

# The Oregon Legislature's Environmental Caucus 2025 Priorities

In 2025, the Environmental Caucus is supporting a robust package of bills that address issues on environmental health, wildlife, land use, and transportation. Members are committed to policies on the environment and climate that uplift communities, support Oregon's economy, and invest in a future where all Oregonians have access to clean air, water, and land.

## 2025 Areas of Focus

### Utility Resilience, Reliability, and Affordability

The grid and utilities package will increase grid capacity, resilience, and reliability, while also addressing cost equity and affordability.

- Performance Based Regulation for Utilities ([SB 688](#))
- Bills aimed at transmission buildout and increased efficiencies in existing infrastructure ([HB 3336](#), [HB 3628](#), [HB 3681](#))
- Enabling Changes to Rates of Large Power User ([HB 3546](#))
- Microgrids ([HB 2064](#), [HB 2065](#), [HB 2066](#))

### Environmental Health and Safety

These bills prioritize protecting Oregonians' health and mitigate exposure to potential environmental harms.

- PFAS in Biosolids Study ([HB 2947](#))
- Phasing out PFAS in Consumer Products ([HB 3512](#))
- Hydrogen Oversight at the PUC ([SB 685](#))

### Preserving Flora, Fauna, and Habitat

The following bills will protect Oregon's valuable habitats, wildlife, and trees and plants.

- Eelgrass Work Group ([HB 3580](#))
- Wildlife Stewardship Program ([HB 2980](#))
- Wildlife Corridors to Reduce Vehicle-Wildlife Collisions ([HB 2978](#))
- Establishing a Fund for People Living with Beavers ([HB 3143](#))
- Funding the OregonFlora Database through OSU ([HB 3173](#))

### Transportation

The Caucus supports a transportation package that includes increased funding for public transit, Safe Routes to School, an emphasis on sustaining and expanding infrastructure for multimodal transportation, and policies that align with our climate action goals, along with creating a safer transportation network for people and wildlife.

## Protection for Working Lands

The Caucus will support several bills that strategically conserve agricultural and farm lands, incentivize smart community growth, and mitigate housing construction impacts on working land.

## Climate Friendly Schools

These policies make schools safer and more resilient by leveraging federal funds to improve infrastructure and environmental health.

- Transitioning to Electric School Buses ([HB 2945](#))
- Positions at ODE to Support Climate Resilient Schools ([HB 2941](#))
- Getting Rid of Dangerous Additives in School Foods ([HB 3015](#))
- Updating School Integrated Pest Management Plans ([HB 2684](#))

## Wildfire Programs and Funding

The Caucus will support policies and investments from the state for residents in high-hazard areas to create defensible space and home hardening. The Caucus is also committed to finding a solution for long-term funding for wildfire mitigation and prevention programs.

## Water Right Transfers

Water right transfers reform is necessary to ensure the long-term health and availability of Oregon's water. Any policies should consider the environmental impacts of water right transfers.

## Climate Protections and Policies

The climate package includes bills that have broad and long-ranging protections for Oregon's environment and natural resources.

- Make Polluters Pay ([SB 682](#))
- Updating Oregon's Emissions Reductions Goals ([HB 3477](#))
- Environmental Rights Amendment ([SJR 28](#))
- Treasury Divestment from Fossil Fuels ([SB 681](#))

## 2025 Environmental Caucus Membership

Rep. Tom Andersen	Rep. Ben Bowman	Sen. Anthony Broadman
Rep. Farrah Chaichi	Rep. Willy Chotzen	Rep. Mark Gamba, Co-Chair
Sen. Jeff Golden, Co-Chair	Rep. David Gomberg	Sen. Chris Gorsek
Rep. Ken Helm	Rep. Zach Hudson	Rep. John Lively
Rep. Pam Marsh	Rep. Travis Nelson	Rep. Courtney Neron, Co-Vice Chair
Sen. Deb Patterson	Sen. Khanh Pham, Co-Vice Chair	Sen. Kathleen Taylor
	Rep. Jules Walters	