

August 26, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO: Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

FROM: Tom Byler, Executive Director

**SUBJECT: Agenda Item E: 2005-2007 Non-Capital Fund Spending Plan
September 13-14, 2005 OWEB Board Meeting**

E-5. Allocation of Non-Capital Funds for Oregon Plan Products and Regional Priorities

I. Introduction

This report seeks Board approval to reserve \$250,000 in non-capital funds to support needs related to the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds. The Board is also asked to reserve \$139,000 in non-capital funds to continue the development of regional priorities.

II. Background

In past biennia, OWEB, in collaboration with other entities, funded specific products that furthered implementation of the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds. For example, previous funding has supported the development of flow data for use in water quality TMDL development and local restoration planning activities. While no specific needs have been identified for this purpose at this time, staff recommend the Board reserve \$250,000 in non-capital funds to meet future needs for Oregon Plan products that arise over the biennium.

There continues to be a significant need for data that provide information about the performance of the implementation of the Oregon Plan and an improved delineation of watershed priorities in each Oregon Plan reporting basin. Under one of our state performance measures, OWEB is committed to adopt basin priorities in three reporting basins by the end of 2005. Basin priorities are also targeted for completion in ten additional reporting basins by the end of 2006. The reservation of funds to address regional priorities will support an important effort that will help guide future funding decisions by the Board. Staff are coordinating the development of basin priorities with other regional watershed planning efforts, including subbasin plans by the Northwest Power and Conservation Council and recovery planning under the federal Endangered Species Act.

III. Recommendation

- A. Staff recommend the Board reserve \$250,000 in non-capital funds for Oregon Plan products needs that will be presented to the Board at a future meeting.
- B. Staff recommend the Board reserve \$139,000 in non-capital funds for the development of regional priorities in a manner identified by staff and presented for Board consideration at a future meeting.