PFAS Strategic Plan

June 2025

State of Oregon
DEQ Department of Environmental Quality

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PFAS committee members

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality established a committee to focus on and address per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, known as PFAS. The following dedicated staff members serve on DEQ's PFAS Strategic Planning Committee. They have been instrumental in working with their respective programs to develop the agency's strategy. The committee will continue to coordinate across DEQ programs and regions to help respond to PFAS issues.

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Environmental
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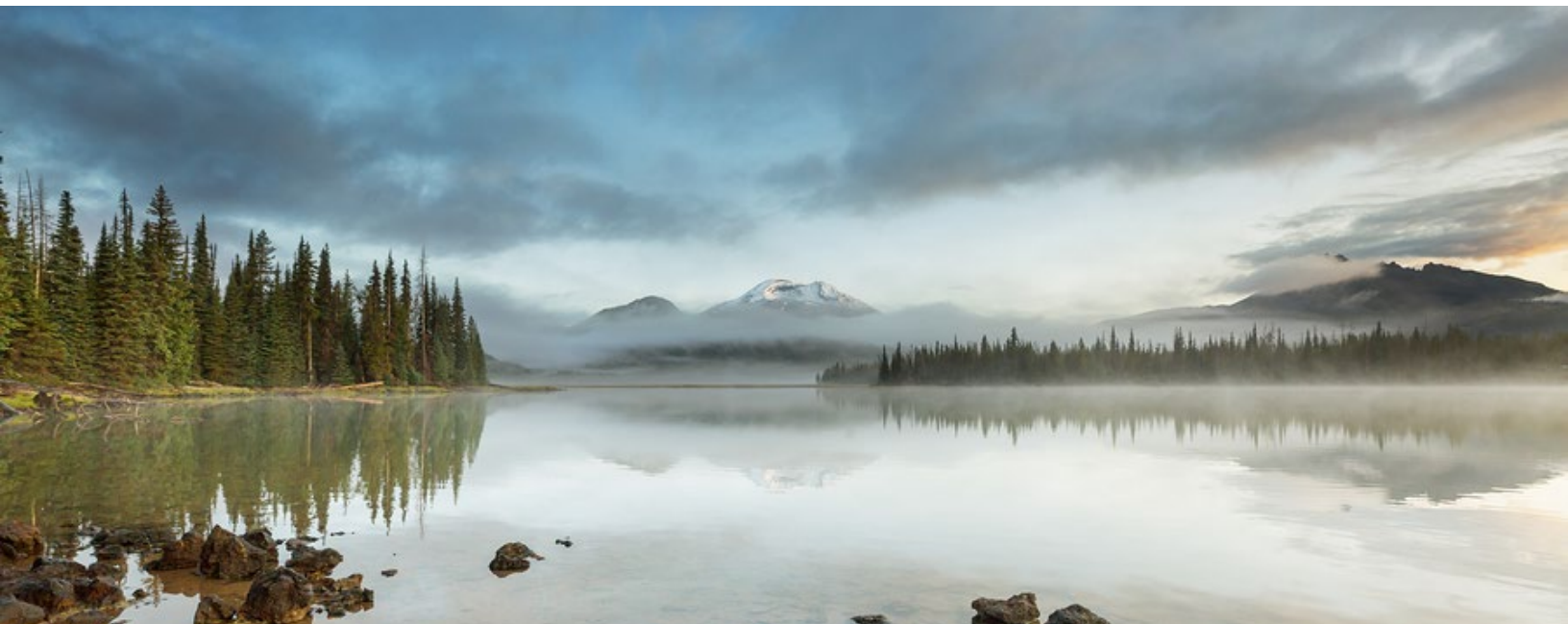


Executive summary

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, known as PFAS, are a family of synthetic organic chemicals that have been widely used for decades in industrial processes, firefighting foams and consumer products. PFAS are known as “forever chemicals” and can withstand high temperatures and survive extreme environments. Although their durability may make them useful in certain applications, it also means they persist in the environment. They are toxic, highly mobile, and can bioaccumulate in people and wildlife. This raises increasing concerns about their known and potential health effects (Fenton et al., 2020; NCBI, 2022; ATSDR, 2024).

In Oregon, PFAS have been detected in water, soil, air and wildlife across the state. As figures 1 and 2 below show, many PFAS compounds dissolve and move readily through land, air, and water, traveling considerable distances from their original sources. PFAS contamination is often linked to firefighting activities, industrial sites and everyday products. PFAS can also concentrate through the food chain into plants, fish, animals, and humans, including breast milk and blood [Bansal, et al., 2022]. This poses significant risks to public health, particularly for vulnerable populations.

Figure 1. Graphic depicts the sources of PFAS in the environment.

