

## **OWEB conference focuses on impact of climate change for state watersheds**

*Registration now open for Eugene event Nov. 5-7*

Learn how climate change will affect Oregon's waterways, wildlife and fish at one of the largest gatherings of watershed restoration advocates in the West.

Registration is now open for the 2008 Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board conference November 5-7. The biennial event will feature more than 90 speakers and numerous workshop sessions on the impacts of climate change for Oregon's watersheds. Other major workshop topics will include invasive species and restoration project management.

"We have assembled an impressive group of regional experts on the subject of climate change and watershed function," said Ken Bierly, OWEB deputy director and conference chair. "We have university researchers reporting on cutting-edge studies of rivers and the ocean, and we have consultants, land managers and watershed council staff who are developing innovative on-the-ground and in-the-water projects," Bierly added. "We are exploring watershed resiliency and community resiliency as mechanisms to deal with climate change," he said.

The conference will offer a special half-day registration fee for a series of sessions November 6 designed to help natural resources organization managers, volunteers and board members function effectively and work closely with community partners.

The theme for the conference is "Working for Healthy Watersheds—Climate Change and Watershed Resilience." The event will be held at the Eugene Hilton and Conference Center. Visit OWEB's Web site for more information and links for conference registration and room reservations: [www.oregon.gov/OWEB](http://www.oregon.gov/OWEB). See the conference heading under "Current Topics."

The Oregon Lottery is the primary sponsor for the event. The Oregon Lottery and numerous other sponsors have allowed the conference to provide scholarships and pay the Bonneville Environmental Foundation to offset the environmental impact of the conference site and related travel, Bierly said.

People interested in ride sharing or carpooling to attend the conference may sign up for a free PickupPal account. The conference will track the amount of emissions reduced as a result. Find a link on the conference Web site.

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**FOR CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

WATERSHEDS & CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE--The effects of climate change on watersheds will be a major focus of the 2008 Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board Conference Nov. 5-7 in Eugene. Registration is now open for the event, which also will feature concentrated workshop series on invasive species, organization management, community engagement and restoration project management. The Oregon Lottery is the primary sponsor. For more information, call 503-986-0178 or visit: [www.oregon.gov/OWEB](http://www.oregon.gov/OWEB).