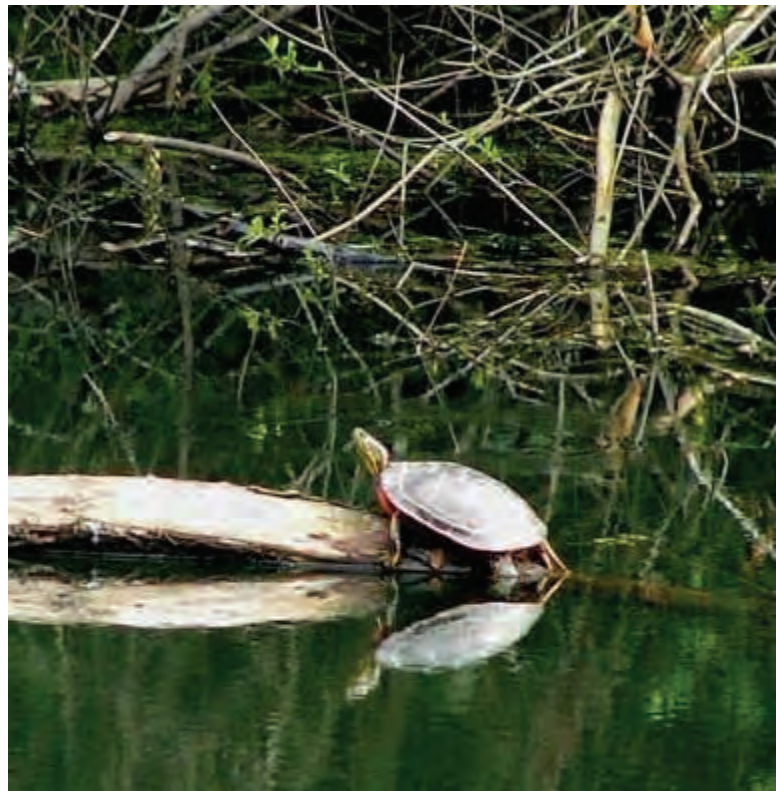




# Small Grant Program

## 2007-2009 Biennial Report



January 2011



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

## Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

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### **OWEB Mission Statement**

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

January 2011

### **A message from Executive Director Tom Byler**

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board is a state agency that provides grants to help Oregonians voluntarily take care of local streams, rivers, wetlands and natural areas. Through the Small Grant Program community members and landowners use scientific criteria to decide jointly what needs to be done to conserve and improve rivers, water quality and quantity and native fish and wildlife habitat in the places where they live.

The Small Grant Program offers numerous watershed benefits in both urban and rural areas. It fosters a unique team of watershed councils, soil and water conservation districts and tribes. Each of the 28 Small Grant Teams establish local watershed priorities and recommend appropriate restoration projects for funding in their own areas. Additionally, the program provides watershed education and a sense of accomplishment by involving community members in restoration activities while bringing employment opportunities to local contractors and vendors.

Since its establishment in 2002 through the 2007-09 biennium, the program has provided more than \$10 million to fund over 1,552 projects. During the 2007-09 biennium 385 Small Grants were funded for over \$2.6 million.

The pages that follow explain more about OWEB's Small Grant Program and summarize the results of funding in the 2007-09 biennium. While local watershed priorities may vary, there are consistent and significant benefits to watersheds and fish and wildlife habitat and to the communities implementing the projects across the state.

**Cover Photo:** A native Western Painted turtle basks on a log in Lost Lagoon on Sauvie Island where habitat restoration work was done with funding from a Small Grant.

## Introduction to OWEB

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) is a state agency that provides grants to help Oregonians voluntarily take care of local streams, rivers, wetlands and natural areas.

In 1997, the Oregon Legislature adopted the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds in partnership with Governor John Kitzhaber to support state-led salmon recovery efforts. The Oregon Plan emphasized the role of local citizens as resource stewards on privately owned lands.

