

## COLLINS Eleni \* ODF

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**From:** Carol G Newman <caroltov@pacifier.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 08, 2025 2:47 PM  
**To:** FORESTRY Boardof \* ODF  
**Cc:** COLLINS Eleni \* ODF  
**Subject:** Written Testimony on Davis Ridge Timber Sale from April 23, 2025 public meeting

**Categories:** Testimony-Board-Mtg.

Some people who received this message don't often get email from caroltov@pacifier.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

To: Oregon Board of Forestry:

Please enter into the record the copy below of my April 23, 2025 Testimony at the Board of Forestry public meeting.

Please Reply asap that you received this.

Thank you,  
Carol Newman  
44331 Peterson Lane, Astoria  
43620 Sylvandale Lane, Astoria

As an adjacent land owner, I am deeply concerned about the proximity to my property of the Davis Ridge Timber Sale in Brownsmead, OR. I've been involved in a struggle for direct communication, transparency and possible mitigation since I became aware of this project. It has indeed been a struggle; disappointing, frustrating, infuriating.

My biggest concern is the very steep slope on my property that would become increasingly vulnerable to slides and blowdown after a clearcut - a well documented phenomenon in Brownsmead. Damage from a slide would endanger me, my house and other inhabitants; and be greatly detrimental to the economic value of my property - which I've owned and paid taxes on for 49 years. Repairs, if even possible, would be costly and ODF will be held responsible.

I am also deeply concerned about any use of pesticides or herbicides, especially near my property, even with backpack application. These chemicals are intentionally toxic - they're hazardous to the environment including beneficial insects and other wildlife as well as to human health. We live in a climate where rain can be unpredictable and often comes in torrents. Runoff of water, mud and toxins would not be unlikely especially from the slope. How far in advance can one predict our weather? How safe are children, adults, companion animals?

I would like to be hopeful but my experience with ODF has fostered distrust.

I was shocked to read in public records request #2474 that ODF changed the auction date for Davis Ridge, rushing the Timber Sale specifically to avoid - and I quote - “a bunch of grief during public comment”. I’m quoting Dan Goody January 23, 2025; the same Dan Goody who wrote in his July 2, 2024 letter to me - “the Oregon Department of Forestry values and respects its neighbors, and we strive to be the best neighbors we can be.”

We need increased communications, transparency, good neighboring and trustworthiness from ODF. Please help hold ODF accountable.

Thank you.



# Strategic Planning Process

## Workgroup

- To operationalize the Vision of Oregon's Forests into the Department's planning and prioritization cycles
- Couples the Vision with the Governor's priorities to give the Department primary lenses to evaluate areas of need and prioritization
- Integration of the various other planning documents to augment the Vision and Governor priorities
  - o Legislative KPMs
  - o Climate Change and Carbon Plan
  - o Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategy
  - o Oregon's Landscape Resiliency Strategy
  - o Others
- Identify key communication point for input, comments, and support from the Board, stakeholders, and partners.

## Timeline

- Process design underway for internal mechanics
- Plan for a discussion of high-level concepts at the October retreat



# Department Input on State Forester Desired Attributes

April 23, 2025





# Introduction

**ORS 526.031** specifies that the State Board of Forestry shall appoint a State Forester.

With recognition of the Board's authority, the Department has offered a survey to its staff to collect feedback and suggestions on desired attributes for consideration.



# Department Survey Structure

- Provided a link to the desired attributes identified during the 2021 recruitment
- Offered an open-ended, single question:

**“What are your recommendations for changes or additions to the State Forester skills and attributes?”**



# Department Survey Responses

- **An estimated 10% of ODF workforce participated**
- 9 responses did not list desired attributes for consideration
- 103 responses offered desired attributes for consideration



# Response Categories



Background and Experience



Knowledge and Understanding



Skills and Abilities



Values and Beliefs



Goals and Priorities



# Background and Experience

- Identified by comments that include suggestions on historical work experience or background
- Usually occupational, also includes education.





