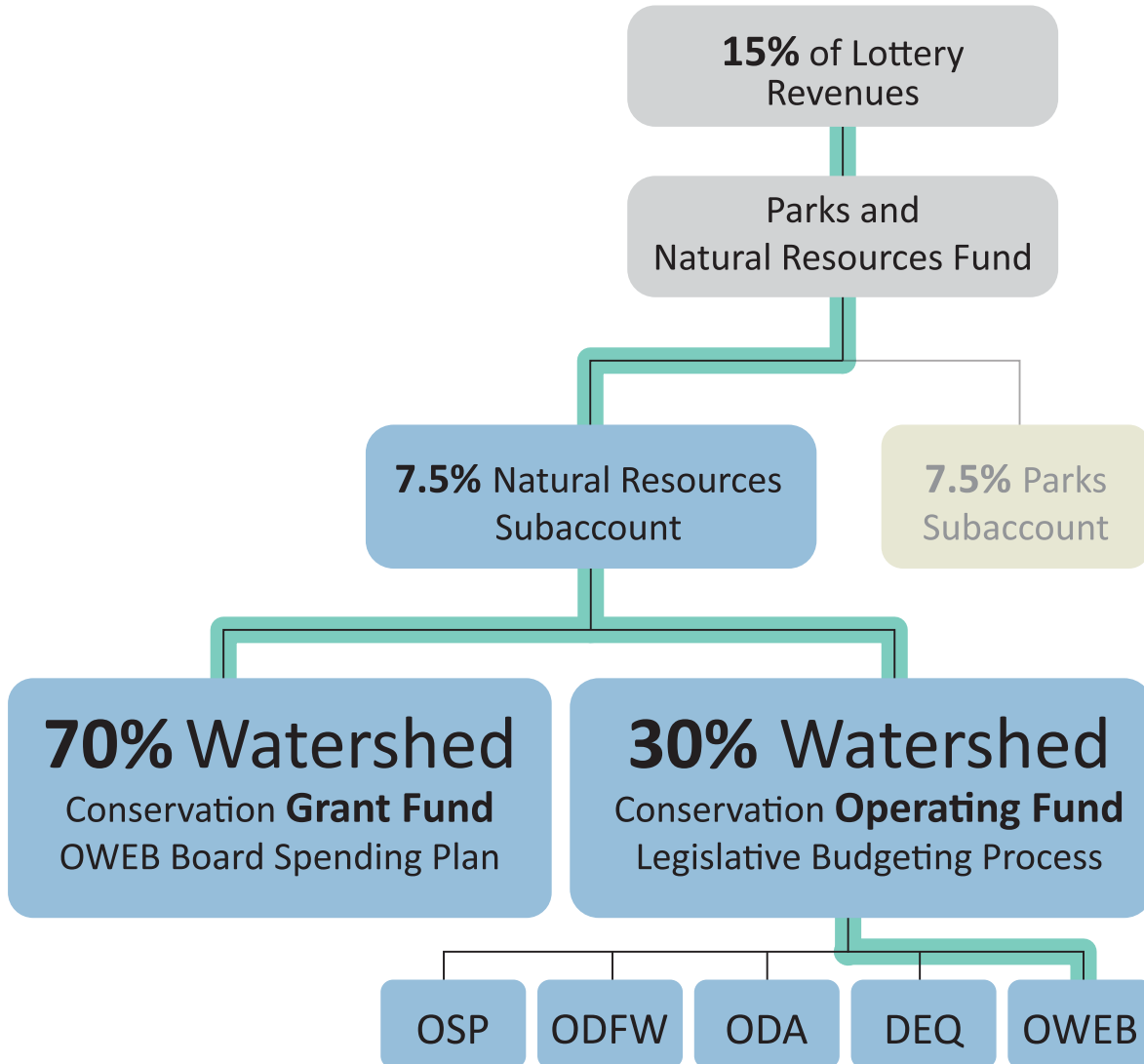


Increased administration of federal funds and programs



Constitutionally directed change in LF grants-operations split

Lottery Fund Allocation



15% Lottery Revenues split between:

- **7.5% Natural Resources**
- **7.5% Parks**

70% of Natural Resources funds allocated to OWEB are spent on watershed **Grant Funds**