Just one year later, in 1998, Oregon citizens passed Ballot Measure 66, which amended the Oregon Constitution to set aside 7.5 percent of Oregon State Lottery's net proceeds to fund salmon restoration and watershed and wildlife habitat protection to the year 2014. In 1999, the Oregon Legislature created OWEB to administer Measure 66 funds to finance salmon restoration and watershed enhancement grants.

The citizens of Oregon passed Ballot Measure 76 in November 2010 to permanently set aside 7.5 percent of the Lottery's net proceeds for the public purpose of financing the restoration and protection of native fish and wildlife, watersheds and water quality in Oregon. OWEB will work with the Governor, the 2011 Legislature and stakeholders on legislation to implement the new measure and consider changes to rules and programs that may be required.

OWEB awarded about \$315.5 million from Oregon Lottery, federal dollars and salmon license plate

revenue toward watershed protection and restoration activities across Oregon from July 1, 1999 through June 30, 2009. Such actions continue to be undertaken daily by dedicated Oregonians.

## Small Grant Program

In 2002, OWEB created the Small Grant Program to provide a quick and flexible mechanism to support locally developed restoration priorities.

### Program Goals

The goals of the Small Grant Program are to:

- Support implementation of the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds.
- Support projects designed to improve water quality, water quantity, and fish and wildlife habitat.
- Make funds available to local Small Grant teams to address local priority resource concerns, habitat values and watershed functions.
- Encourage landowner participation in watershed improvement by making funds readily available.
- Treat the source of watershed health problems through technically sound projects that use proven techniques and that demonstrate benefits to watershed health across all land uses.
- Encourage partnerships among watershed councils, soil and water conservation districts, and tribes.



A solar panel provides power to pump water to a trough for livestock and wildlife drinking water on the Starbuck Ranch in Harney County. The new water source helps manage livestock grazing, allowing native plants to regenerate.

## How the Program Works

OWEB has designated 28 areas across the state, each represented by a Small Grant team (see map on back page). Teams are comprised of representatives from the following entities:

**Watershed Councils:** Local, voluntary, non-regulatory groups organized by local community members to improve the ecological and economic condition of their watershed.

**Soil and Water Conservation Districts:** Local government agencies that plan and implement conservation measures and watershed improvements on agricultural, forest, urban, and small rural acreages.

**Tribes:** Independent government entities that provide conservation services on tribal and ceded lands.

Local teams develop watershed priorities for use in making funding recommendations in their unique geographic area. Teams also prioritize project types based on local restoration goals.

The OWEB Board has awarded each team \$100,000 for each of the past four biennia to fund eligible Small Grant projects in their area.

Teams solicit applications through local outreach methods including publications, newsletters and meeting announcements. A tribe, watershed council or district may submit an application on behalf of private landowners, independent not-for-profit institutions, schools, community colleges, state institutions of higher education, or local, state or federal agencies.

The Small Grant Program builds strong relationships between local program representatives and landowners wishing to contribute to watershed protection and enhancement. The program creates many “win-win” opportunities because watershed improvement and wildlife habitat restoration and landowner property improvement often go hand-in-hand.

Since its inception, the Small Grant Program has funded over 1,552 Small Grant projects on principally private lands across Oregon. Project awards for the past four biennia are listed by Small Grant team in the tables on page 6.