# Background and Experience

- ① Forestry
- ② Dept. of Forestry
- ③ Fire Response
- ④ Public & Political Relations
- ⑤ Business Management
- ⑥ Organizational Leadership







# Knowledge and Understanding

- Identified by comments that include suggestions on expertise, familiarity, understanding and knowledge







# Knowledge and Understanding

- 1 Department field operations, divisions and programs
- 2 Wildfire response operations and prevention
- 3 Forestry operations and silviculture practices







# Knowledge and Understanding

Additional suggestions:

- Agency budget and legislative processes
- Regional differences in Oregon
- Impacts and effects of decisions made
- Stakeholders and their motivations
- Forestry-related technology
- Conservation and ecosystem preservation
- Climate change impacts and strategies
- Forests' impact on humans/communities





# Skills and Abilities

- Identified by comments that include suggestions what the candidate should be proficient in, able to do, can demonstrate, is good at.
- Largely focused on interpersonal or relational skills, does include technical skills.



# Skills and Abilities

## ① Communication

## ② Leadership

## ③ Collaboration

- Decision-making
- Direction
- Strategic thinking
- Advocacy
- Adaptability
- Diplomacy
- Financial mgmt.
- Relationships
- Resiliency
- Resource allocation
- Forestry tech skills
- Problem solving
- Emotional intelligence (EQ)
- Conflict resolution
- Crisis management
- Information input
- Data interpretation







# Values and Beliefs

- Identified by comments that include suggestions on ideologies, values, standards, guiding principles.
- Demonstrated by comments sharing what they hope the next State Forester will care about.







# Values and Beliefs

- 1 In-Person Engagement
- 2 Accountability and Integrity

- Feedback and input
- Honesty and transparency
- Employee well-being
- Inclusivity and belonging
- Continuous improvement
- Long-term dedication
- Landowner appreciation
- Human/forest connections
- Engagement with Tribes
- Creativity and innovation
- Science and data
- Sense of humor
- Conservation and wildlife
- Professionalism
- Kindness and empathy
- Impartiality
- Humility



# Goals and priorities

- Identified by suggestions on specific outcomes, projects or priorities.
- Not directly associated desired attributes
- Allows for interpretation of potential attributes that may serve the outcomes identified.





# Goals and priorities

- Narrow the focus of the agency's work; remove silos; align the agency; focus on key priorities
- Spend time in field offices; get to know staff and embrace in-person engagement on a local level
- Improve the agency's public perception; tell the agency's story



# Conclusion

While some common themes may emerge, the results may have been different if the survey was presented in a ranking format, as opposed to open-ended.

The open-ended format allowed for unrestricted feedback.

The Department respects the Board's authority in determining what desired attributes to associate with the State Forester job posting.



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## New State Forester

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From Cheryl Johnson <cheryl067@outlook.com>

Date Thu 4/3/2025 6:21 PM

To Governor Kotek \* GOV <Governor.Kotek@oregon.gov>; HUNTINGTON Geoff \* GOV <geoff.huntington@oregon.gov>; FORESTRY Boardof \* ODF <BoardofForestry@odf.oregon.gov>; KELLY Jim \* ODF <Jim.Kelly@odf.oregon.gov>

Cc AGPAOA Liz \* ODF <Liz.Agpaoa@odf.oregon.gov>; LOVECHIO Alexi \* ODF <Alexi.Lovechio@odf.oregon.gov>; MCCOMB Brenda \* ODF <Brenda.Mccomb@odf.oregon.gov>; JUSTICE Joe \* ODF <Joe.Justice@odf.oregon.gov>; DEUMLING Ben \* ODF <Ben.Deumling@odf.oregon.gov>; CURTISS Heath \* ODF <Heath.Curtiss@odf.oregon.gov>; FERRARI Chandra Alene \* GOV <Chandra.Alene.FERRARI@oregon.gov>

Some people who received this message don't often get email from cheryl067@outlook.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Governor Kotek, Natural Resource Staff, and members of the Board of Forestry,

We are writing to you as concerned citizens of Clatsop County regarding the appointment of the next State Forester.

We are property owners and residents of Clatsop County since 1975. At our home in Brownsmead, we share a back property line with ODF here on the land where we raised our children and now enjoy grandchildren. We have friends and neighbors who make their living in the timber industry.

Our concerns center on 3 critical issues:

### **Habitat loss and impact to streams and waterways**

The Columbia River is currently home to 13 species of threatened or endangered salmon. The federal government, states and non-profits have spent millions of dollars to repair damaged salmon habitat over the last decade. Clear cutting results in stream warming and sedimentation. Clatsop County forests, especially the Astoria District are located on steep hillsides where sediment and pesticides have a short journey to end up in the Columbia River.