30% of Natural Resource funds are legislatively allocated for the **Operating Funds** between five state agencies. The agencies are as follows:

- Oregon State Police
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Oregon Department of Agriculture
- Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
- **OWEB (~24% of operation funding in 2023-2025)**

Agency Budget Structure



Grants

- ✓ Grant spending plan approved by OWEB Board
- ✓ Budgeted and allocated through spending plan
- ✓ Grants executed through grant agreements

Operations

- ✓ Approved through legislative budgeting process
- ✓ Staff and supporting costs to administer grant processes

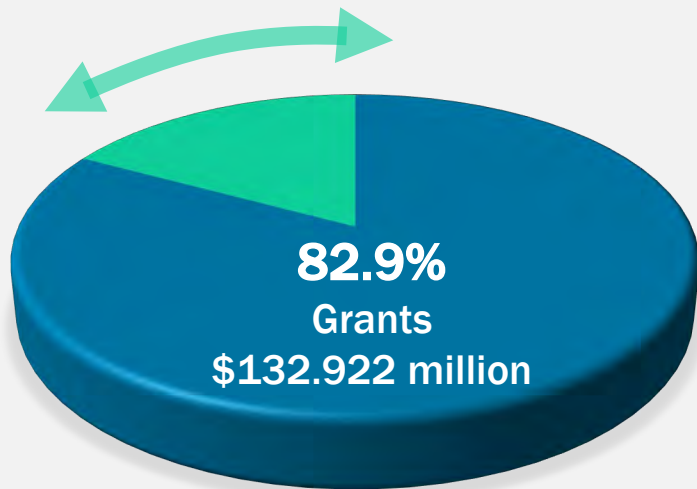


Important Changes to Agency Budget Grants to Operations Comparison



2021-2023 Actuals

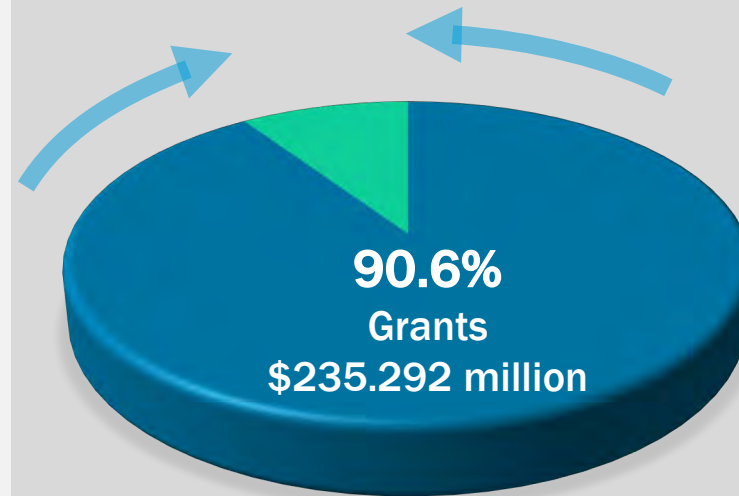
