

Agenda Item No.:	5
Presentation Title:	2009 Legislative and Budget Update
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SUMMARY

The Governor's recommended 2009-11 budget for the Department of Forestry, and several bills initiated by the Department, will be before the 2009 legislature when it convenes on January 12, 2009. The purpose of this agenda item is to provide an overview and update of these elements.

CONTEXT, BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

Development of the agency's 2009-11 budget proposal and legislative concepts proceeded throughout 2008, led to Board approval of the Agency Request Budget and of a set of legislative concepts.

Following Board approval, these items were forwarded for review by the Department of Administrative Services and the Governor's Office. The Governor released his statewide recommended budget on December 1, 2008. Legislative concepts were filed as House or Senate bills in mid-December.

The bills include proposed updates to the process of identifying lands on which assessments are paid for fire protection, and changes to the Board's bonding authority, to facilitate possible acquisition of forestland in Central Oregon. These bills are summarized in Attachment 1.

The Governor's recommended budget for the Department considers policies and priorities of the Governor and state economic and revenue forecasts. Given those priorities and forecasts, the budget for the Department does not include any budget additions reliant on state General Funds and does include the 10% General Fund reduction that the agency had been required to submit. The Governor's budget for the Department is summarized in Attachment 2.

RECOMMENDATION

This item is for information and discussion only.

NEXT STEPS

The Department will remain engaged with legislators, the Governor's Office and stakeholders as the legislature considers the Governor's budget recommendation and crafts a 2009-11 state budget, and as the Department's bills and other natural resources-related proposals move through the process.

ATTACHMENTS

- (1) Summary of proposed bills
- (2) 2009-11 ODF Governor's Recommended Budget Summary