### **Health concerns related to pesticide spraying**

The negative impacts of herbicide use have long been known and are of deep concern to Oregon residents.

### **Transparency in planning and good communication with affected residents**

We have been active in attempting to work with the Astoria District foresters concerning the Annual Operation Plans in 2024.

The landowners and residents of both Mothball Hill and Davis Ridge proposed cut sites had **repeatedly** asked to meet with Astoria ODF to voice their concerns, ask questions and get information. They were **repeatedly** told Astoria ODF would NOT meet with them until AFTER July 1. This is the date when the list

of harvest sites would be finalized. We are one year down the road and there still have not been meetings with affected landowners!

As citizens of the North Coast, we ask that you appoint a state forester who:

- Will safeguard coastal drinking water sources by protecting mature forest ecosystems.
- Recognizes the harm that pesticide and herbicide application poses on our communities and soil health, and will work to prohibit pesticide spraying on forestland.
- Supports the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and implements the Climate Change and Carbon Plan (CCCP).
- Recognizes the need for improved communication with and engagement of the public in ODF processes, such as the Annual Operations Plan (AOP).
- Values transparency, and is willing to communicate and collaborate with local stakeholders, including community advocates.

**The State Forester and his/her leadership affects not only the Oregon state forests, but the health and quality of the lives of Oregon residents.**

Cheryl Johnson & Ted Messing

44183 Peterson Lane

Astoria, OR 97103

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## CRA Comments regarding hiring a new State Forester

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**From** Chuck Willer <chuckw@coastrange.org>

**Date** Thu 2/20/2025 12:02 AM

**To** FORESTRY Boardof \* ODF <BoardofForestry@oregon.gov>

 1 attachment (93 KB)

CRA State Forester Letter-2-17.pdf;

Dear Chair Kelly and members of the Board of Forestry,

Please accept the following attached comments regarding hiring a new State Forester. I call your attention to several reports mentioned in the comments. Please watch the initial 30 minute presentation in the video. If you have questions regarding the economics paper do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes,

Chuck Willer  
Executive Director  
Coast Range Association  
(541) 231-6651  
[chuckw@coastrange.org](mailto:chuckw@coastrange.org)

CC. Governor Tina Kotek via postal mail.



To: Governor Tina Kotek, Oregon Board of Forestry

From: The Coast Range Association

Date: February 18, 2025

Re: Hiring a new State Forester

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Dear Governor Kotek, Chair Kelly and Members of the Oregon Board of Forestry,

The Board of Forestry will hire the next state forester to lead the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF). Oregon faces two great challenges. One is a dangerously warming climate of what now will be at least 2°C, and 3°C if we continue with current trends. The second immediate challenge is the federal government and the policies and actions of President Trump. Yet, Oregon can lead the country through science-based forest management and a renewed commitment to an innovative government. Political forces that undermine common welfare must not prevail.

First, let's check in on the current reality of climate. Irrespective of the irrational stance of the White House, we are on a perilous trajectory. I call your attention to a newly published report from Australia by the Breakthrough National Centre for Climate Restoration (December 2, 2024). A video overview of the report is available here as well as a link to the report:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=flgq63f7TOc>

The report addresses what life may look like under 3°C of warming – the path we are on unless serious change occurs?

The second report I bring to your attention is a critique of the economic model used in IPCC analyses. Authored by three eminent economists, including Nobel Prize winner Joseph Stiglitz, the authors lay out a devastating assessment of IPCC economics. Many issues the authors raised were echoed in the Coast Range Association's comments on the state forest HCP DEIS. The report can be accessed here: <http://www.nber.org/papers/w28472>

I now turn to specific issues and recommendations for hiring a new State Forester.

Near-term, implementing the Private Forest Accord, adopting a Western Oregon State Forest Management Plan, and finalizing Habitat Conservation Plans (HCP) for private forests and western Oregon state forests are of the highest priority. Restructuring the ODF's revenue model will be a key milestone in achieving multiple long-term goals.