17.1%
Operations
\$27.431 million



Total = \$160.353 million

2023-2025 LAB

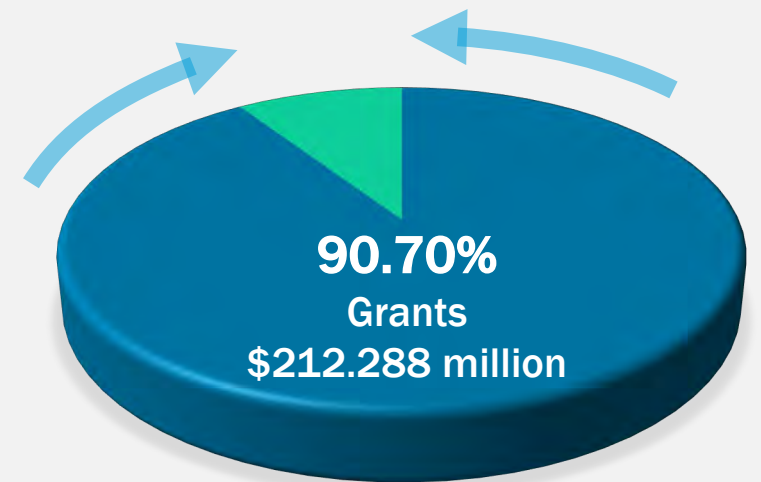
9.4%
Operations
\$24.283 million



Total = \$259.575 million

2025-2027 GRB

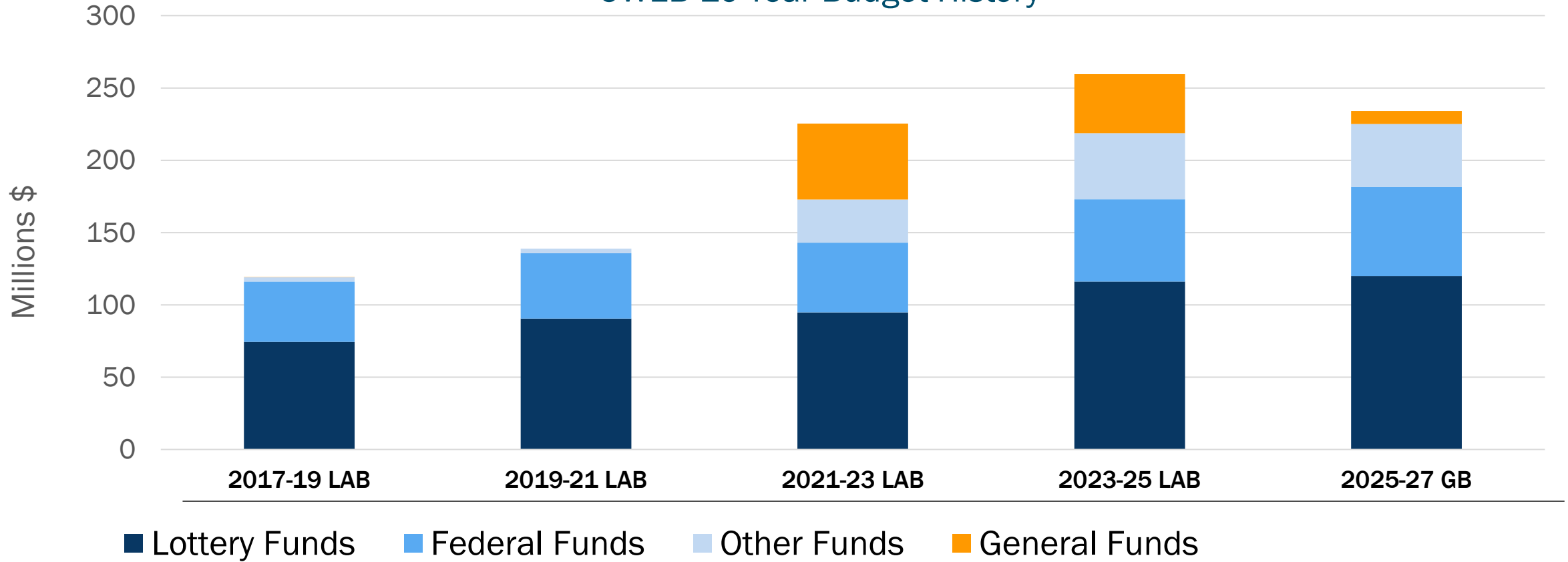
9.3%
Operations
\$21.771 million



Total = \$234.060 million

Governor's Budget - Summary

OWEB 10-Year Budget History





2025-2027 Governor's Budget Summary



	General Funds	Lottery Funds	Lottery Debt Svc Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total	Position/ FTE
OWEB Administration (Program 010)	\$1,967,700	\$11,443,476	\$711,079	\$4,027,809	\$3,621,463	\$21,771,527	49/48.50
OWEB Grants (Program 020)	\$7,000,000	\$107,812,436	\$0	\$39,505,582	\$57,970,114	\$212,288,132	0/0
TOTAL	\$8,967,700	\$119,255,912	\$711,079	\$43,533,391	\$61,591,577	\$234,059,659	49/48.50



