

No Changes to Oregon's Essential Salmonid Habitat Map for 2024

The map identifies streams where removing or adding materials likely requires a state permit to help protect fish habitat

The Department of State Lands (DSL) has closed the public comment period early regarding updates to Oregon's map of essential salmonid habitat. There will be no changes to the map for 2024. View the map and other information on DSL's [essential salmonid habitat web page](#).

Why is the habitat map important?

Created by DSL using Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife data, the "essential salmonid habitat" map identifies streams where fish like Chinook salmon and steelhead lay eggs and where young fish grow. To help protect this habitat, a removal-fill permit is usually required for placing riprap, installing culverts, and other activities that remove or add any materials in those streams.

Why is the map remaining the same for 2024?

An accurate habitat map is critical to effective stewardship of Oregon's waterways and wildlife.

Early in the public comment period that began December 15, 2023, DSL received multiple comments and questions regarding the 97 stream miles no longer designated as essential habitat on the proposed map. After careful review, DSL determined the proposed map did not accurately reflect available data and an alternative analysis required revisions of the map.

Because of the limited time constraints, updating the proposed ESH map cannot happen within the timeframe required to meet the February 1, 2024, adoption date. Adequate time for meaningful involvement opportunities for adjacent landowners, community members, and Tribal governments is important to this process. For this reason, the habitat map for 2024 will remain unchanged from the 2023 map. There will be no new stream miles added or stream miles removed until the next habitat map update.

If you have questions about the map, please contact Peter Ryan at peter.ryan@dsl.oregon.gov.

When will the next habitat map update happen?

The habitat map is updated annually by DSL on February 1 of each year, as long as new or updated data are available. Prior to the update, DSL seeks input from the Tribes and also holds a public comment period on the proposed map. DSL will begin seeking comments on the proposed 2025 map in December 2024.

[Join the email list here](#) to be notified of proposed map updates and other essential salmonid habitat information.

How do I propose edits to the map?

Map edits may be proposed anytime using the [Review Request Form](#). Proposed edits should correct map inaccuracies – for example, if the mapping does not reflect current on-the-ground conditions, or if there is a new barrier that prevents fish from reaching an area.