The above issues require an exceptional person. Such a person must be a visionary as well as a great leader. We urge the Board of Forestry to seek out a person with the following qualities:

- A thorough understanding of forest and aquatic ecosystems and an up to date awareness of the threat of a warming climate.
- A commitment to policies that support a productive economy for all people over the interests of one business sector or those of great wealth. Based on guidance from ODF staff, the current HCP **Business Case Analysis** addresses recreation, carbon sequestration and other such values under the frame of “ecosystems services” and then goes on to state such values “*primarily affect benefits enjoyed by the public, therefore these are less important for a business case analysis.*” Really?
- Understands the unique qualities of coastal moist forests especially with regards to carbon sequestration. The fact that Oregon’s coastal forest is the greatest carbon storing forest per acre on the planet must be front and center in policy discussions. The good news is that the Pacific Northwest will not experience the dire impacts of 2<sup>0</sup> centigrade warming like the Southwest or the Gulf states.
- Has a track record of welcoming public involvement in decision-making and public accountability for decisions. We hope the usual stakeholder model is augmented by a future model of consultation that includes all Oregonians.
- Possesses strong communication skills and a competence to lead based on the common good.
- Proven commitment and experience in creating a culture of respect and inclusion. It is no secret that ODF has much work to do in this area. Exceptional leadership is required to change agency culture.
- Experience with wildfire resilience and resistance appropriate to ODF’s role in wildfire management. We believe ODF’s past response to wildfire is of the highest caliber. Yet, new approaches are needed beyond “fighting” wildfire. The narrative of resilience must be augmented with an agenda of forest wildfire **resistance**.
- Competence for working with elected officials to secure the funding necessary to fulfill the agency’s mission. This agenda includes work to shift away from the current funding model.

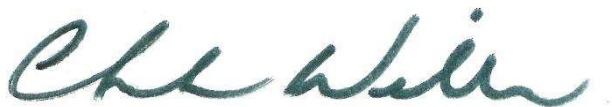
Priorities for the next state forester:

- **Strategic Planning:** Develop an agency strategic plan consistent with today’s challenges especially climate warming. In early 2023, your office directed state agencies to develop strategic plans by June 1, 2024. The Department of Forestry currently lacks a strategic plan.

- **Lead adaptive updates** to the ODF's Climate Change and Carbon Plan (Climate Plan) approved by the Board of Forestry in 2021. Such updates must respond to the carbon sequestration potential of state forests and the evolving reality of climate warming.
- **Complete the implementation** of the Private Forest Accord and finalize the Habitat Conservation Plan for private forests (PFA HCP) by the end of 2027.
- **Advance climate related goals** and ecological forest management for state forests through the adoption of a Western Oregon State Forest Management Plan. And, begin consideration of a radically different forest management paradigm as the reality of climate change overwhelms the dominant narrative.
- **Finalize** the Western Oregon State Forest Habitat Conservation Plan by early 2026.
- **Improve public notice and engagement** in decision-making by developing processes that engage a broad spectrum of Oregon's population. Conversely, engage communities proximate to state owned forests when developing Annual Operations Plans.

Being a public servant is a difficult job in today's world. Reactionary forces work tirelessly to undermine the common good and spread false narratives. Leading an agency central to the identity of Oregon will be a big challenge. The Coast Range Association looks forward to supporting the next State Forester.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Chuck Willer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a small dot at the end.

Chuck Willer  
Executive Director  
Coast Range Association



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## State Forester Values, Qualifications and Priorities

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**From** Michael Lang <mlang@wildsalmoncenter.org>

**Date** Tue 2/18/2025 11:27 PM

**To** HUNTINGTON Geoff \* GOV <geoff.huntington@oregon.gov>; FERRARI Chandra Alene \* GOV <Chandra.Alene.FERRARI@oregon.gov>; KELLY Jim \* ODF <Jim.Kelly@odf.oregon.gov>; MCCOMB Brenda \* ODF <Brenda.Mccomb@odf.oregon.gov>; JUSTICE Joe \* ODF <Joe.Justice@odf.oregon.gov>; AGPAOA Liz \* ODF <Liz.Agpaoa@odf.oregon.gov>; DEUMLING Ben \* ODF <Ben.Deumling@odf.oregon.gov>; CURTISS Heath \* ODF <Heath.Curtiss@odf.oregon.gov>

 1 attachment (2 MB)

State Forester Letter.pdf;

Dear Governor Kotek, Governor's Natural Resource Staff, Chair Kelly and Board of Forestry Members,

Please accept and consider this letter from member groups in the State Forest Coalition regarding the selection of a new State Forester. Our groups look forward to participating and providing recommendations in the selection process.