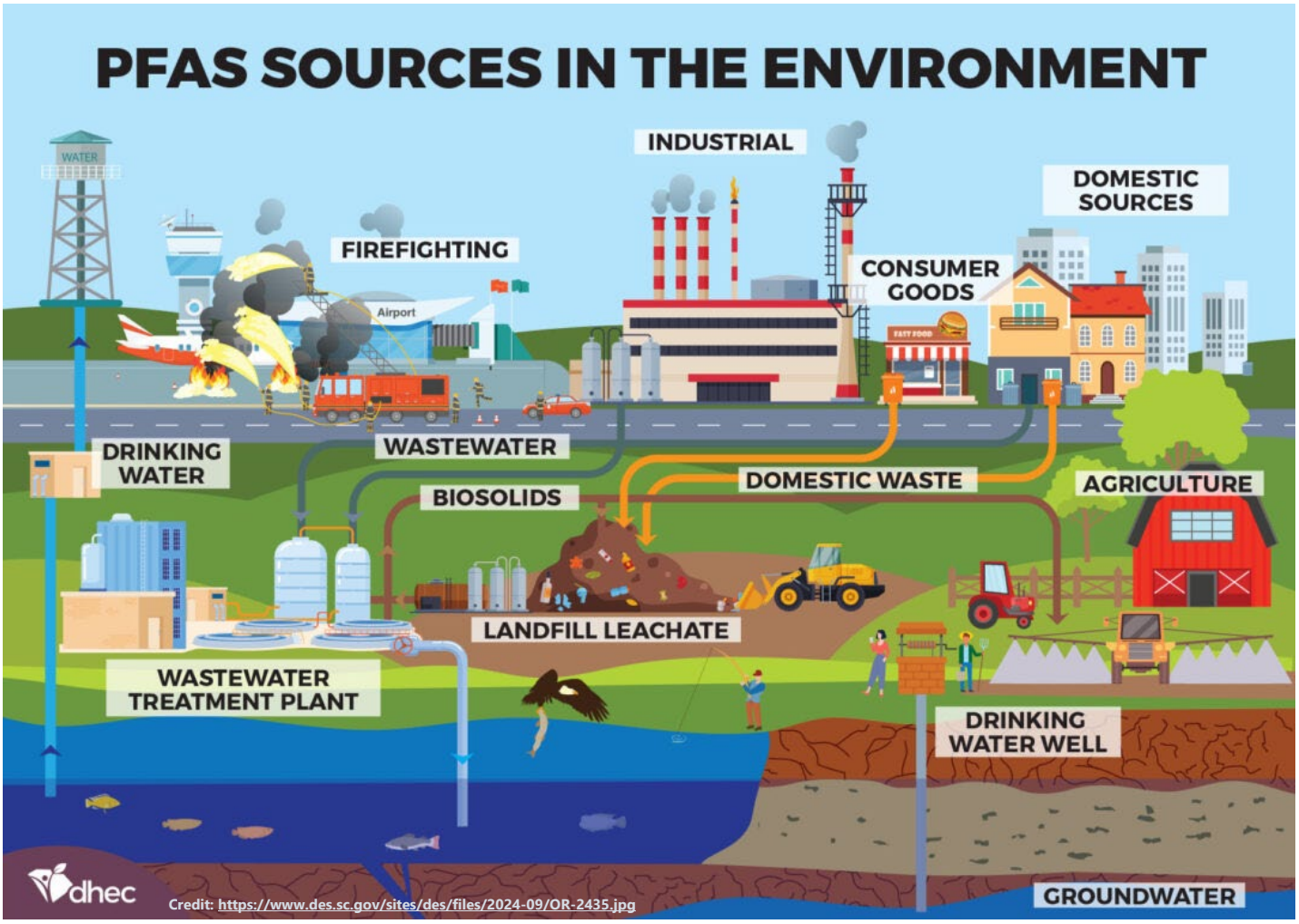
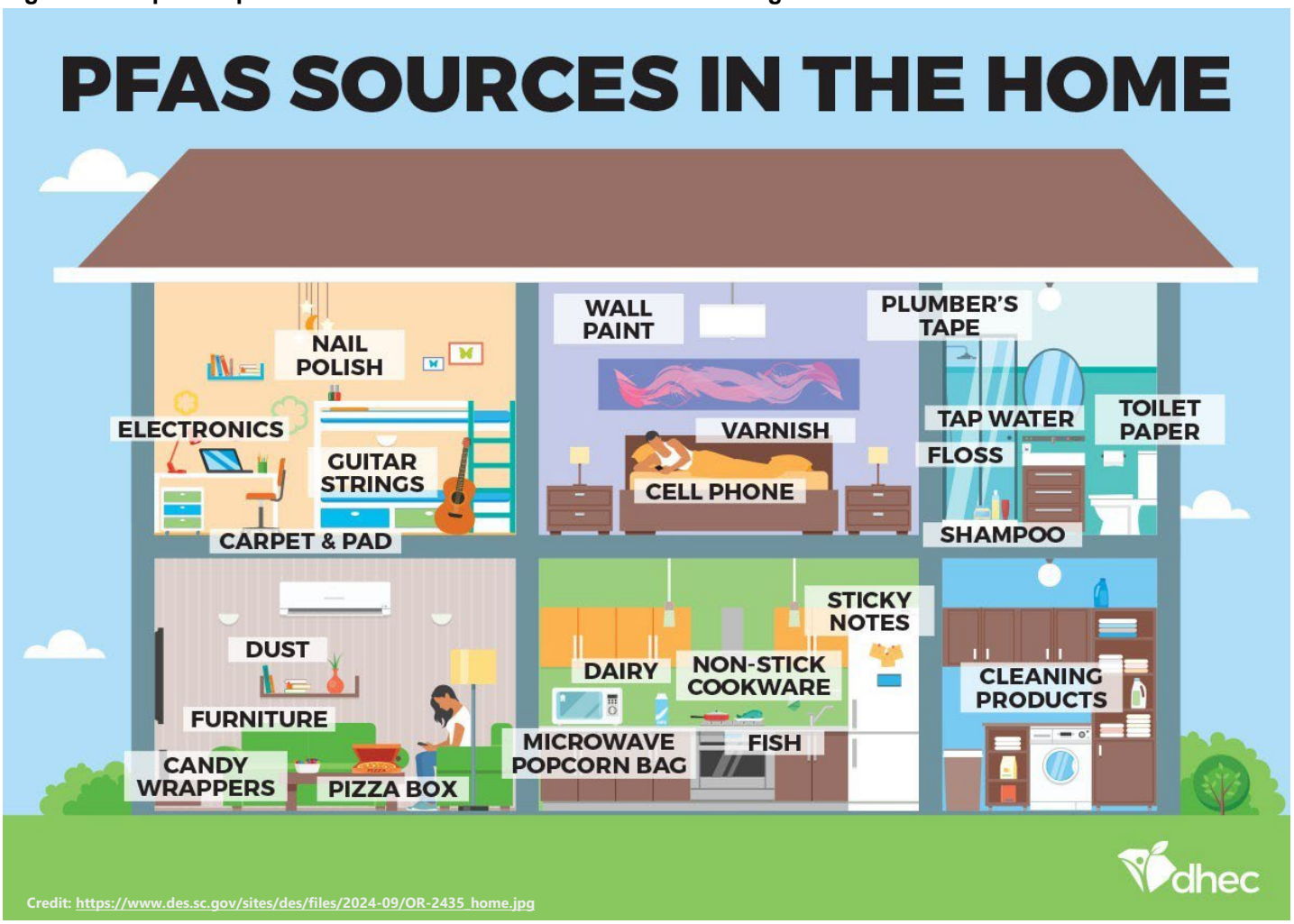


