

ment Board for the purpose of carrying out ORS 541.977 to 541.989.

(2) The board may accept contributions to the fund from any public or private source and may agree to any conditions for the expenditure of those contributions that are consistent with the purposes of the fund. [2017 c.716 §2]

Note: See note under 541.977.

541.979 Expenditures from Oregon Agricultural Heritage Fund. (1) The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board may expend moneys from the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Fund to:

(a) Carry out the programs described in ORS 541.984;

(b) Pay reimbursements and staff support expenses associated with the activities of the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission established under ORS 541.986;

(c) Provide succession planning programs with funding recommended by the commission under ORS 541.989; and

(d) Pay the administrative expenses of the board for carrying out ORS 541.977 to 541.989.

(2) The amount paid from the fund during a biennium for reimbursements and expenses described in subsection (1)(b) and (d) of this section may not exceed 12 percent of the moneys credited to the fund during that biennium. [2017 c.716 §3]

Note: See note under 541.977.

Note: Section 13, chapter 716, Oregon Laws 2017, provides:

Sec. 13. Notwithstanding section 3 of this 2017 Act [541.979], the amounts paid from the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Fund for the administrative expenses of the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board and the reimbursements and staff support expenses of activities associated with the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission incurred on or before June 30, 2019, may exceed 12 percent of the moneys credited to the fund during the biennium ending June 30, 2019. [2017 c.716 §13]

541.981 Conservation management plans for working lands; plan requirements. (1) An agricultural owner or operator may enter into a conservation management plan with an organization for working land to be managed in a manner that supports one or more natural resource values. The conservation management plan may be composed of multiple components addressing different natural resource values as identified in subsection (2) of this section.

(2) A conservation management plan must be for the purpose of developing and implementing conservation measures or other protections for maintaining or enhancing fish or wildlife habitat, improving water quality or supporting other natural resource values in a manner consistent with the social and economic interests and abilities of the

agricultural owner or operator. The plan may include provisions for addressing particular priorities related to natural resource values, including but not limited to soil, water, plants, animals, energy and human need considerations.

(3) A conservation management plan must:

(a) Meet the standards established by Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board rules;

(b) State the duration or terminating event for the plan;

(c) Be specific to the land, and account for the needs of, the agricultural owner or operator;

(d) Provide for the parties to review the plan on a regular basis;

(e) Provide for flexibility and allow for mutual modification as necessary to reflect changes in practices or circumstances;

(f) Provide for regular monitoring by the organization to ensure that the agricultural owner or operator is adhering to the plan;

(g) Make any receipt by the agricultural owner or operator of annual payments for carrying out the plan contingent on adherence to the plan; and

(h) Limit any annual payments for carrying out the plan to a term of not less than 20 years or more than 50 years.

(4) An organization that enters into, or proposes to enter into, a conservation management plan may apply to the board for a grant to fund the purchasing, implementing, carrying out or monitoring of the plan if the organization is:

(a) A holder, as defined in ORS 271.715, other than a state agency;

(b) A watershed council; or

(c) Tax exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. [2017 c.716 §4]

Note: See note under 541.977.

541.982 Working land conservation covenants and easements; requirements.

(1) An owner of working land may enter into a working land conservation covenant with or grant a working land conservation easement to an organization that is a holder, as defined in ORS 271.715, other than a state agency. The covenant or easement must be for the purpose of ensuring the continued use of the land for agricultural purposes while maintaining or enhancing fish or wildlife habitat, improving water quality or supporting other natural resource values on the land. A working land conservation covenant must be for a term of years that is established as permissible in Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission rules.