



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Department of State Lands

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State Land Board

The State Land Board (Land Board or Board) met in regular session on December 3, 2025, in the Land Board Room at the Department of State Lands (DSL), 775 Summer Street NE, Salem, Oregon. The meeting audio and video was livestreamed on the DSL YouTube channel.

Tina Kotek
Governor

Tobias Read
Secretary of State

Elizabeth Steiner
State Treasurer

Present were:

Tina Kotek
Tobias Read
Elizabeth Steiner

Governor
Secretary of State
Treasurer

Land Board Assistants

Geoff Huntington
Dmitri Palmateer
Jessica Howell

Governor's Office
Secretary of State's Office
State Treasurer's Office

Department Staff

Kaitlin Lovell	Bill Ryan	Ellie Forness	Katrina Scotto di Carlo
Arin Smith	Chris Castelli	Ali Ryan Hansen	Linda Safina-Massey
Ted Bright	Cait McCusker	Hannah Beverage	Jean Straight

Department of Justice

Matt DeVore

Governor Kotek called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The topics discussed and the results of those discussions are listed below. To view the Land Board (Board) meeting in its entirety, please visit our YouTube page: [December 3, 2025, Land Board Meeting](#)

Consent Items

1. Minutes

Secretary Read made a motion to approve the minutes for the October 14, 2025, Land Board meetings.

Treasurer Steiner seconded the motion.
The item was approved at 10:01 a.m. without objection.

ACTION ITEMS

2. Due Diligence Request for Potential Sale of Rangelands in Wheeler County

Director Lovell introduced Chris Castelli, Deputy Director of Land Management and John Gessner, Land Transaction Specialist, to present the item.

The Department recommended that the Land Board authorize the initiation of due diligence for the potential sale of the Hoogie Doogie rangeland property in Wheeler County.

10:07 a.m.

Secretary Read asked how the due diligence will account for the option to sell parcels separately.

Mr. Gessner stated that the goal is to get the highest dollar for the land through appraisal consultation with the broker community.

Secretary Read then asked how the consultation with DOGAMI on carbon sequestration may affect the type of sale.

Mr. Gessner stated that consultation will assess what sort of mineral rights or carbon sequestration exist, but the State will retain ownership of subsurface mineral rights.

10:09 a.m.

Treasurer Steiner stated that it will be important to differentiate between surface and subsurface mineral rights because of the potential for development or sale/lease of those mineral rights.

Governor Kotek stated that another important factor to consider is the remoteness of the locations and the risk of fire activity.

She then asked what the internal conversations have been regarding the timeline of how quickly due diligence can be completed.

Mr. Castelli responded that to estimate the timeline, public review and comment, Tribal consultation, meeting with brokers, and completing appraisals all need to be considered. Mr. Gessner stated that the due diligence process will take approximately 12 months.

Secretary Read made a motion to approve the action item.

Treasurer Steiner seconded the motion.

The item was approved at 10:13 a.m. without objection.

3. Decertification of Common School Fund Forestland Adjacent to South Slough Reserve in Coos County

Deputy Director Chris Castelli introduced Brian Cochran, Real Property Policy Specialist, to assist in presenting the item.

The Department recommended that the Land Board approve the decertification of 80 acres of Oregon Department of Forestry-managed forestlands, known as Winchester property, within the Coos District to allow for acquisition of the property by the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve.

10:15 a.m.

Secretary Read and Treasurer Steiner both asked for clarification as to the date the acquisition was approved in 2023 and why the decertification is happening two years later.

Mr. Castelli stated that we applied for a grant as part of a long-term strategic plan goal but were just awarded the funds in 2025.

Governor Kotek asked if there is a date that the funds must be spent by.

Mr. Cochran stated we have until the end of 2028 to acquire the property.

Governor Kotek stated that out of an abundance of caution, it would be best to get this done as soon as possible.

She then asked if the requirement for approval from the Board of Forestry is a constitutional or statutory issue.

DSL attorney, Matt Devore stated that it is a statutory requirement that both Boards approve certification and decertification of Common School Fund Forestlands.

Treasurer Steiner stated that the process seems inefficient and could be streamlined.

Secretary then asked if the process could move faster than the recommended effective date of July 1, 2026.

Mr. Castelli stated that the Board of Forestry only meets quarterly, which gives us less options to be on the agenda.

Secretary Read made a motion to approve the action item.

Treasurer Steiner seconded the motion.

The item was approved at 10:27 a.m. without objection.

4. *Adoption of Division 82 and Division 145 Rules was moved to a future agenda

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

5. Aquatic Resource Management Annual Report

Director Lovell introduced Dana Hicks, Planning & Policy Manager, to present the item which reviewed highlights of the annual report which provides summary information regarding the management of state-owned waterways for the 2025 Fiscal Year and fulfills the annual report requirements in the state's removal-fill law ORS 196-885.

10:44 a.m.

Secretary Read stated that he really appreciates the heading of protecting school funding and the increase in fees to cover costs is an appropriate step in being thoughtful about protecting the Common School Fund.

Governor Kotek stated that she appreciates the hard work of the team.

6. Elliott State Research Forest Update

10:47 a.m.

Director Lovell introduced Darren Goodding, Elliott State Research Forest Manager, to assist Deputy Director Castelli in presenting the update which looked ahead to the outcomes and actions we are focused on in 2025-27 and reports on work in progress, including financial and business planning, working forest operations, carbon project, Tribal engagement, research forest headquarters and the continuing work on the Forest Management Plan.

Keith Tymchuk, Chair of the Elliott State Research Forest Board of Directors, joined the meeting via zoom to give his perspectives as outgoing Chair.

11:15 a.m.

Secretary Read asked are the tradeoffs between the 2-year and 3-year contracts and testing lumpsum vs. scaled.

Darren stated that we are in testing mode now and unpredictable disruptions such as fire season, timing restrictions for the spotted owl and marbled murrelet, etc. that affect the number of operational days must be taken into consideration.

Secretary then asked, once a contract is approved, what are the other things that we can do to reduce the bottlenecks that may slow things down?

Darren stated that discussing capacity and resources with agency partners will be helpful in keeping things moving.

11:21 a.m.

Governor Kotek stated her appreciation for all the hard work on this.

She then asked if there is opportunity from private sector partners to provide support?

Darren stated that they have been meeting with industry groups as well to have some of these conversations.

7. Other

11:25 a.m.

Director Lovell gave brief updates on the following:

- Introduction of Deputy Director of Administration, Caiti Hudson
- Tribal engagement regarding Carbon Sequestration has started

The meeting was adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

Tina Kotek, Governor

Kaitlin Lovell, Director

DRAFT