Figure 2: Graphic depicts the amount of PFAS sources in the average home.



The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality is working to protect residents by minimizing exposure risks from known sources and actively investigating new and potential sources. DEQ has also taken actions to align with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's 2021 strategic roadmap for addressing PFAS. While scientific understanding of PFAS is constantly evolving, the need for immediate action to assess, prevent, and mitigate contamination is clear. To address these urgent challenges, DEQ has developed this PFAS Strategic Plan, which outlines a path forward, focusing on strengthening our scientific understanding, managing existing contamination, and preventing future pollution. The plan represents a high-level statement of DEQ's goals and priority areas. DEQ will provide more details as specific initiatives and implementation plans take shape.

To protect human health and the environment from PFAS exposure, our plan prioritizes four key goals:

1. **Reduce** PFAS sources to the environment through consumer, industrial, and commercial products.
2. **Manage** releases and emissions of PFAS to the environment.
3. **Research** and gather scientific data on PFAS for decision making.
4. **Engage** and collaborate with internal and external parties.

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Introduction

PFAS are a class of over 15,000 synthetic organic chemicals with diverse applications in fire suppression, industrial processes and consumer products (ATSDR, 2021; USEPA 2024f). Oregon defines PFAS as fluorinated organic chemicals containing at least one fully fluorinated carbon atom (ORS 459.465 to ORS 459.477; Chapter 73, 2023 Laws). Their strong carbon-fluorine bonds make them extremely persistent in the environment and difficult to destroy (Cousins et al, 2020; USEPA, 2025a), which is why they are commonly referred to as "forever chemicals". PFAS have been manufactured since the 1930s and are still widely used globally (Sznajder-Katarzynska et al., 2019; Ghisi et al., 2019; USEPA, 2024f).

