

Oregon Department of Agriculture Program Reports
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Food Safety and Animal Health & ID Programs

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• **Food Safety General Update**

- Food Safety program staff continue to reduce the inspection backlog from the COVID pandemic. Overdue is defined as those inspections that are more than 90 days beyond their due date. The backlog numbers have trended down from a peak of 4,943 in July of 2021, to the current 3,165. Our staffing levels are nearly at full capacity, but we will be celebrating a retirement from our management team at the end of February

• **Retail and Manufactured Foods**

- Negotiations for next year's FDA contract will begin in April/May. The future contract is expected to add seafood HACCP inspections, a continued reduction in the number of GMP inspections, and continued Preventative Controls inspections in our 4th year regulating under the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) requirements. Food safety have conducted 108 inspections using FSMA Preventative Controls dating back to the 2018/2019 contract.
- Reusable food containers in Oregon Food Establishments was an issue that we worked to address through a rule making process. In collaboration with our Food Safety Advisory Committee and community partners we developed rules that will provide a pathway to the safe and sanitary reuse of containers in our food establishments. Participation in the reusable food container regulations is optional for interested businesses.

• **Dairy Program**

- Rulemaking associated with changing Somatic Cell Count (SCC) limit were initiated at the request of the Oregon Dairy Farmers Association (ODFA). This change would align Oregon's SCC limit with those from the states of Idaho and Washington and would also comply with the requirements for export into the European Union and Asian markets for Oregon dairy products. Ultimately ODFA asked that ODA withdraw the rule changes.
- With the support of our dairy community, ODA is participating in the FDA Drug Residue Monitoring Pilot Program. The National Conference of Interstate Milk Shipments (NCIMS) Appendix N Committee has selected 19 drugs representing 8 drug families based on the FDA Risk Ranking Study. The 3-year project provides anonymity for participants with double blind, non-regulatory testing and no sample traceback / trace forward. No States or firms where samples are collected will be identified. Samples are shipped to 3rd party labs and the cost of shipping samples will be reimbursed to the State by the FDA. Oregon is tasked with taking 7 samples per year. The first sample will be collected in March at a yet to be determined dairy plant or farm. Results from the drug monitoring study will get reported annually. Prior to the start of this pilot program, we will inform our licensed dairy farms and plans of the pilot program.

• **Shellfish and Crab Program**

- This year's shellfish and commercial season, so far, has had a relatively uninterrupted production and harvest. Some bays were impacted by spills/overflows from not fully treated sewage from municipal water treatment systems due to heavy rainfalls. Shellfish harvesting after such events were only allowed after 21 days of mandatory bay closures by the ODA (depending on the severity of the sewage spills) for commercial harvesting and selling.
- This year's Interstate Shellfish Sanitation Conference will be held March 18th to the 23rd in Baton Rouge, LA to discuss and vote on changes to the National Shellfish Sanitation Program (NSSP). ODA Food Safety will be sending three representatives to participate in policy setting committees and vote on the proposals being introduced. ODA FSP has submitted one proposal to clean up language related to emergency closures of growing areas so that it to be clearer for interpretation.
- Razor clam recreational harvest remains closed along the entire Oregon coast due to the presence of domoic acid, a naturally occurring toxin produced by certain types of marine algae.
- The commercial crab season opened along the entire Oregon coast on February 2nd. The season opening was delayed from December 1st due to a combination of low crab fill weights and high domoic acid levels in the crabs. Future high domoic acid results will result in the issuance of an evisceration order to protect public health. Eviscerated crab has significantly less value than whole crab. Testing of the crab is continuing in areas where razor clams, an indicator species, are high in domoic acid. This ongoing testing has resulted tensions in the crab fishing, processing, and buying communities.

- **State Meat Inspection**

- The State Meat Inspection program (SMI) currently has one firm under inspection with a second one coming online in February. Overall, we have 10 firms at various stages of the application process and are watching the number and types of firms to ensure that our staffing is sufficient to support business needs. In response, four of our current Food Safety employees have completed the USDA FSIS Inspection Methods training program. The four will be backup inspectors in case we are unable to get newly hired SMI inspectors.
- We are looking to post a SMI position soon. This new hire will help our SMI Specialist and critical for us to stay on course and assure we are continuing to maintain our equal to status with USDA.

