

(1) In cooperation with the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, provide appropriate personnel who, under the direction of the board, shall:

(a) Serve as community advisors to cooperatively develop watershed enhancement projects with volunteers; and

(b) Cooperatively evaluate watershed enhancement projects with those responsible for project implementation.

(2) Provide technical assistance to individuals responsible for implementation of a watershed enhancement project.

(3) Work with the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board to coordinate the implementation of enhancement projects with the activities of other agencies, including but not limited to, those state and federal agencies participating in coordinated resource management planning. [Formerly 541.390]

**Note:** See note under 541.890.

**541.914** [Formerly 541.409; repealed by 2015 c.771 §6]

**541.916 Responsibilities of state agency participating in Oregon Plan.** Any state agency participating in the programs and activities described in ORS 541.898 shall:

(1) Upon request of any person who believes the person's private property rights may be adversely affected by the Oregon Plan, provide the person with written information about the agency's dispute resolution services available pursuant to ORS 183.502.

(2) Report to the appropriate legislative committee any dispute resolution services requested under this section, and the outcome of such dispute resolution. [Formerly 541.411]

**Note:** See note under 541.890.

**541.918 Implementation of grant programs.** In cooperation with other state, interstate and federal agencies, tribes, local governments, watershed councils, soil and water conservation districts, not-for-profit organizations and volunteer groups, the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board shall facilitate the implementation of the grant programs established under ORS 541.890 to 541.969. [Formerly 541.368]

**Note:** See note under 541.890.

**541.920** [Formerly 541.365; repealed by 2017 c.14 §7]

### **(Watershed Enhancement Program)**

**541.923 Watershed management program; project funding; high priority watersheds.** (1) The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board shall initiate a watershed management program that relies on the establishment of voluntary local watershed councils comprised of residents, state and

federal agency staff, members of federally recognized Indian tribes and other citizens interested in the management of watersheds and that provides for the development by these partnerships of local plans that may include but are not limited to the assessment of the watershed condition, the creation of a watershed action plan and a strategy for implementing the action plan. The program shall focus state resources on the achievement of sustainable watershed health, including funding major projects that contribute to the overall health of a watershed. In addition, the board shall fund smaller, voluntary projects for watershed enhancement and for restoration of riparian areas and associated uplands.

(2) In carrying out the program under subsection (1) of this section, the board may designate high priority watersheds. However, the designation of high priority watersheds is intended only as a management tool for state agencies in allocating resources to support coordinated watershed management activities. Such designation is not intended to establish or confer any right, duty or authority, nor to have any legal significance beyond that described in this section, nor to discourage or prohibit the formation and function of voluntary local watershed councils in other watersheds.

(3) The elected officials representing the appropriate local government groups containing or within a proposed watershed council area shall determine whether to participate in the voluntary formation of a local watershed council. When multiple local government groups are involved within an area that would be served by a watershed council, the affected local government groups shall together determine their respective roles and the appropriate method for appointing members to a local watershed council. [Formerly 541.384]

**Note:** See note under 541.890.

**541.926 Duties of board; grant program; advisory committees.** (1) The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board shall conduct a watershed enhancement program to benefit all users of the waters of this state. The board shall conduct the program in a manner that provides the greatest possible opportunity for volunteer participation to achieve the goals of the program. In carrying out the watershed enhancement program, the board shall:

(a) Coordinate the board's funding of enhancement projects with the activities of the Natural Resources Division staff and other agencies, especially those agencies working together through a system of coordinated resource management planning.