PFAS have been detected in all environmental media, humans and wildlife worldwide due to their persistent and mobile nature (Brase et al., 2021; Scheinhaus and Gore, 2024). They easily migrate through soil, water, and air and accumulate in blood and organs over time (EPA 2024b). Studies have linked PFAS exposure to various health issues, including developmental problems, liver damage, immune system disruption, and increased cancer risk (Macheka et al. 2022; Anderko & Pennea, 2020). More information regarding the health effects of PFAS exposure can be found on the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, EPA, and National Toxicology Program webpages.

U.S. manufacturers have largely phased out many longer-chain PFAS like perfluorooctanoic acid, or PFOA, and perfluorooctane sulfonic acid, or PFOS, which have been shown to be highly toxic and more persistent in the environment compared to their shorter-chain replacements. However, the replacement compounds remain persistent, toxic, and potentially more mobile, posing ongoing risks (Buck, 2015; Gluge et al, 2020). As a result, PFAS contamination has been found in air, groundwater, fish tissue, surface water, stormwater, and sediment. These findings are often, but not exclusively, associated with known release sites such as airports, industrial operations, and waste management facilities (Wang et al., 2017; Abunada et al., 2020).

As awareness of PFAS-related health and environmental risks grows, federal and state regulators are taking steps to manage these substances and protect public health (ITRC, 2020; EPA, 2023b, 2024e). Nevertheless, addressing PFAS contamination remains a complex challenge due to their widespread use and persistent nature. DEQ is committed to continuing to address PFAS contamination, its sources, and the associated risks. This PFAS Strategic Plan outlines a multi-media approach to manage contamination, prevent future releases, and safeguard Oregon’s communities and natural resources.

Key PFAS Regulatory Actions

The following table summarizes significant EPA actions regarding PFAS regulation since 2006. The table is accurate as of December 2024.

Table 1. Key EPA PFAS Regulatory Actions by Year

Year	Key EPA PFAS Regulatory Actions
2006-2016	• Created PFOA Stewardship Program with industry to phase out manufacturing. • Developed EPA Method 537 for measuring PFOS, PFOA and 12 other PFAS in drinking water. • Released first Drinking Water Health Advisories for PFOS/PFOA.
2018-2020	• Released comprehensive PFAS Action Plan (2019) and Update (2020). • Hosted National Leadership Summit on PFAS with state agencies. • Released Human Health Toxicity Assessment of PFBS (archived). • Published Interim Guidance on Destroying/Disposing PFAS-Containing Materials. • Development of EPA Method 533 for measuring 25 PFAS in drinking water.
2021	• Published final determination to regulate PFOA and PFOS in drinking water. • Released Strategic Roadmap for PFAS actions (2021-2024). • Restarted process to designate PFOA/PFOS as CERCLA hazardous substances. • Published final Fifth UCMR (UCMR 5) requiring monitoring of 29 PFAS (2023-2025). • Added three PFAS to toxic chemical release reporting under Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act and the Pollution Prevention Act.
2022	• Released four drinking water health advisories and announced $1 billion in funding. • Published draft Method 1621 for Adsorbable Organic Fluorine. • Proposed first Clean Water Act aquatic life criteria for PFAS. • Issued guidance on using NPDES permits to reduce PFAS discharges. • Proposed designating PFOA/PFOS as hazardous substances under CERCLA.
2023	• Proposed legally enforceable levels for six PFAS in drinking water. • Released final Effluent Limitations Guidelines Plan 15 for PFAS in landfill leachate. • Announced $2B in Infrastructure Law funding for PFAS in drinking water. • Released PFAS Analytic Tools integrating multiple information sources. • Finalized rule eliminating de minimis exemptions for TRI reporting of PFAS.
2024-2025	• Issued first national, legally enforceable drinking water standards for PFAS. • Draft human health water quality criteria released. • Finalized CERCLA hazardous substances designation for PFOA/PFOS. • Final Recommended Aquatic Life Criteria and Benchmarks for Select PFAS. • Released three new methods for measuring PFAS across environmental media: Method 1633, Method 1633A, Method 1621, and Other Test Method (OTM)-50 • Proposed adding nine PFAS to RCRA hazardous constituents list. • Finalized rule preventing manufacture of 329 inactive PFAS without EPA review. • Added sixteen additional PFAS to Toxics Release Inventory reporting requirements.

The following table summarizes DEQ's actions around PFAS by category and the status of that work.