## Small Grant Funding per Biennium

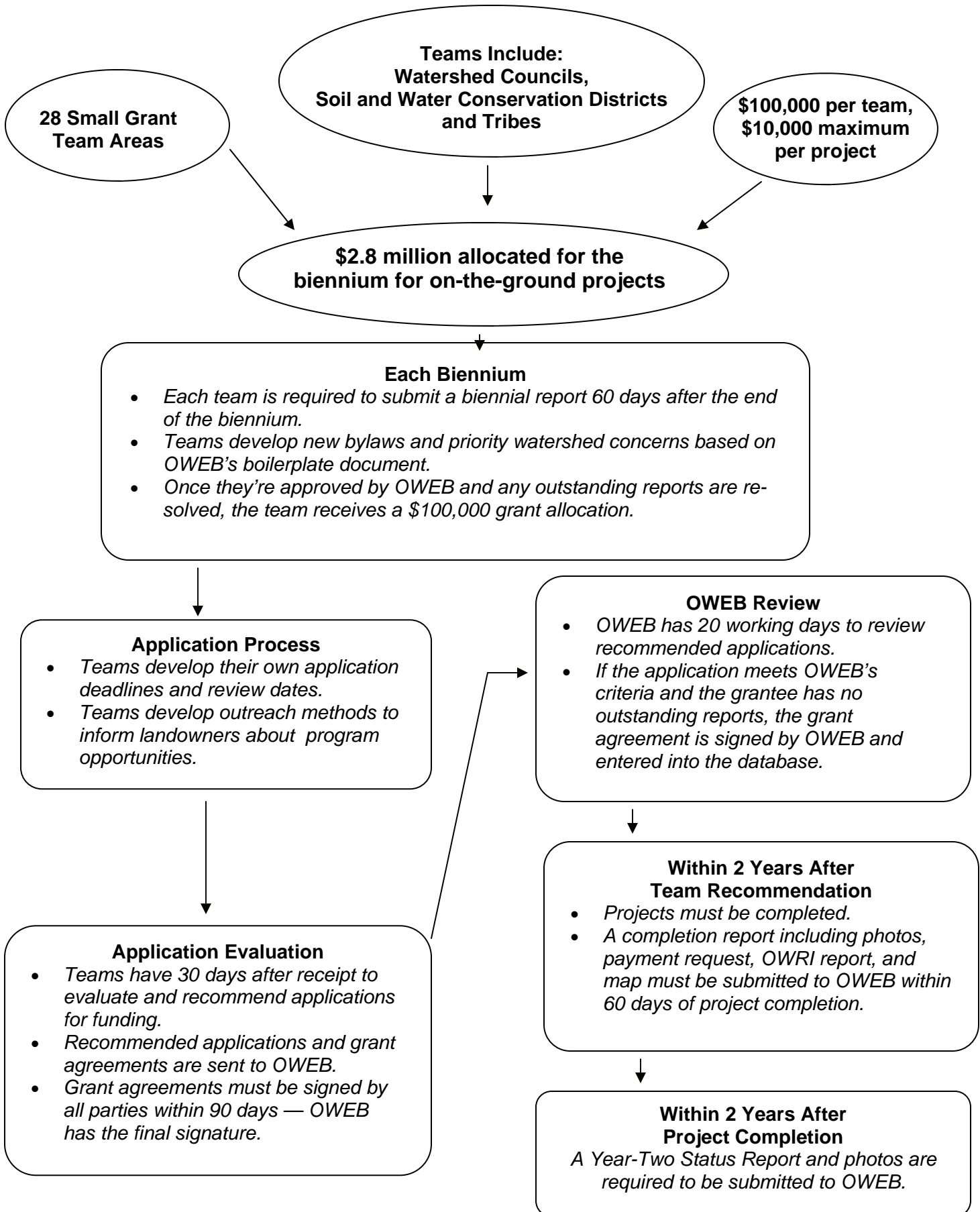
Biennium	# of Grants	Allocated*
2001-2003	405	\$2.4 Million
2003-2005	384	\$2.5 Million
2005-2007	378	\$2.5 Million
2007-2009	385	\$2.6 Million
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,552</b>	<b>\$10 Million</b>

\*Figures rounded



Bluebird/swallow boxes are installed to encourage the birds to take up residence near the Omeg Orchards in Wasco County. Nesting boxes for barn owls, kestrels, bluebirds, swallows and bats are being used as an alternative to traps and poisons to control rodents and insects. A local cabinet maker has developed a backlog of orders for the boxes as landowners adopt the methods. Some species of bats can capture several hundred insects in an hour. Studies indicate a brooding family of barn owls can catch and consume 10-12 gophers a night between April and July.

# 2007-09 OWEB Small Grant Program Overview



## Why the Program Works

The following benefits were discussed by Small Grant teams in their reports submitted at the end of the 2007-09 biennium.