- **Animal Health**

- The program has been very busy monitoring, tracking, and preventing the spread of animal disease. The bulk of the work continues to be focused on calls from the public related to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI). Oregon has not seen any impact on our commercial industry, which we have attributed to successful biosecurity protocol implementations. While cases continued through the fall migration, we did not see a significant spike over the case numbers seen through the summer. During the late fall, ODA and ODFW also diagnosed HPAI infections in several wild and feral mammals in Oregon.

- **Livestock Brand Inspection**

- The brand program is collecting data associated with program costs and how to best maintain existing levels of service.

- **Lab Services**

- The regulatory lab continues to keep up with the testing workload provided by the various ODA programs despite going through some staff turnover. The lab working to fill 4 vacant, or soon to be vacant, positions in the coming month (Chemist, Microbiologist, 2 Lab technicians). Much of our employee movement is being triggered by the anticipated move to the North Valley Complex. As that transition point nears, we anticipate seeing more staff changes.
- The lab is actively working to prepare for the move – reviewing supplies, chemicals, unused equipment and determining appropriate disposal method.
- The lab continues to work with the State Meat inspection program and the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission (OLCC) to develop testing protocols to support the industries they regulate. As well as the potential to do some testing for Psilocybin requested by OHA.

Market Access & Certification Programs

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- **Agricultural Development & Marketing**

- ODA led an agriculture delegation within the Governor's Trade Mission to Korea and Japan in October, and Vietnam in November that included:
 - the Oregon commissions for Blueberry, Grass Seed, Raspberry Blackberry; and
 - the Wine Board, OSU Food Innovation Center, Oregon Berry Packing, Norris Blueberry Farms, AC Foods/Firestone Pacific Foods, and Willamette Valley Fruit Company.
 - Oregon will be the "State of Honor" at the November 2023 Vietnam Foodexpo tradeshow.
- ODA led several new-to-market companies to Japan in December, including Oregon craft cider companies and an innovative mushroom tea company.
- ODA included Oregon dried blueberries, cherries, and hazelnuts in a baking industry webinar in Shanghai and Guangzhou, China. Each seminar was attended by nearly 100 baking industry professionals with thousands of virtual attendees.
- ODA is running television promotions encouraging viewers to visit Oregon Taste to find local sources of food and agriculture. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r-S4I9BIg8w>
- ODA partnered with KATU and KOIN TV to celebrate National Farm to School Month in October. More than 100,000 targeted impressions featuring English and Spanish commercials promoting Farm to School in Oregon.
- ODA, Health Care Without Harm, and Mudbone Grown/Feed 'em Freedom Foundation were awarded a \$1 million grant for three years to help large institutional buyers source more Oregon grown and processed products.
- ODA distributed \$1.4 million in federal grants to 10 Oregon seafood processors to compensate for eligible pandemic-related expenses.
- ODA led a Chef promotion in London, creating opportunities for Oregon black cod, pacific whiting, dover sole, and pink shrimp. Promotions are on-going throughout 2023.

- ODA launched a new co-packer resource on the Oregon Food and Beverage Makers Roadmap that helps small to mid-sized businesses discover partners to manufacture their products.
- **Certification Programs**
 - The Certification Program is continuing audits across the state. Auditors are maintained in all Shipping Point Districts across the state. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has increased their auditing fees which mandates the program increase their fees for Good Agricultural Practice (GAP) audits to \$132/hour from \$115/hour. Fees for Organic audits have not changed.
- **Produce Safety**
 - Produce Safety has started the Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training classes for the Winter season. Produce Safety is also out on farms across the state offering free technical assistance visits to growers. The program has hired a new Outreach Coordinator which is a new position for the program.
- **Plant Health Program**
 - The Plant Health program completed over 10,000 tests for seed lots destined for export in 2022 to support the export of nearly 110 million lbs. of seed. Overall, seed testing and exports were down in 2022.
 - The Plant Health program continues to develop certification programs for virus-tested Oregon nursery stock. In 2022, the program worked closely with the grapevine and wine industries to update the Grapevine Certification program standards which will be in effect for 2023.
 - As part of the *Phytophthora ramorum* nursery program, Plant Health tested 4,898 samples for *P. ramorum*, including nursery samples and delimitation samples from the Lincoln City infestation. Staff continue to work on mitigation plans for the residences and botanical garden affected.
- **Seed Regulatory Program**
 - Rulemaking has been filed for the state supervised grass seed price negotiations. Updates were developed with a rules advisory committee in 2022.
 - The department has reached out to the Oregon Grass Seed Bargaining Association and seed dealers to discuss plans for the 2023 negotiations.
- **Shipping Point Inspection**
 - Labor continues to be a challenge for both the industry and the shipping point program. The limited labor pool as well as constraints put on hiring practices make it difficult for the program to hire in a competitive market.
 - Transportation is also an issue for many commodities, including produce, grass seed, and hay/straw.
 - Crop movement has been steady for most commodities.
 - Drought continues to be a concern for the 2023 irrigation season, with snowpack levels being average to slightly above average.
- **Smoke Management Program**
 - The program is preparing for the 2023 season and continues recruitment for a seed and smoke regulatory specialist position.