Table 2. DEQ PFAS Actions and Status to Date

Action Category	Actions Taken	Current Status	Key Findings/ Next Steps
Laboratory Capacity	• Invested in PFAS analytical capabilities. • Purchased instrumentation for EPA 533 method. • Obtained EPA certification for 25 PFAS compounds.	Complete	• Now serving as principal state lab for drinking water analysis. • Can detect at EPA maximum contaminant levels.
Cleanup and Remediation	• Rulemaking to propose listing PFAS as hazardous substances. • Voluntary investigations at airports/military sites. • Developing site prioritization framework.	In Progress	• Some sites exceed EPA health-based screening levels by orders of magnitude. • Drafting internal guidance for project managers.
Legislative Actions	• SB 543 (2023) which prohibits food vendor from using polystyrene foam container in sales of prepared food. • Toxics Free Kids/Cosmetics Acts support.	Ongoing	• Evaluating PFAS in additional consumer products.
Interagency Coordination	• Regular PFAS workgroup meetings. • Fish tissue monitoring coordination. • Source water protection support. • Drinking water monitoring conducted in conjunction with and at the request of the Oregon Health Authority. • Sampled 236 of 1,190 public water systems (20%). • Partnered with OHA on small system sampling.	In Progress Ongoing	• Reducing duplication of efforts. • Ensuring consistent messaging. • Environmental justice focus. • 36 systems with PFAS detections. • 24 systems exceed MCLs set in EPA's final rule. • 900 small systems to be sampled between 2025 and 2026 at OHA request.
Public Engagement	• Responding to public inquiries. Supporting community water protection.	Expanding	• Need for more consumer product education. • Addressing concerns of EJ communities.

Vision

DEQ's vision is to work quickly, efficiently and collaboratively to protect Oregonians, especially our most vulnerable communities and ecological populations, from risks associated with PFAS contamination and exposure. DEQ is dedicated to enhancing our understanding and developing effective goals and strategies within the next several years to minimize and address the exposures and risks linked to PFAS.

Goals

Focus Goal 1: Reduce PFAS sources to the environment through consumer, industrial and commercial products

Strategic Action 1a: Leverage and build on existing state and federal actions to reduce the presence of PFAS in consumer, industrial and commercial products and encourage consumer support of PFAS-free products.

PFAS compounds are widely used in consumer goods and pose significant potential for human exposure. Examples of consumer goods that often contain PFAS include cosmetics, cookware, upholstery, clothing, carpeting, healthcare products, and food packaging. PFAS are also widely used in industrial and commercial products used in several industries, such as firefighting, bulk fuel storage, metal plating, electronics and semiconductor manufacturing, and paper products manufacturing. While some companies are starting to phase out PFAS, these harmful compounds are still widely used in manufacturing of goods, presenting hazards throughout the lifecycle process from manufacturing, product use, and disposal. Beyond legislation, the agency aims to undertake actions to ensure the proper use and disposal of consumer, industrial and commercial materials and products, thereby reducing their release to the environment.

This strategic action will expand on already existing rules surrounding PFAS in products, such as prohibitions on selling or distributing foodware containers (ORS 459.474) (Oregon Laws 2023, Ch. 73) or cosmetics (ORS 575) (Oregon Laws 2023, Ch. 575) containing intentionally added PFAS. OHA has implemented rules around children's products with the Toxics Free Kids Act (Oregon Laws, 2023, Ch. 426) and personal care products with the Toxics Free Cosmetics Act (Oregon Laws, 2023, Ch. 575). Voluntary measures such as State Green Procurement initiatives and the Truth in Labeling product labeling campaigns encourage PFAS-free purchasing. Oregon has also banned the use of PFAS chemicals in firefighting foam used within the state through the recently enacted Senate Bill 91 (Oregon Laws, 2025, Ch. 86). DEQ will evaluate needs and ways to reduce further the use of PFAS in consumer, industrial, and commercial products.

Strategic Action 1b: Expand and promote technical information, educational materials and community outreach.

Several agencies provide critical PFAS-related resources to expand technical knowledge, education and outreach. EPA offers tools such as PFAS Science Webinars, bimonthly calls with state agencies, analytical methods, and a Risk Communication Hub. The Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council provides technical guidance, fact sheets, and training resources. The Center for Disease Control, through ATSDR, offers resources for clinicians, a PFAS Blood Level Estimation tool, and exposure prevention guidance. Additionally, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences maintains a database of peer-reviewed research and educational materials. These collective efforts significantly enhance public understanding and provide access to tools and resources to support addressing PFAS contamination, mitigating risks, and protecting public health and the environment. DEQ will track and promote PFAS-related resources to support technical knowledge, education, and outreach.

Focus Goal 2: Manage releases and emissions of PFAS to the environment

Oregon has many industries associated with the use and potential release of PFAS. For example, firefighting foam is used at airports, military installations, and fire training facilities, all of which are present in the state. Additional examples include electronics manufacturing, semiconductor production, metal plating operations, paper product manufacturing, furniture and carpet production, plastic, metal coating, and printing. Though not all potential PFAS sources in Oregon have been evaluated, initial investigations indicate that PFAS releases have occurred from a variety of facilities. In some cases, PFAS-containing products have been used for decades. However, until recently a widespread understanding of the toxicity of PFAS and the need to prevent releases did not exist.

