CLIMATE SMART AWARD: NOMINATION FORM

Climate Smart Award
Award Structure and Criteria
Nominations open October – December

PURPOSE: Recognize landowners, land managers, researchers, operators, or other forestry professionals that use climate change-adapted practices, or develop innovative methods for carbon capture, retention, or reduced release. The goal is to encourage, improve, and recognize climate and carbon practices as part of the Department Climate Change and Carbon Plan.

OBJECTIVES:

A.   Climate Smart forestry in silviculture

B.   Fire management, response, and fire or smoke adaption

C.   Forestlands climate resilience and ecological function restoration

D.   Carbon reduction or capture in operations

E.   Innovative research or products that reduce emissions or increase climate resilience

AUTHORITY: Board of Forestry, State Forester

SCOPE: Statewide across non-federal forestlands. It may extend to universities, educators, consulting and research agencies, fabricators, operators, and private industry.

STANDARDS:

A.   Two awards for the state, one from each nominee category.

B.   Nominee categories:
  1.   Landowners and land managers
  2.   Research and innovation

C.   Award winners may not be nominated again within three years after winning an award, even if nominated for different practices.

D.   Nominees may not come from members of the nomination committee.

E.   Organizations or joint collaborators will receive a single award.

F.   Award winners may mention their award in department grant and incentive program applications, but this does not give project preference or priority solely for receiving an award.

G. Nominee categories:
    1. Landowner and Land Manager:
    Minimum requirements:
    a. Activities will be weighed by amount of land ownership to ensure fairness among small and large landowners.
    b. No Forest Practices Act (FPA) rule violations in the two years prior to award nomination due date.
    c. Where applicable, explain how land use practices on a per acre basis where possible, have:
        i. Enhanced carbon sequestration and storage.

        ii. Reduced emissions or other carbon losses.

        iii. Reduced forest industry waste, such as:
            1. Reduced slash production or burning
            2. Reduced transport mileage
            3. Using fuel and energy efficient equipment
            4. Development or use of biochar or biofuels
        iv. Increased resilience of forest ecosystems, such as:
            1. Increasing tree species diversity
            2. Transitioning to more climate-adapted tree species
            3. Reducing stand stocking
            4. Balancing *total* carbon capture via longer rotations versus increased carbon capture rates via younger trees
            5. Exceeded FPA rules
    d. Bonus: has the nominee attained ongoing certifications that promote climate change resiliency, such as ATFS, OTFS, FSC, and STI. If applicable, list certification(s) and include actions taken to attain certification(s) in nomination form.

    2. Research and Innovation:
    Minimum Products and Strategies:
    a. Novel research results, products, strategies.
    b. When applicable, must show how they have:
        i. Enhanced carbon sequestration and storage
        ii. Reduced carbon losses
        iii. Reduced emissions
        iv. Reduced forest industry waste
        v. Increased resilience of forest ecosystems
        vi. Produced novel strategies, research, or products
    c. Future impact of research to improve climate adaptation and mitigation.
    d. Equity. Efforts that provide a greater benefit to underserved communities.

H. Award Criteria:
    1. Consistency. Give more weight to a nominee with a history of good climate and carbon practices versus a single year's effort.
    2. Degree of difficulty. The nominee endured some difficulty in employing strategies or overcoming research difficulties following sound science.

3. Risk. The nominee assumed some higher risk of money, time, or equipment to advance Climate Smart Forestry practices or research.
4. Innovation and extra effort. The nominee pursued innovative techniques or research, developed new strategies or products, or incorporated collaborative efforts.
5. Overall good practices. For example, nominees may have done an excellent job with one project or managing and harvesting part of one or some properties, but adequate at other times. In such cases, more weight would go to those whose work in total meets the objectives of the Climate Smart Award.

PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

A. In October through December, Climate Smart leads will advertise the opening of nominations and instructions to Department area offices and Public Affairs, Forest Practice foresters, universities, OSWA, Association of Oregon Loggers, Society of American Foresters to start the nominating process. Entities can nominate themselves.