***There's a Quick Turn-Around***—The program provides a quick turn-around from application to project completion. This element allows teams to quickly let landowners know whether a project will be funded, helps ensure match fund availability, and enables projects to be completed within two years.

***It's Flexible***—The relatively simple program funds types of projects that would not be recommended for funding in the regular grant process due to the competition for limited funds, the small acreage involved, longer turn-around, and/or the lack of landowner trust in government bureaucracy. The program also allows grantees to work with several adjacent landowners in concert, but with different completion dates.

***It Develops Partnerships and Trust in Government***—The program develops important partnerships between watershed councils, districts and Tribes and it builds strong relationships with landowners. It also increases partnerships with other entities including city, county, state and federal agencies, and non-profits.

***It Aids the Local Economy***—Small Grant projects often benefit local vendors and provide employment opportunities for local contractors.

***There's a Local Review***—Teams can be strategic as they develop priorities and review applications and recommend projects for funding locally.

***It Leverages Other Funding***—Small Grant funding leverages other funding from sources such as federal, state, local governments and non-profits including: the Natural Resources Conservation Service Environmental Quality Incentive Program; Oregon Department of Environmental Quality 319 grants; and non-profits such as SOLV. Additionally, landowners often view the required 25 percent match as moderate enough to make the projects doable for them.



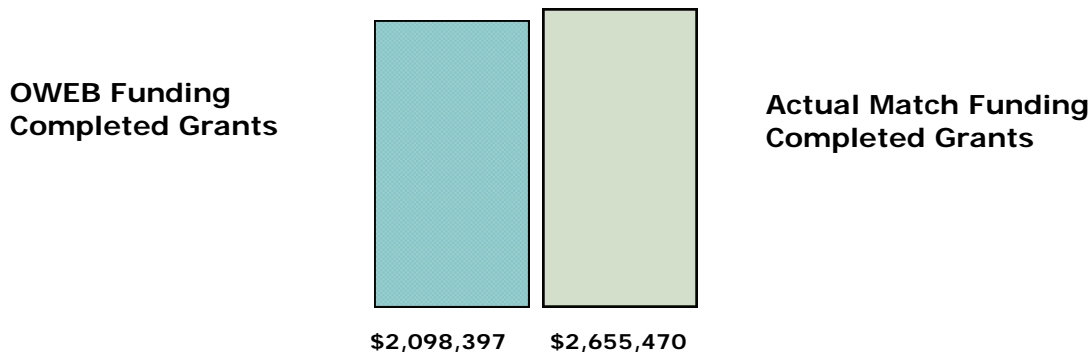
Live cuttings of native willow and red osier dogwood were planted to restore the riparian area along the main stem Nehalem River. Elevated stream temperatures and severe bank erosion were negatively impacting salmon habitat at this site. Subsequent riparian plantings included native conifers, hardwoods, shrubs and ground covers.

**Small Grant Funding by Team  
2007-09 Biennium  
June 30, 2009**

<b>Team #</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Funded</b>	<b>Allocated</b>
01-08-000	Lower Columbia	100,000.00	91,738.86
02-08-000	North Coast	100,000.00	99,277.14
03-08-000	Mid Coast	100,000.00	85,976.70
04-08-000	Coos Coquille	100,000.00	99,989.00
05-08-000	South Coast	100,000.00	99,703.68
06-08-000	Rogue Basin	100,000.00	99,982.15
07-08-000	Umpqua	100,000.00	80,869.00
08-08-000	Upper Willamette East	100,000.00	99,930.00
09-08-000	Upper Willamette West	100,000.00	99,999.15
10-08-000	Mid Willamette East	100,000.00	100,000.00
11-08-000	Mid Willamette West	100,000.00	92,773.10
12-08-000	Lower Willamette East	100,000.00	87,192.17
13-08-000	Lower Willamette West	100,000.00	100,000.00
14-08-000	Hood River	100,000.00	98,589.86
15-08-000	Lower Deschutes	100,000.00	98,582.32
16-08-000	Lower John Day	100,000.00	99,987.45
17-08-000	Mid Deschutes	100,000.00	87,624.00
18-08-000	Crook	100,000.00	100,000.00
19-08-000	Upper Deschutes	100,000.00	77,032.00
20-08-000	Lake	100,000.00	99,960.00
21-08-000	Klamath Basin	100,000.00	99,584.67
22-08-000	Harney Basin	100,000.00	100,000.00
23-08-000	Owyhee	100,000.00	100,000.00
24-08-000	Malheur	100,000.00	97,303.00
25-08-000	John Day	100,000.00	99,998.41
26-08-000	Umatilla-Walla Walla	100,000.00	99,976.00
27-08-000	Grande Ronde	100,000.00	80,296.00
28-08-000	Powder Basin	100,000.00	100,000.00
		<b>\$2,800,000.00</b>	<b>\$2,676,364.66</b>