PFAS contaminated water, soil, sediment, and fish have also been detected in Oregon (OHA, 2024a; Nilsen et al., 2024; Nicole, 2013). While some surface water and groundwater contamination pathways are being revealed, there is very limited knowledge about PFAS levels in air. Fortunately, the body of air quality research is growing. PFAS have been detected in outdoor air samples in some other states, typically associated with large industrial processes that produce or use PFAS-containing compounds.

Strategic Action 2a: Utilize agency regulatory authority to limit future PFAS release in the environment.

PFAS chemicals used in industrial, commercial, and consumer applications and products eventually find their way into Oregon's environment. Voluntary actions and existing rules are successfully removing some of these chemicals, but comprehensive regulatory programs will play a larger role in addressing the release of these chemicals into the environment. Oregon has recently taken steps to enhance its PFAS management framework. As part of these efforts, DEQ is proposing updates to its air toxics standards-known as Toxicity Reference Values to include 10 specific PFAS chemicals. These new values will assess non-cancer health risks from both long-term (annual) and short-term (24-hour) exposures, giving DEQ the tools to regulate PFAS air emissions from industrial and commercial facilities based on public health risks.

DEQ's permitting programs have thus far not included express PFAS limitations because these chemicals are not regulated, not identified in permit applications, or additional review is needed to identify how and under what circumstances PFAS could be incorporated in permits. DEQ will evaluate how to integrate these chemicals into permitting programs to ensure that permitted discharges do not increase the risks of PFAS exposure in Oregon and support the broader goal of source reduction of PFAS.

Regulatory actions such as these, combined with ongoing monitoring and research efforts, support DEQ's commitment to limit future PFAS releases into the environment and protect public health. Additional regulatory and programmatic updates will also be considered and implemented to work towards minimizing sources of PFAS and preventing PFAS releases to the environment. As scientific understanding and federal regulations continue to evolve, it is imperative that Oregon's regulations and programs also continue to evolve to strengthen its approach to PFAS management.

Strategic Action 2b: Manage and mitigate existing environmental contamination from PFAS.

Oregon faces significant challenges in addressing existing environmental contamination caused by PFAS. While the full extent of PFAS contamination in the state is still being assessed, initial findings reveal that groundwater, soil, surface water, stormwater, sediment, and fish tissue have been impacted, particularly near known release sites where PFAS-containing firefighting foams have been used for decades, now recognized as major contributors to environmental pollution. Historically, the toxicity and persistence of PFAS were not widely understood, leading to decades of unchecked use and release. As a result, Oregon now faces the complex task of managing and mitigating contamination to protect human health and ecosystems. This includes identifying and remediating contaminated sites, monitoring PFAS levels in environmental media, and implementing strategies to prevent further spread.

While much of the focus has been on water and soil contamination, emerging research is also shedding light on PFAS in the air, particularly near industrial facilities that produce or use these compounds. Addressing existing PFAS contamination requires a multifaceted approach, combining scientific research, regulatory action, and community engagement to ensure a safer and healthier environment for everyone in Oregon. To that end, DEQ has initiated a rulemaking process to list some PFAS as hazardous substances under the Oregon cleanup law. This designation will give DEQ the authority to address releases of these compounds at cleanup sites, including site investigation, risk assessment, and remediation. DEQ will also consider additional regulatory and programmatic actions needed to address PFAS environmental contamination.

Strategic Action 2c: Ensure safe and proper management of PFAS-contaminated waste.

PFAS present in a wide variety of consumer and industrial products can enter waste streams, including those going to landfills and wastewater treatment plants. PFAS-contaminated wastes can also be generated from cleanup sites when contaminated media, such as soil or water, is removed from a site for disposal. Additionally, public water systems or other facilities that initiate

PFAS treatment technologies to separate PFAS from the drinking water or other contaminated water will generate PFAS-containing materials that must be managed. To ensure safe and proper management of these wastes, DEQ will work to ensure proper disposal of high concentration wastes. As discussed in the Strategic Action 2b above, DEQ will also evaluate how to use permits to control PFAS in permitted releases.

Focus Goal 3: Research and gather scientific data on PFAS for decision making

Scientific data is essential for informed decision-making to address the complex challenges posed by PFAS contamination. To improve decision-making, DEQ must strengthen its ability to collect, analyze, and interpret diverse data sets. This requires investment in personnel, technology, and innovative methodologies to address evolving data needs and establish a solid understanding of PFAS contamination across environmental media. Furthermore, it entails expanding laboratory capacity to analyze PFAS across all environmental media using advanced methods with lower detection limits. The DEQ laboratory provides sampling and monitoring data to all agency programs. Therefore, advancing laboratory capacity with new methods, personnel, and equipment will in turn enhance monitoring efforts and improve the laboratory's ability to detect, access, and address PFAS pollution in Oregon. The recommended actions described below provide a strategy to effectively address these challenges.

