



## GWEB FUNDING PROGRAM

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The 1998-99 GWEB application and guidelines are now available in [PDF](#) and [Word](#) formats. (Note: If you are not familiar with PDF [Portable Document Format] files, these are files that are available in their original format for viewing and/or printing. You must have Acrobat Reader installed on your system to view PDF documents. Acrobat Reader is available as a free download from Adobe Systems, Inc. at <http://www.adobe.com/prodindex/acrobat/readstep.html>.)

If you have trouble reading either of these files, please contact GWEB at (503) 378-3589, Ext. 827 to request a different version.

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The Governor's Watershed Enhancement Board was created by the 1987 Legislature through Senate Bill 23 and is modeled after the Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program (STEP) managed by the Department of Fish and Wildlife. It has since been modified by House Bill 3441 (1995 Legislature) and House Bill 3700 (1997 Legislature). HB 2215 created Oregon's watershed council program in 1993. In 1995 the Oregon Legislature passed HB 3441 which directed GWEB to provide support to watershed councils. HB 3700 defined GWEB's responsibilities in relation to implementing projects addressing coastal salmon restoration and improving water quality statewide.

In addition to its major grant program, GWEB directs a small grant program through the Natural Resources Division of the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA). Under this program, each of the state's 45 soil and water conservation districts may apply to ODA for funds for small watershed enhancement projects.

GWEB also conducts watershed workshops for landowners, watershed councils, educators and others, and conducts a biennial conference highlighting watershed efforts statewide.

In the past, funding for the GWEB program has ranged from \$500,000 to \$1 million per biennium and has come from the State General Fund or from State Lottery Revenues. For the 1997-99 biennium, funding in the amount of \$21 million will be available for the program from the State General Fund, timber tax revenues, license plate revenues, angling license fees and other sources. Federal funds may also be administered through the GWEB program to benefit the state's watersheds.

With its increased grant revenues, GWEB is charged with supporting implementation of The Oregon Plan, which includes the Oregon Coastal Salmon Restoration Initiative (OCSRI) and the Healthy Streams Partnership. OCSRI is a comprehensive, multi-interest, multi-agency initiative to restore coastal coho salmon populations to sustainable levels by "conserving and restoring the functional elements of ecosystems that support fish, wildlife and people." The Healthy Streams Partnership is a coalition of state agencies, agricultural interests and environmental organizations addressing water quality standards for each of the quality-impaired stream segments listed on the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's 1996 "303(d)" list. Implementing The Oregon Plan is a huge challenge. Yet, more than at any other time in Oregon's history, people are volunteering their time, efforts and resources to protect the state's diverse natural resources. The GWEB Board and staff are dedicated to supporting those efforts.

### **The Kinds of Projects Eligible for GWEB Funding**

The Governor's Watershed Enhancement Board focuses on projects that approach natural resources management from a whole-watershed perspective. GWEB encourages projects that foster interagency cooperation, include other sources of funding, provide for local stakeholder involvement, include youth and volunteers and promote learning about watershed concepts. There are four categories of projects eligible for GWEB funding:

#### **1. Assessment and/or monitoring of natural resource conditions.**

*For example:*

- Compilation and analysis of existing watershed data and/or collection of new information to fill data gaps
- Development of written action plans to address the resource needs identified in a watershed assessment
- Monitoring of resource conditions to determine changes over time

#### **2. On-the-ground watershed management.**

*For example:*

- Planting along streambanks to slow erosion
- Developing off-stream livestock watering facilities or fencing stream areas to restore riparian function
- Controlling upland vegetation to encourage the growth of native grasses
- Reseeding old logging roads
- Restoring or enhancing natural wetlands
- Improving fish habitat
- Removing or replacing ineffective culverts
- Purchasing conservation easements or leasing water rights

#### **3. Opportunities for learning about watershed concepts**

*For example:*

- Conducting workshops for landowners or educators
- Providing field study opportunities for students
- Engaging students in a program of water quality monitoring
- Developing informational materials such as brochures, interpretive signs, newsletters

#### **4. Watershed council support**

*For example:*

- Salaries and benefits for council coordinators
- Materials used by the coordinator to conduct council business
- Travel reimbursement

Further information about project eligibility and project evaluation criteria can be found in the grant application and guidebook available from GWEB. Generally, those projects clearly linked to restoration of declining species or improving water quality will be given preference for funding.

#### **Applying for Funds**

Any person or public or private agency or organization may request funding, advice or assistance from GWEB in developing a watershed project. Grants can range in size from less than \$1,000 to over \$100,000. Inquiries should be directed to:

#### **The Governor's Watershed Enhancement Board**

255 Capitol St. NE, 3rd Floor  
Salem, Oregon 97310-0203  
Phone: (503) 378-3589, Ext. 827  
FAX: (503) 378-3225

To apply for funds, applicants must first request a copy of the grant application and guidebook from GWEB or from any of the agencies participating in the program. The guidebook describes the Board's funding policies and evaluation criteria and explains how to complete a grant application. Applications can be submitted to GWEB continuously throughout each two-year funding cycle and awards will be made twice a year.

Applicants will need to provide a description of the project, photographs of the project area when appropriate, an assessment of the problem to be addressed and benefits to be derived and other pertinent information. Grant applications are evaluated by review teams who develop funding recommendations for the Board. The Board takes action to award grant funds at designated public meetings.

Under GWEB's small grant program, each of the state's 45 soil and water conservation districts may apply for up to \$5,000 to implement small watershed projects by contacting:

Natural Resources Division  
**Oregon Department of Agriculture**  
635 Capitol St. NE  
Salem, OR 97310  
Phone: (503) 986-4713  
FAX: (503) 378-2590

#### **Terms of the Grant**

Before a project begins, grantees must obtain all applicable local, state and federal permits and show that their project complies with local land use laws. Grantees must also agree to post a sign identifying the project and noting that GWEB is a source of funding. Materials produced through educational projects must include a notation that GWEB funds were

used.

Upon completion of the project, grantees must submit a report to GWEB describing the work that has been done and documenting all expenditures. Grantees must also monitor, evaluate and maintain their projects for a specified number of years and provide annual progress reports to GWEB. Other conditions may be placed on the grant. These will be specified in the Grant Agreement and agreed upon before the project begins.

For more funding information, [click here](#).

[Program Overview](#) | [GWEB Staff Directory](#)  
[Program Policies](#) | [Watershed Project Priorities](#)  
[Watershed Council Partnership Program](#)  
[Recognizing Watershed Councils](#) | [Funding Information](#)  
[Oregon Watershed Councils](#) | [Oregon Watershed Assessment Manual](#)  
[Reports, Guides & The Oregon Plan](#)