Oregon Overview—History / Foundations

- Policy Cornerstones and Action Strategies
  (for an integrated Ecosystem Marketplace in Oregon)
- SB 513 (2009)
- Strong connection with USDA – NRCS
- State Agency Engagement
- Partners who are leaders
Agency Engagement — more than just paper

– Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)

– Department of Forestry

– Dept. of Transportation

– Dept. of Environmental Quality

– Water Resources Department
Senate Bill 513 (2009)

- Established state policy of protecting ecosystem services on all land uses;
- Authorized use of adaptive management (previously in question / lawsuits);
- Outlined a more strategic, landscape-scale approach to mitigation;
- Established a work group to address a range of other issues.

**Workgroup Recommendations** – focused on addressing ongoing ecosystem service policy and programmatic needs, including:

- Local governments address ecosystem services in local land use decisions;
- Agencies consider natural infrastructure in place of concrete and steel structures where appropriate;
- The Institute for Natural Resources (Oregon State University) to help develop more consistent metrics for ecosystem services;
- Governor's leadership -- integrate various conservation plans across agencies.
Governor’s Vision

Governor Kitzhaber’s **10-year healthy environment policy vision** (and budgeting) represents an expansion and evolution of innovative approaches already in place.

Key elements of the 10-year vision:

- Plan at the landscape scale AND coordinate resource plans across agencies in a manner that prioritizes the most appropriate places for development and best opportunities for conservation (clarity benefits both).

- Identify new approaches to achieving environmental outcomes that move beyond traditional command and control and provide win-win solutions for communities and the environment.

- Increase the use of green infrastructure to improve quality of life, save money, and provide a broader suite of ecological benefits than traditional approaches.

- Improve coordination and integration of ecological monitoring and decision support tools.

- Create new strategies and market opportunities that advance ecosystem services.
Highlights and Challenges

Water Quality

• Municipal Wastewater / NPDES permits

• Total Max. Daily Load Implementation

“We are optimistic that more of our NPDES permittees will take a serious look at water quality trading to comply with their temperature wasteload allocations.”

-- Oregon DEQ

• Litigation context / division within environmental community
Sagebrush Sea – Oregon’s other ocean

- Driver– regulatory threat / ESA
- NRCS Sage Grouse Initiative + OWEB
- Local land use law
- Additionality + alternative pathways
- Reluctance

Highlights and Challenges
Additional Future Opportunities

- **Forests** — ongoing litigation, non-traditional financing mechanisms, climate change

- **Micro-Hydropower** — connection to fish passage

- **Transportation system** — building on advance mitigation; ROI / bang for buck concepts