Natural Resource Programs

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The following updates are organized by operating process in our management system and cover all NRPA programs. In addition to the updates below, one more important activity involves filling a variety of vacant positions in the program area with limited duration and/or permanent staff. This will continue to be a major focus for all programs for the remainder of the biennium and we are excited to be able to bring on these staff.

- **Fostering collaboration**
 - The Pesticide Program continues to work closely with Oregon State University (OSU) and Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to increase awareness on the school Integrated Pest Management (IPM) law. In December 2022, ODA, OSU, and ODE met to discuss this past year, plus continue to look for areas of outreach that need emphasis in 2023. ODA investigative staff are planning to present at all the 2023 OSU School IPM Coordinator Trainings throughout Oregon (School IPM Plan Coordinators are required to take six hours of IPM training each year). In addition, one special project that ODA is also working on is to create “school IPM law modules” (basically short ~5-10 minutes, narrated PowerPoints focused on the law requirements) to post on YouTube for school IPM coordinators and other school staff. The goal is to provide short, recorded trainings so they will be able to access them all year round (e.g., refresher or say new staff start/onboarding). Lastly, ODA, OSU and ODE will continue to plan to meet at least annually to continue the collaborative work.

- The ODA-DEQ Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) has been signed. Multiple DEQ water quality planning efforts are underway in the form of Total Maximum Daily Load rulemaking processes. ODA and DEQ staff will be meeting regularly to ensure that work aligns with the spirit of the MOA.
- The Ag Water Quality Program (AGWQP) is preparing for the 2023 release of the Water Quality Support grant. These funds will be available for open solicitation for grants of \$20,000 to \$149,000 for Soil and Water Conservation Districts and Watershed Councils for the 23-25 biennium. Look for updated information to be posted online: <https://www.oregon.gov/oda/programs/NaturalResources/AgWQ/Pages/AgWQGrants.aspx>.
- The Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) Program continues to engage with Region 10 EPA drinking water and enforcement sections in quarterly meeting on ODA and partner agencies program implementation in the Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area. CAFO program staff have fulfilled extensive data requests to EPA and has had two information and programmatic review meetings with EPA staff.
- These quarterly meetings include DEQ, and OHA staff and continue throughout 2023.
- CAFO program staff met with industry group representatives to introduce a propose a 1 year education and outreach program to raw milk producers in Oregon. Dairies, regardless of size are CAFOs in Oregon because of their operational characteristics and wastewater control systems. Three Industry partners agreed to review and comment on the proposed outreach program. The program proposes to conduct outreach, provide education and technical assistance to non-permitted raw milk producers over the next 12-months to bring any operation needing a permit into compliance.
- The Fertilizer Program is planning the 11th annual Northwest States Fertilizer Meeting. Fertilizer regulations are state-specific and not controlled by Federal regulations. This collaboration allows our region to tackle emerging issues as a group and try to maintain a regional consistency for registrants with products in multiple states.
- **Permits, Registrations, and Notifications**
 - Starting January 1, 2023, counties eligible to submit notices to the Agricultural Drainage Channel Maintenance (ADCM) Program expanded beyond northwest Oregon to include Coos, Douglas, Curry, Josephine, and Jackson. AGWQP staff are meeting with local farming and ranching organizations, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, and OSU Extension in southern Oregon to spread the news about the program. Two recent northwest Oregon notice applications are under review between ODA and ODFW.
 - The fertilizer program ended 2022 with a total of 12,647 products registered in four separate categories. This represents a slight decrease from 2021's total of 12,816 products.
 - The Fertilizer program is developing a new request for proposals (RFP) to solicit fertilizer research projects that meet the funding criteria. Currently, three projects are funded with two of the three finalizing final reports and end of project publications and outreach.
 - The CAFO program continues to work with DEQ and EPA to renew the CAFO NPDES General Permit. 2023 will be the start of the renewal process for the CAFO WPCF General Permit. Multiple permitted CAFOs transferred their permit registrations due to change of ownership or operator.
- **Providing Compliance and Technical Assistance**
 - The AGWQP is working with partner agencies to find opportunities to adapt and improve the monitoring portion of the Strategic Implementation Area (SIA) initiative. ODA is also looking ahead to the next round of SIAs. AGWQP staff will be approaching Soil and Water Conservation Districts to identify a candidate pool of ready and willing partners to improve water quality in subbasins throughout the state.
 - All Pesticide Program staff are currently in the middle of licensing and product registrations renewals and are continuing to answer technical questions from the public on licensing requirements, label interpretations, school IPM law, and other pesticide related questions. Pesticide Program staff are also currently drafting outreach articles to be published in its Spring 2023 newsletter.
 - In addition, ODA's Insect Pest Prevention & Management (IPPM) Program and Pesticides Program are also discussing continuing opportunities for the Pesticides Program to assist with some of the IPPM's projects (e.g., spring eradication efforts relating to Emerald Ash Borer and Japanese Beetle). For example, Pesticide Investigators can provide use observations for pesticide applications and Pesticide staff can also provide technical assistance regarding label interpretation.
 - The Pesticides Program has also been collaborating with the ODA's Seed Program to develop and implement a communication plan in late 2022/ early 2023 to increase awareness on treated seed label requirements (label requirements relate to both seed law and pesticide law). This outreach plan included the creation of a Pesticide Advisory focused on the topic and the requirements. The advisory has been distributed during winter seed meetings and sent via GovDelivery to Pesticide Dealers and Pesticide Operators/ Applicators with the Seed Treatment category.
 - Lastly, the Pesticide Program has also been conducting a number of presentations at applicator re-certification courses to a wide variety of audiences (e.g., forestry, agriculture, weed control, aerial