**The 2007-09 Biennium**

Small Grant teams allocated more money in the 2007-09 biennium than ever before leaving a little over \$123,000 unspent out of the Board awarded \$2.8 million. Projects funded during this biennium and completed as of December 16, 2010 have leveraged over 127% in cash and in-kind match funding.



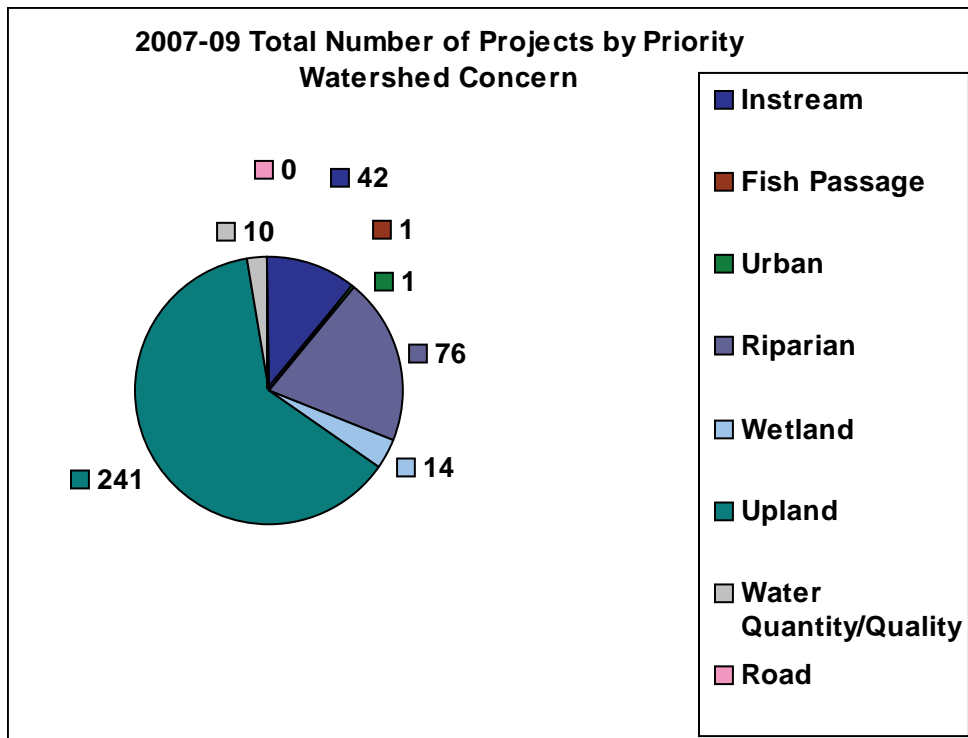
**OWEB Small Grant Program**  
**2001-09 Biennial Amounts Allocated by Small Grant Team**