Strategic Action 3a: Implement targeted and non-targeted analytical methods to evaluate PFAS in environmental media.

The DEQ laboratory provides critical monitoring data across all DEQ agency programs. To enhance PFAS analysis in key environmental media using advanced methods and improved detection limits, the laboratory requires expanded capacity through additional personnel and equipment. Given the thousands of known PFAS compounds in the environment, implementing robust targeted and non-targeted analyses capabilities would enable investigators to identify a more complete profile of PFAS present in environmental samples and provide comprehensive data that captures all relevant compounds rather than only those with established testing protocols. This would transform monitoring efforts by revealing the fullest possible extent of PFAS contamination across all environmental contexts and provide a more holistic understanding of these persistent contaminants. Consequently, this would also enable evidence-based decisions that effectively protect public health and environmental quality across all impacted systems in Oregon. Currently, the DEQ laboratory maintains the capability to analyze drinking water for PFAS. These actions will expand capabilities to additional media.

Strategic Action 3b: Develop and maintain monitoring activities across environmental media to assess risks to public health and the environment.

Comprehensive environmental monitoring of PFAS in air, water, soil, and biological tissues is essential to understanding the extent of contamination and its impacts on human and environmental health. The potential for fish in Oregon rivers, lakes, and ocean waters to be contaminated with PFAS puts people who eat fish at risk. Exposure to PFAS for communities

that depend on subsistence fishing is a major concern in Oregon because some communities, including but not limited to some Tribal communities, depend on wild-caught fish for a large portion of their diets. These communities are likely exposed more frequently to PFAS.

To protect everyone in Oregon and the environment, DEQ will investigate resources and leverage partnerships to explore establishing a more robust monitoring program to track PFAS levels across the state, identifying contamination hotspots and evaluating trends over time. This data will inform risk assessments, guide cleanup efforts, and ensure that protective measures are targeted where they are needed most. By focusing on consistent and thorough monitoring, DEQ will have the insight to proactively address emerging risks and safeguard Oregon's communities and natural resources.

Strategic Action 3c: Gather, maintain, and display data relating to PFAS in Oregon's environment.

Accurate and accessible data are critical for understanding and addressing PFAS contamination in Oregon. DEQ will evaluate how to make data available through existing platforms and, over time, look for opportunities to bring data from various media together. By ensuring transparency and accessibility, DEQ seeks to support scientific research, empower interested parties, inform decision-making, and foster collaboration in efforts to mitigate PFAS risks and protect Oregon's public and environmental health.

Focus Goal 4: Engage and collaborate with internal and external parties

PFAS pose challenges that affect both state and national entities. It is imperative that there be cooperation and multi-agency communication to address these challenges. DEQ works alongside various environmental organizations and governments at multiple levels. These partnerships include conference attendance, educational opportunities, and multi-agency meetings to exchange information, data, actions being taken, and lessons when addressing PFAS. DEQ collaborates with environmental organizations at the federal/national, state, Tribal, and regional levels. These collaborations include:

1. Federal/National: EPA Region 10, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Geological Survey, Environmental Council of the States, and Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council.
2. State: OHA, Oregon Department of Emergency Management, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon Water Resources Department, Oregon Department of Agriculture, Oregon State Fire Marshal, Oregon Department of Transportation, Oregon Department of Justice, Oregon Department of Forestry, Department of State Lands, Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, and other partners (local non-profit organizations, academia, and interested parties).
3. Regional: Washington State Department of Ecology, California Environmental Protection Agency, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, and Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

4. Local Governments: Cities, counties, and special districts.
5. Tribal Governments: The nine federally recognized Tribes in Oregon.

Effective and timely communication among the organizations is crucial for addressing public concerns about PFAS. The subsequent strategies outlined here will support DEQ in reaching this objective.

Strategic Action 4a: Engage federal partners to support ongoing research and development of novel ways to address PFAS.

Innovative solutions and robust collaborations across all levels of government are necessary to address the challenges posed by PFAS. Federal agencies are pivotal in advancing research, developing new technologies, and providing resources to deal with PFAS contamination effectively. Engaging with federal partners, where the federal agencies offer additional expertise and research, provides DEQ the opportunity to leverage their expertise, funding, and infrastructure. All of this supports DEQ's ongoing efforts to identify novel ways to mitigate PFAS impacts on human and environmental health. DEQ intends to strengthen its federal partnerships to drive progress and ensure a coordinated response to address PFAS issues.

Strategic Action 4b: Coordinate across DEQ programs to leverage resources and address cumulative impacts to Oregon's most vulnerable populations.