applicators, urban landscape professionals, right of way management, etc.). These presentations will continue throughout the remainder of the winter.

- **Conducting Inspections, Investigations & Enforcement**

- The Pesticides Program has continued to follow-up on complaints through the winter regarding possible violations of the state's Pesticide Control Act. In addition, the program continues to conduct routine compliance monitoring to include marketplace inspections, record inspections of pesticide applicators and pesticide dealers. On November 1, the Program welcomed its newest Investigator filling a position that became vacant in Summer of 2022. In early February 2023, the Pesticide Program is looking to post a recruitment to recruit for its remaining open investigator position that is based out of Eugene.
- The Pesticides Enforcement Program has made significant progress in reducing its enforcement case backlog (i.e., cases not in the investigation phase, but are in the review/enforcement phase). During the pandemic (fiscal years 2020-2022) the program closed over 300 more cases than it initiated. The result of that increased focus and effort is that entering the next fiscal year, cases being submitted by investigators (after an investigation was completed) were receiving reviews within a short time frame (e.g., fall of 2023 the turnaround time for the case review step of the process is less than 60 days). The additional Enforcement Case Reviewer added to the Program from OLCC cannabis funds in this current biennium has helped tremendously!
- With six months of training, new AGWQP compliance staff are well on their way to becoming independent program inspectors. Work on the 2022 compliance report is beginning. While the report is not complete, early indications are that 2022 will prove to be a busy compliance year for the program. The AGWQP has had 5 ADCM related compliance cases. All resulted in Water Quality Advisory letters because maintenance work was completed without a valid notice on file. We issued a Notice of Noncompliance at one property for placing the waste in location that could enter back into Waters of the State. One of the advisory letters resulted in an ADCM Notice that was filed for multiple locations.
- The CAFO Program is advertising one CAFO inspector and administrative position to bring the program back to full staffing levels.

- **Providing Customer Support and Resolving Inquiries**

- The Pesticides Enforcement Program Area continued to receive and fulfill a number of public records requests in a timely manner. ODA's Citizen Advocate also continued to work closely with citizens concerned about pesticide usage helping answer questions and find other resources to their questions. Lastly, the Pesticides Program has also been looking to increase the number of outreach materials available in Spanish.
- Both the AGWQ and CAFO programs have continued to receive and respond to inquiries from the Environmental Protection Agency and the media regarding work completed in support of the Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area (LUB GWMA). The AGWQP is working in collaboration with local the Umatilla and Morrow Soil and Water Conservation Districts to ensure consistent tracking and reporting of actions completed in support of the 2020 LUB GWMA Action Plan.
- Pesticide registrations and certification and licensing teams see an increase in application and application status inquiries which the team has worked to address as registrations and licenses are expiring and being renewed.
- The pesticide non-commercial license rule making process is still ongoing and a third meeting with stakeholders is in the process of being scheduled.