Governor's Budget - Key Policy Packages



POP	Name	Amount	FTE	Fund Source
090	CFO Analyst Adjustment	\$ 1,560,000	3.0	GF
100	Acquisitions & Special Programs Manager	\$ 509,000	1.0	GF/LF
101	Grant Program Staffing	\$ 286,813	1.0	LF
102	Land Acquisition Stewardship (self funded)	\$ -	1.0	LF
105	OAHP Staff Continuity	\$ 455,555	1.0	OF
106	Water Acquisition Staff Continuity	\$ 745,000	2.0	OF
107	ERC Staffing Continuity	\$ 560,000	1.5	OF
108	ERC Staffing Capacity	\$ 750,000	3.0	OF
109	NHPA Continuity	\$ 351,000	1.0	FF
110	Federal Programs Continuity	\$ 380,000	1.0	FF
111	IT Staffing Realignment	\$ 29,154	0.0	FF
	TOTAL	\$ 5,626,522	15.5	

Package 090 (CFO Analyst Adjustments):

- Staffing continuity (Drinking Water Source Protection, Natural & Working Lands, Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program)
- Grant investments (Natural & Working Lands, Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program)



Drinking Water Source Protection



Natural and Working Lands



Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program



Lottery Fund Reduction Options Operations (Program 010)



Proposed reduction	5% reduction	10% reduction (cumulative)
Supplies and Services	\$131,047	\$352,095
Professional Services	\$100,000	\$100,000
Attorney General Costs	\$0	\$35,000
Travel & Training Costs	\$25,000	\$25,000
Personnel funding shifts/reductions	\$150,000	\$300,000
Additional personnel funding shifts/reductions	\$150,000	\$300,000
Total cumulative reductions	\$556,047	\$1,112,095
Impacted FTE	1.0 FTE	2.0 FTE



Lottery Fund Reduction Options Grants (Program 020)



Proposed reduction	5% reduction	10% reduction (cumulative)
Special Payments	\$5,390,622	\$10,781,244
Total cumulative reductions	\$5,390,622	\$10,781,244



Additional Information



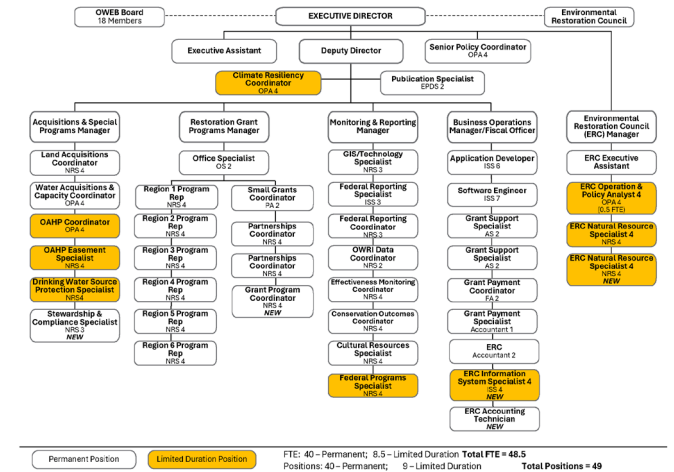
- No vacant permanent positions.
- No submitted reduction options were included in the Governor's Budget.
- No proposed fee changes
- No Information Technology projects that affect the 2025-2027 budget.



Rapid Growth

Restoration	Engagement
Acquisition	Partnerships & Capacity
Planning & Design	Monitoring & Outcomes

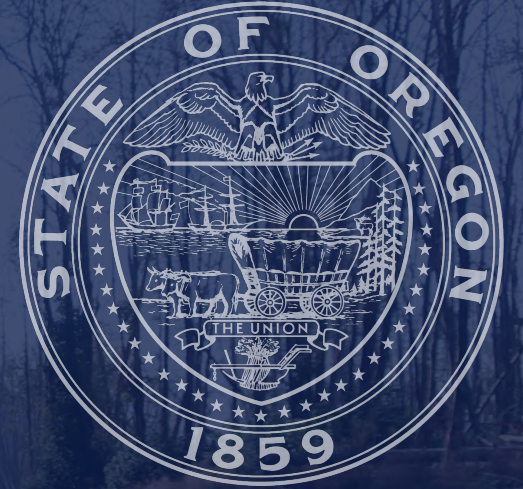
Our Challenge



Clear Course



OREGON
WATERSHED
ENHANCEMENT BOARD



Thank You!