	2001-03	2003-05	2005-07	2007-09
<b>North Coast—Region 1</b>				
01 Lower Columbia	90,165	82,063	98,717	91,739
02 North Coast	87,907	78,093	98,323	99,277
03 Mid Coast	68,400	90,300	62,850	85,977
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$246,472</b>	<b>\$250,456</b>	<b>\$259,890</b>	<b>\$276,993</b>
<b>Southwest Oregon—Region 2</b>				
04 Coos-Coquille	97,923	54,650	63,165	99,989
05 South Coast	81,878	96,979	95,420	99,704
06 Rogue Basin	80,648	90,422	61,413	99,982
07 Umpqua	75,962	76,796	96,847	80,869
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$336,411</b>	<b>\$318,847</b>	<b>\$316,845</b>	<b>\$380,544</b>
<b>Willamette Basin—Region 3</b>				
08 Upper Willamette East	90,924	96,667	87,786	99,930
09 Upper Willamette West	69,108	86,876	98,008	99,999
10 Mid Willamette East	85,018	96,708	99,999	100,000
11 Mid Willamette West	90,847	87,145	99,026	92,773
12 Lower Willamette East	74,626	98,330	99,617	87,192
13 Lower Willamette West	75,373	91,323	98,652	100,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$485,896</b>	<b>\$557,049</b>	<b>\$583,088</b>	<b>\$579,894</b>
<b>Central Oregon—Region 4</b>				
14 Hood River	87,407	99,751	99,664	98,590
15 Lower Deschutes	97,648	73,881	98,150	98,582
16 Lower John Day	92,085	69,505	88,207	*
17 Mid Deschutes	82,308	75,648	90,902	87,624
18 Crook	88,056	96,037	100,000	100,000
19 Upper Deschutes	57,352	92,511	35,860	77,032
20 Lake	87,152	98,021	99,545	99,960
21 Klamath Basin	77,931	97,065	95,341	99,585
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$669,939</b>	<b>\$702,419</b>	<b>\$707,669</b>	<b>\$661,373</b>
<b>Eastern Oregon—Region 5</b>				
22 Harney Basin	95,400	99,436	85,916	100,000
23 Owyhee	100,000	92,568	100,000	100,000
24 Malheur	99,998	100,000	99,998	97,303
25 John Day	96,617	99,649	99,808	*
26 Umatilla-Walla Walla-Willow	80,665	95,802	94,691	*
27 Grande Ronde	50,219	85,412	89,320	80,296
28 Powder Basin	97,705	94,544	100,000	100,000
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$620,604</b>	<b>\$667,411</b>	<b>\$669,733</b>	<b>\$477,599</b>
<b>Mid Columbia—Region 6</b>				
16 Lower John Day	*	*	*	99,987
25 John Day	*	*	*	99,998
26 Umatilla-Walla Walla-Willow	*	*	*	99,976
<b>Subtotal</b>				<b>\$299,961</b>
<b>TOTAL STATEWIDE</b>	<b>\$2,359,322</b>	<b>\$2,496,182</b>	<b>\$2,537,225</b>	<b>\$2,676,364</b>

\*OWEB's Mid Columbia—Region 6 was created during the 2007-09 biennium



As a result of this Salem project, rain water from the roof gutters is directed into a rain garden instead of the storm drain. Stormwater that runs across roads and parking lots gathers pollution along the way, degrading water in rivers and streams. Rain gardens help reduce the amount of pollutants that enter storm drains and eventually flow into rivers.



# Small Grant Team Contacts

For general information on OWEB's Small Grant Program, call 503-986-0187 or visit the OWEB Web site at [http://www.oregon.gov/OWEB/GRANTS/smgrant\\_main.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/OWEB/GRANTS/smgrant_main.shtml) For Small Grant opportunities in your area (see map), and for assistance with submitting an application, contact the appropriate person listed below.