B. Nominate entities by December 31 using Attachment A. Photographs, maps, and other documents should accompany the application for illustrating the research, operation, or practice.

C. By February, the department's Climate Smart committee will provide the first screening of nominations to determine who qualifies.

D. By March, the Forest Legacy and Stewardship Program Working Group will provide the final screening to select nominees for field tours.

E. By April, Climate Smart committee members will attend a field tour or meeting with the top nominees from each category to review criteria. Photographs will be taken for future publicity.

F. By April, the Climate Smart committees should make their selection for each category. Attachment B is a sample rating form that the committee can use to help rank nominees.

G. By May, the Climate Smart Award plaques will be ordered by the Climate Smart committee.

H. By July, the Climate Smart committee will prepare and mail letters to the final nominees for the Climate Smart Awards indicating award winners. The Climate Smart committee will also coordinate with award winners to prepare narratives to be read at the awards ceremony.

I. By August, the Climate Smart committee in consultation with the Department's Public Affairs staff, will develop a publicity plan that can be implemented annually to recognize award winners. Public Affairs arranges to take pictures of Climate Smart presentations and make statewide news releases. Public Affairs will also collaborate with OSU-Extension Forestry to advertise efforts to others via OSU blogs, Tree School, and landowner field days.

J. In September, the Board of Forestry will present the Climate Smart Awards at its regular meeting.

Attachment A – Climate Smart Recognition Nomination Form

Please **download** the nomination form to your computer, answer all questions, and then select the "Submit" button or email this form to: christine.j.buhl@odf.oregon.gov or print and mail to: Oregon Department of Forestry, Christine Buhl, 2600 State Street, Salem, OR 97310.

Section A – Nomination Information

Nominated by: _____

Nominee Name: _____

Company, agency, etc. name (if applicable): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Section B – Nomination Activities *(where applicable explain and list date(s) and location(s) for each below)*

Landowner Nomination

Enhanced carbon sequestration and storage

Reduced emissions or other carbon losses

Reduced forest industry waste

Increased resilience of forest ecosystems

Attained ongoing certifications

Other strategies associated with climate resilience and/or carbon reduction or capture

Research / Innovation Nomination

Novel research results, products, strategies

Enhanced carbon sequestration and storage

Reduced carbon losses

Reduced emissions

Reduced forest industry waste

Increased resilience of forest ecosystems

Future implications for climate adaptation and mitigation

Equity

Other strategies associated with climate resilience or carbon reduction or capture

Section C – Nominating Criteria (applies to both landowner and research/innovation nominee)

1. Describe the nominee's consistency in performance over the years (use examples and list dates).

2. Describe the difficulty and complexity of the activities regarding climate resilience or carbon reduction or capture.

3. Describe how the nominee was innovative or is contributing to current or future strategies.

4. Describe and quantify benefit to climate resilience or carbon reduction or capture.

5. Describe the financial risk or time commitment assumed by the nominee.

6. Other considerations not covered in 1-5.

Please attach if available/applicable: (you can attach separately in the same email as the form, or follow instructions below to attach directly to the form)

☐ Aerial Photo(s)   ☐ Site Map or Diagram   ☐ Product/Research Photo(s)
☐ Before and After Field Photo(s) with Photo Points   ☐ Scientific Publication(s)

Follow these instructions to attach documents directly to PDF:
- Select comment box from right toolbar 💬
- Select attachment paperclip icon from top toolbar and select "attach file" 📎▾
- When your cursor becomes a pushpin icon, place in the box to the right and click
- Select file to attach, then open
- Once all supporting documents are uploaded, click SUBMIT button
Note: The form does not work from iOS platforms (iPhones/iPads). If using Mac OS, download the form with Adobe Acrobat Reader

Place attachment(s) here

Nominator: _____

Attachment B – Annual Climate Smart Award Nominee Rating Form

CRITERIA	POINTS POSSIBLE	SCORE
Consistency	20	
Difficulty	15	
Impact on climate resiliency and/or carbon reduction or capture	30	
Innovation/effort	20	
Risk	15	
Total score	**100**	