Plant Protection & Conservation Programs

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- **Insect Pest Prevention and Management Program (IPPM)**

- ODA continues to hold a large role in the survey coordination efforts for Emerald ash borer (EAB) in the Forest Grove area. Thus far detections (56 infested ash trees) are primarily within the city limits with a few detections in natural areas (Fernhill Wetlands and Gales Creek) just over a mile south of the initial detection site. In late September 2022 ODA hosted USDA-PPQ partners and USFS specialists for a training focused on surveying techniques and identifying biocontrol release sites. Biocontrol remains the focus of ODA's long-term plan for controlling EAB and plans to have another training with state, Federal, and local tribe representatives (Grand Ronde) February 13-17, 2023.
- ODA was approved for \$450,000 by the Emergency Board. These funds are to support work for a outreach position (1/3 time), EAB Coordinator (full-time), four technicians for survey work, treatments, tree felling and marshaling yards. ODA is currently working on putting contracts together for these efforts.

- Mediterranean oak borer has been detected at seven sites in Oregon, spanning Clackamas, Marion, Multnomah, and Washington counties. ODA met with USDA to discuss detections and next steps. ODA will use available funds provided through bundled pest surveys from USDA to perform trapping around these sites.
- Spongy moth was detected in seven locations in Oregon in 2022, including Benton, Washington, Columbia, and Clatsop counties. ODA will conduct delimitation surveys at these locations in 2023. Spongy moth, formerly known as European gypsy moth, is considered a significant forest pest by both Oregon and USDA.
- Grapevine mealybug has been detected at a third vineyard in Jackson County. Grapevine mealybug is included in Oregon's grapevine pest & disease quarantine. All vineyard operations have been notified and provided action measures and treatment options. Mealybugs are known vectors of economically significant leafroll viruses, several are of concern to Oregon's grapevine industry. Current trapping efforts are supported through funds granted by the Oregon Wine Board.
- **Noxious Weed Control Program**
 - Tim Butler retired from ODA on January 31st after serving ODA for over 44 years, with 25 of those years as the Noxious Weed Program Manager.
 - Troy Abercrombie was hired as the manager for the Noxious Weed Control Program on January 23. Troy previously served as a regional specialist in the Noxious Weeds Program. This is a dual position which also manages the Native Plant Program.
 - The Oregon State Weed Board will hold their Spring meeting the first week of March. The Board will award over \$1.4M in grant funds for on the ground noxious weed projects across the state.
 - ODA Acting Director recently appointed three Oregon State Weed Board positions. Mark Krautmann and Margaret Magruder were appointed to Weed Board positions for residents of the state west of the Cascade Mountains. Todd Nash was appointed to Weed Board position for a resident of the state east of the Cascade Mountains.
 - Noxious Weed Program staff are planning 2023 field work with local stakeholders, partners, and cooperators in addition to federal work planning across the state.
 - ODA Noxious Weed Staff hosted the Oregon Interagency Noxious Weed Symposium in early December 2022, in Corvallis. This event provided over 1,000 cumulative hours of continuing education credits for practitioners from across the state and provided a forum for sharing the latest science, success, and challenges in noxious weed management.
- **Nursery and Christmas Tree Program**
 - Effective December 20th, ODA issued a temporary quarantine in Washington County to slow the spread of emerald ash borer to other parts of the state. The temporary rule restricts the movement of ash, olive, and white fringe tree materials from Washington County. EAB is now considered the most destructive forest pest in North America, killing hundreds of millions of ash trees. This temporary quarantine will remain in effect until May 16, 2023. As more data becomes available, ODA will evaluate future quarantine parameters.
 - In 2022, the program issued 2,404 nursery licenses and 349 Christmas tree grower licenses
 - Inspectors observed mass dieback of Noble firs in several farms in late 2022. Samples were submitted to Oregon State University for evaluation. Determined cause was a water mold, *Phytophthora cambivora*. Dieback a likely result of heatstress combined with an opportunistic pathogen.
 - One nursery in the Phytophthora ramorum nursery program had its federal compliance agreement pulled in December. USDA-APHIS found the nursery to be non-compliance with their shipping notification requirements. As a result, the nursery will no longer be able to ship host material out of state.
- **Hemp Program**
 - Summer Inspections: The hemp program conducted its HB3000 presumptive testing for the 2022 hemp growing season. This was similar to Operation Table Rock that was conducted in 2021. Unlike Operation Table Rock, these inspections occurred throughout the State, with inspection conducted at approximately 50% of the licensed growers. Preliminary data indicates that there was a significant reduction in the number of failed tests and less than 10% of the sites were suspected to be using a hemp license as cover for an illegal marijuana operation.
 - Handler Inspections: The department is developing inspection protocols to begin inspections of handler licensees in 2023. Handlers have not been previously inspected, so the inspectors will conduct a series of informal visits to become familiar with this aspect of the industry. The visits will be used to form a consistent set of inspection protocols.
 - Handler Licensing: The current definition of a handler is limited to those businesses that receives raw hemp from a licensed grower and perform a processing operation. The definition has been expanded to include any business that performs further processing activities up to the point where the hemp product is in a retail ready form. Under the current definition, if a business converted raw hemp into an oil concentrate that