Thank you.

Best,

Michael Lang  
Oregon Senior Policy Manager  
Wild Salmon Center  
(503) 890-3012



To: Governor Tina Kotek, Oregon Board of Forestry

From: Wild Salmon Center, Oregon Wild, Sierra Club Oregon Chapter, Cascadia Wildlands, Bird Alliance of Oregon, MCAT, 350PDX, Oregon League of Conservation Voters, North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection, Great Old Broads for Wilderness - Cascade-Volcanoes Chapter

Date: February 18, 2025

Re: State Forester Values, Qualifications and Priorities

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Dear Governor Kotek, Chair Kelly and Members of the Oregon Board of Forestry,

The Board of Forestry is tasked with hiring the next state forester to lead the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) in responding to unprecedented challenges and opportunities. These include responding to the threats of climate change and fulfilling its goal of being a national leader in climate-smart forestry, protecting communities from wildfires, implementing the Private Forest Accord, adopting a new Western Oregon State Forest Management Plan, finalizing the Habitat Conservation Plans for private forests and western Oregon state forests, restructuring the ODF's revenue model, and restoring the public's trust in the agency to operate with transparency, accountability and respect for all people.

Given the broad scope of these needs, the next state forester should be a visionary leader who can bring about the structural and cultural changes necessary for fulfilling the agency's responsibilities. These include:

- A deep understanding of ecological forest management and support for its implementation.
- Thorough understanding of the threats of climate change and biodiversity loss, an understanding of the incredible value and potential of natural climate solutions, and a demonstrated commitment to addressing these challenges and opportunities.
- A track record of transparency in decision-making and public accountability for decisions.
- Strong communication skills and willingness to listen to all communities, partners, agencies and key stakeholders.

- A skilled manager able to provide leadership, direction, and support for the ODF and who can engage effectively with the Board of Forestry, Governor's office, media, and the public.
- Proven commitment and experience in advancing diversity, equity and inclusion throughout an organizational structure and creating a culture of respect and inclusion.
- A track record of requiring the highest professional standards for employees.
- Experience with fire management and ecology, proactive responses to wildfire focused on community protection.
- Experience in working with elected officials to diversify and secure funding necessary to fulfill the agency's statutory responsibilities.

### **Priorities for the next state forester**

- Strategic Planning: Develop an agency strategic plan with "SMART" goals, objectives, strategies, and action plans. In early 2023, Governor Kotek directed state agencies to develop strategic plans by June 1, 2024. Agency strategic plans are required to follow an outline provided by the Department of Administrative Services and include, at a minimum, specific, achievable, relevant and time-bound (SMART) goals and objectives, strategies, action plans, and monitoring and evaluation requirements. The ODF currently lacks a comprehensive strategic plan containing these mandatory components.
- Implement the Climate Change and Carbon Plan (Climate Plan), approved by the Board of Forestry in 2021, with SMART goals, strategies, tactics, measurable outcomes and timely monitoring and evaluation. Implement the Climate Plan's goals of establishing Oregon as a national leader in climate-smart forestry. Create a project manager position to lead implementation of the plan. Establish benchmarks for progress in meeting SMART goals and require regular reports to the Board of Forestry on progress implementing the Climate Plan.
- Complete implementation of the Private Forest Accord, finalize the Private Forest Accord Habitat Conservation Plan for private forests (PFA HCP), and receive a federal incidental take permit by the end of 2027.
- Advance ecological forest management principles for state forests through the adoption of a new Western Oregon State Forest Management Plan.
- Finalize the Western Oregon State Forest Habitat Conservation Plan by early 2026 and approve incidental take permits.
- Improve public notice and engagement in decision-making, including engaging communities and surrounding landowners in Annual Operations Plans for state forests.

We encourage the Board and the Governor to engage in an open and inclusive process for hiring the next state forester and our groups look forward to participating in the process.