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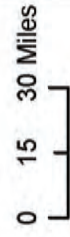
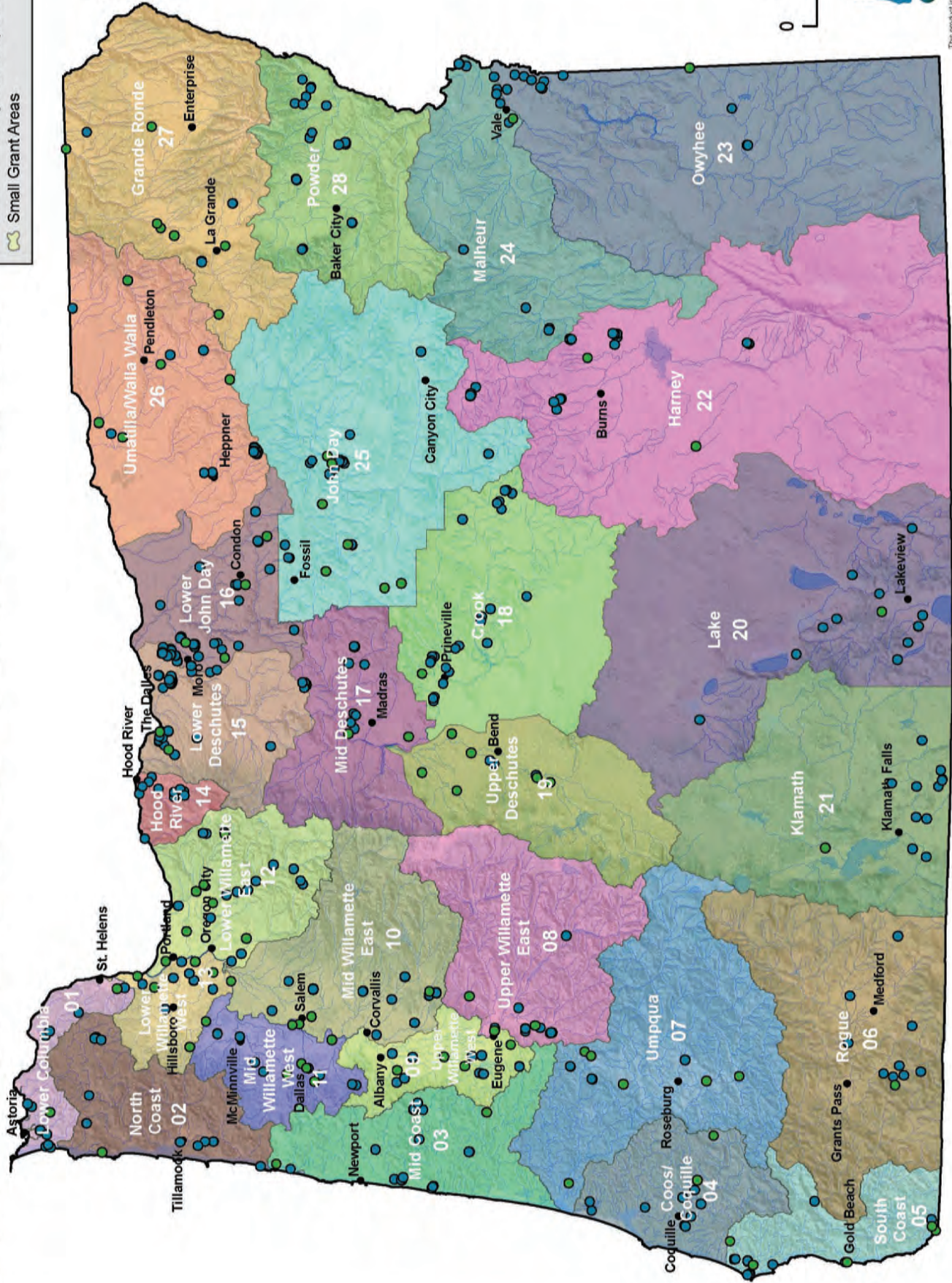
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# 2007-2009 OWEB Small Grants

**Legend**

- Small Grant Projects, in-progress\*
- Small Grant Projects, completed a/o June 2010\*
- 📍 Small Grant Areas



This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for, or be suitable for, legal engineering, or surveying purposes. Users of this information should review or consult the primary data or other sources to ascertain the usability of the information.  
 ArcMap 9.3.1, Oregon Lambert  
 Ashley Sauer, December 2010

\*The Oregon Watershed Restoration Inventory is the data source for completed small grant projects. If a project was implemented on multiple sites, each site is shown on the map. The location of a project in-progress is obtained from the application and is represented by one point only.



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