business would be required to have a handler license. A business that purchases that oil to make a CBD gummy would not need a license. Under the new definition, the secondary handler would be required to obtain a handler's license. The secondary handler definition does not apply to grain or fiber producers.

- **Native Plant Conservation Program**

- Troy Abercrombie was hired as the manager for the Native Plant Conservation Programs on January 23.
- Two seasonal staff will be hired to assist with field work for the 2023 field season.
- Work has started in earnest on updating the state list of threatened and endangered plants. There are currently 59 administratively protected plant species in the state of Oregon, and at least 77 candidate species. The program is undertaking a long-term project by reviewing and updating population data, analyzing, and modeling trends, and seeking expert input. In December, we convened a Technical Advisory Committee of scientific experts to review species being considered for listing under the amended OAR.
- Staff are currently working with the Oregon Department of Energy and Baker County on permitting and consulting in regard to proposed development in rare plant habitat.
- Developing proposals for federal funding to work with the federally listed species Howell's spectacular thelypody (*Thelypodium howellii* ssp. *spectabilis*), rough popcorn flower (*Plagiobothrys hirtus*), Applegate's milkvetch (*Astragalus applegatei*), and Bradshaw's lomatium (*Lomatium bradshawii*).
- Field season is slated to begin in April. The team will be working with rare and endangered plant species all over the state, including but not limited to golden paintbrush (*Castilleja levisecta*) in the Willamette Valley, Cook's lomatium (*Lomatium cookii*) in Josephine County, Gentner's fritillary (*Fritillaria gentneri*) throughout southwest Oregon, Laurent's milkvetch (*Astragalus collinus* var. *laurentii*) in north-central and northeast Oregon, and Peck's astragalus (*Astragalus peckii*) in central Oregon.
- Federal reports will be issued to update on work performed on several species across the state including: Gentner's fritillary (*Fritillaria gentneri*) in the Grants Pass/Medford area, Applegate's milkvetch in Klamath Falls, and Macfarlane's four o'clock (*Mirabolis macfarlanei*) outside of Enterprise, OR.
- Several research projects are underway in the greenhouse facility at Oregon State University, including research on soft blazing star and Owyhee clover – two extremely rare plants endemic to the remote Owyhee Uplands of eastern Malheur and Owyhee Counties

- **Oregon Invasive Species Council**

- On behalf of the Council, the ODA terminated the contract with the Public Affairs Council (PAF). PAF had been serving as the Council's coordinator for the past year. This was a mutual agreement.
- A recruitment has begun to find a new Coordinator. The Coordinator serves the OISC to fulfill many of its goals including outreach and Council organization. More recently, the Coordinator has been serving as the Coordinator for the EAB Task Force.
- An extension has been granted to 3 cooperators, performing work on the OISC's outreach project of developing an online hub for invasive species in Oregon.

Administration/Special Projects

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- **Wolf Depredation Grant**

- ODA received notice that Oregon was awarded a FY2022 Compensation award of \$36,780 and Prevention award of \$103,995 from USFWS. Contact: Sunny Summers