To effectively tackle PFAS contamination, coordination across DEQ programs is needed to optimize resources and mitigate cumulative impacts, particularly for Oregon's most at-risk communities. Incorporating expertise from the various DEQ programs allows for development of more comprehensive approaches to PFAS management. This cross-program coordination enables DEQ to identify potential sources and exposure pathways, determine high-risk areas, and implement actions that prioritize environmental justice and equity, thereby ensuring communities with historical burdens receive the essential support and protections they need.

Strategic Action 4c: Leverage resources, information and expertise across state agencies, Oregon's Tribal nations, academic institutions, and non-governmental organizations.

In order to address the complex challenges of PFAS contamination, a collaborative, holistic approach that incorporates expertise, data, and resources from multiple interested parties is needed. Partnerships between state and local agencies, Oregon's nine federally recognized Tribal nations, academic institutions, and non-governmental organizations will allow Oregon to tap into a broader range of knowledge and capabilities that can enhance our understanding of PFAS sources and impacts and ensures that mitigation strategies are comprehensive and effective. Collaborative efforts such as these foster the sharing of scientific data, technical knowledge, and best practices, while making certain that diverse perspectives and local concerns are incorporated into decision-making processes. For example, using PFAS data from monitoring done by public water systems helps identify potential PFAS contamination sites. Such partnerships not only enhance the state's capacity to monitor, assess, and mitigate PFAS

impacts but also promote the development of culturally appropriate and effective risk communication strategies.

Conclusion

DEQ is dedicated to safeguarding the residents and environment of Oregon by reducing the use of PFAS, managing PFAS contaminated sites and releases, researching and gathering scientific information, and engaging and collaborating with partners. The agency will focus its efforts on minimizing human exposure, safeguarding water quality, and advancing scientific knowledge surrounding PFAS compounds in the state. DEQ will continue to assess the needs of people in Oregon while considering the most reliable scientific data to refine and modify the goals and objectives outlined in this plan. DEQ is using existing resources to begin addressing the ongoing challenges of PFAS in the state. However, additional work and resources are needed across DEQ programs to fully address these challenges. DEQ remains committed to pursuing increased funding to strengthen staffing, analytical capacity, programmatic updates, and rulemaking efforts, ensuring we effectively protect Oregon's residents, ecosystems and natural resources. As DEQ integrates PFAS-related work into its programs, the agency will prioritize critical needs while identifying limitations requiring additional resources or program adjustments.

Next Steps

The challenges posed by PFAS contamination are complex and far-reaching, but they are not insurmountable. This PFAS Strategic Plan is a broad strategy that delineates DEQ's approach to mitigating PFAS contamination and exposure risks in Oregon. DEQ acknowledges as it moves forward with implementation that this strategic plan will need refinement and adaptation to meet emergent challenges and opportunities. The objective of this plan is to provide individual DEQ programs with an overarching framework for PFAS management and our work with the broader public. Individual DEQ programs will use this framework to develop specific implementation plans to meet these objectives.

Over time, implementation activities of DEQ programs will be prioritized based on the availability of resources and funding and as new data emerges. Currently, and for this plan, the primary focus of our immediate attention are the following critical areas:

a. Reducing or minimizing additional introduction of PFAS to the environment through consumer, industrial and commercial products.
b. Managing environmental contamination from PFAS.
c. Gathering and utilizing scientific data for decision-making.
d. Utilizing meaningful collaborations internally and externally.

The development of this strategic plan was supported by the EPA Columbia River Basin Restoration Program Grant (#44-02J54901). In the first year of implementation activities, DEQ used grant funding to develop the PFAS Strategic Plan. In the second year of implementation, the funds will be allocated based on competitive proposals from various environmental media

programs across DEQ that best align with this strategic plan's goals, specifically focusing on the Columbia River Basin. Other initiatives may also be completed under separate funding sources. The funded programs and initiatives will be implemented over the subsequent two years. In the third year, DEQ will compile a comprehensive final report for the EPA Columbia River Basin Restoration Program Grant detailing work accomplished, outcomes achieved, and their significance in addressing PFAS contamination in the Columbia River Basin.

As DEQ advances, the agency will routinely evaluate and amend this plan to incorporate the latest scientific data, legislative changes, regulatory developments, and feedback from impacted populations. Consistent with DEQ's commitment to transparency, the agency is dedicated to maintaining open communication regarding our PFAS mitigation efforts and will regularly publish reports to keep people in Oregon informed of our developments in protecting human and environmental health.

Appendix A: Links to PFAS Data for the State of Oregon

Table 3. Links to agency PFAS data

Organization	Links to PFAS Data
EPA	https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2023-08/ucmr5-data-summary_0.pdf
DEQ	https://www.oregon.gov/deq/wq/pages/wqdata.aspx
OHA	https://yourwater.oregon.gov/pfascounty.php
USGS	https://geonarrative.usgs.gov/pfasinusgroundwater

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