Sincerely,

Joseph Youren  
Forest Issues Director  
Seven Capes Bird Alliance

Casey Kulla  
State Forest Policy Coordinator  
Oregon Wild

Grace Brahler  
Wildlands Director  
Cascadia Wildlands

Joe Liebezeit  
Director of Statewide Conservation  
Bird Alliance of Oregon

Rand Schenck  
Forestry and Natural Lands Lead  
Mobilizing Climate Action Together (MCAT)

Eliza Walton  
Coalition Director  
Oregon League of Conservation Voters

Brenna Bell  
Forest Climate Manager  
350PDX

Nancy Webster  
President  
North Coast Communities for Watershed  
Protection

Damon Motz-Storey  
Chapter Director  
Sierra Club Oregon Chapter

Darlene Chirman  
Leadership Team, Cascade-Volcanoes  
Chapter  
Great Old Broads For Wilderness

Michael Lang  
Oregon Senior Policy Manager  
Wild Salmon Center

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## New State Forester

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**From** Rhonda Piasecki <coyotevibe@yahoo.com>

**Date** Sun 3/2/2025 6:57 PM

**To** FORESTRY Boardof \* ODF <boardofforestry@odf.oregon.gov>

You don't often get email from coyotevibe@yahoo.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

I'm writing to urge all the members of the board to focus on hiring a new state forester who is committed to the following:

- Responds to the threats of climate change and implements the Climate Change and Carbon Plan.
- Fulfills the Department of Forestry's goal of being a [national leader in climate-smart forestry](#).
- Protect communities from wildfires.
- Implement the Private Forest Accord.
- Adopt a new Western Oregon State Forest Management Plan.
- Finalize the Habitat Conservation Plans for private forests and western Oregon state forests.
- Restructure the ODF's revenue model.
- Restore the public's trust in the agency to operate with transparency, accountability and respect for all people.

It has been scientifically proven that old growth trees in addition to providing habitat for sensitive species and taking carbon out of the atmosphere, also provide a very important interconnected underground network that help nourish other trees in the forest. Why are these trees being logged? They should be protected no matter what. These old growth trees are not only important for clean water and air here in Oregon, but affect climate change around the world.

I also encourage this committee to focus on measure that would increase carbon storage in our state forests and safeguard our public resources for our children and future generations.

Thank you for listening,  
Rhonda Piasecki

Sent from my iPhone

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## A New State Forester Who Is An Advocate For Coastal Communities

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**From** stanette@charter.net <stanette@charter.net>

**Date** Mon 3/3/2025 9:15 PM

**To** FORESTRY Boardof \* ODF <BoardofForestry@odf.oregon.gov>; Governor Kotek \* GOV  
<Governor.Kotek@oregon.gov>; HUNTINGTON Geoff \* GOV <geoff.huntington@oregon.gov>

**Cc** FERRARI Chandra Alene \* GOV <Chandra.Alene.FERRARI@oregon.gov>

 1 attachment (50 KB)

Shibui\_ Ancient Forests of Oregon.pdf;

You don't often get email from stanette@charter.net. [Learn why this is important](#)

For your consideration, please see attached letter from a concerned citizen. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Stanette Klatt

March 3, 2025

To: Governor Kotek, Senior Natural Resource Advisor Geoff Huntington, Natural Resources Policy Advisor Chandra Ferrari, and members of the Board of Forestry:

**RE: Coastal Forest Communities**

I am writing to express my concern for the preservation of our forest communities, including all native flora and fauna. There must be an ecological approach to forest management, not just the trees, but the complexities of a multi layered canopy. My heart breaks as I think about the trees that were toppled during the infamous 2008 wind storm. Prior to the storm, for example, the route along Hwy 30 appeared to be thriving; however, as the winds revealed, this was a mere fringe of trees that were left to give the illusion of a healthy ecosystem. These trees fell like matchsticks because they stood alone - without the naturally occurring buffer provided by deciduous trees, shrubs, and other plants that would have been there without the dubious forest management practice that doomed this system.

I am hopeful that much was learned from this mistake, and that future decisions will take into consideration the systems as a whole; not to be parcelled out in bits and pieces like crumbs tossed to voters.

Additionally, please consider that a compromised environment can lead to increased wildfires, runoff, loss of soil and landslides. We need an ecological approach towards managing the entire forests, and must work to preserve the few parcels of mature forest left intact, which is a small percentage of Clatsop State Forest..

