

**Elliott Public Ownership Project  
Oregon Department of State Lands  
January 2018 Update**

The Department of State Lands (DSL) is on track with the projected timeline for the two major elements of this project: 1) Common School Fund Decoupling; and 2) Habitat Conservation Plan Development.

**Common School Fund Decoupling**

On Jan. 2, 2018, DSL signed an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with [Oregon Consensus](#) (OC), a public-policy mediation program based in the Hatfield School of Government at Portland State University. OC helps people, communities and decision-makers examine and find common ground on complicated social, community and public policy issues. They bring to the table a well-respected, neutral, third-party point of view. OC's previous projects include assessing salmon and steelhead recovery in the Columbia Basin, developing a conservation plan for the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, and developing a transportation system for Seaside, Oregon.

The IGA with Oregon Consensus includes three phases focused on decoupling the Elliott State Forest from the Common School Fund. Phases II and III will include examination of funding, ownership, governance structure and forest management.

- Phase I: Establishing working principles and foundational elements for the project (an overall project management plan, including communications and an approach to stakeholder engagement) – *estimated completion date: March 2018*
- Phase II: Developing a resolution framework (conducting interviews and focus groups with people representing a variety of interest groups to assess key issues and determine the degree of current common ground; and producing a summary report of the findings that will inform Phase III work) – *estimated completion date: August/September 2018*
- Phase III: Convening an advisory group to develop recommendations for decoupling the Elliott State Forest from the Common School Fund (using Phase II findings, the group will explore issues needing further resolution and develop a report for consideration by the Department of State Lands and State Land Board) – *estimated completion date: spring 2019*

**Habitat Conservation Plan Development**

DSL is working with the Oregon Department of Administrative Services on issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the development of a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). We are on schedule to issue the RFP by late January/early February. The RFP and all associated information on the process will be available on the state's procurement system, [ORPIN](#). The estimated date for selecting an HCP development contractor is April 2018.

DSL also has signed an IGA with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to provide expedited technical review services for the HCP and associated Incidental Take Permit.

The estimated completion date of a draft HCP is February/March 2019. Once the draft HCP is finalized, it must go through a rigorous federal approval process involving the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service. The HCP must also comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The estimated implementation date of the HCP is July 2021.