I urge you to take these concerns into consideration when reviewing the CVs of the candidates for our next Oregon State Forester.

Sincerely,  
Stanette Klatt  
Astoria, Oregon

Oregon Board of Forestry, March 5, 2025

Dear Chair Kelly, acting State Forester Skinner, Members of the Board:  
my name is Susan Banyas. I am a resident of Astoria.

I am speaking today to the issue of appointing a new state forester.

I encourage you to hire a forester who commits to upholding your own mission statement envisioning Oregon as a leader in climate change mitigation and adaptation--“climate smart socially equitable forest policies.”

a forester who

comes to Clatsop County to meet the people who live here-- activists, scientists, elected officials, designers, homeowners, loggers—and engages in open, multi-disciplinary conversations regarding work force, education, and regional economics.

a forester who

will finalize the Habitat Conservation Plan and protect healthy, mature forests, who will take a moral and ethical stand to protect our great forest reserves, one of the three most carbon dense forests in the world, as a life force, as life itself.

a forester who

is willing to restructure ODF’s revenue model and adopt a truly sustainable road map, who implements the Climate Change and Carbon Plan and the Private Forest Accords, who develops community-centered networks to build resilience and mitigate climate instability locally, instead of adopting “solutions” posed by the industry creating the climate problems and conditions that could lead to severe wildfires. Plantation tree farms are not a “green solution.”

a forester who

will advocate for the return of a severance tax—a harvest tax—to force the corporations who cut down our forests to pay taxes like everyone else, providing revenue to fight and prevent wildfires.

A forester who works to level the playing field of “forestry management” so that trees are harvested on behalf of the commonwealth, the common good, with gratitude for their nurturing beauty and strength.

Thank you and all the best in the search.

Susan Banyas

1421 Irving Ave., Astoria, OR 97103

susanbanyas.com    susanbanyas@gmail.com



Dan Newton  
6600 Hayhurst Rd  
Yoncalla, OR 97499  
April 23, 2025

My name is Dan Newton. I am a family forest landowner in Douglas County, with 630 acres that we have managed on a sustainable basis for more than 40 years. I am a professional forester, who has worked in the industry for more than 40 years, a member of the Society of American Foresters, and currently serving as President-Elect for the Oregon Small Woodlands Association. I have worked collaboratively on two ODF stream rule committees and was a founding member of the Watershed Research Cooperative and the Hinkle Creek Watershed Research project.

There are many attributes that a successful state forester should have. In addition to a number of leadership competencies, the state forester should have a deep understanding of forestry. I think of forestry as an applied science that also includes biology, silviculture, economics, ecology, hydrology, fire suppression, careful stewardship, and other factors, including politics. The state forester should have training and experience in these, including time as a field forester. In addition to the competence in forestry, the state forester should have experience as a leader where they have demonstrated the following:

- Good communication skills
- Self-accountability
- Good character
- Ability to recognize and resolve conflict
- Drive to succeed
- Treating people with respect

ODF is a large and complex organization. The state forester must understand the larger picture and the entire suite of responsibilities while understanding the details of each division. State Forests, Forest Resources, Fire Protection, and other programs all have their own work plans and operate differently. For those programs and staff to be successful, the agency must have a leader who understands those details and can guide them through challenging times.

Stakeholders need to be able to trust that the decisions of the State Forester are made based on science and an understanding of the costs and benefits of those decisions. To build that trust, it takes experience and subject matter expertise. The state forester must understand rural economies and natural resource-dependent communities – those who

will feel the effects of decisions most acutely. In addition, the state forester must understand the needs of small woodland owners, who provide an important role in both stewardship and timber supply.

We are at a crucial time with the challenges and opportunities facing ODF. Implementing the PFA, navigating the state lands HCP, increasing wildfire response, and surmounting the sometime conflicting public pressure, these issues require steady leadership and a fundamental understanding of their complexities.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Dan Newton

**COLLINS Eleni \* ODF**

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**From:** oregon-gov-web-services@egov.com  
**Sent:** Friday, April 25, 2025 12:26 PM  
**To:** FORESTRY Boardof \* ODF  
**Subject:** General  
**Attachments:** formsubmission.csv

Name	Josephine Koehne
Email	josephine.koehne
Subject	General
Comments	Qualifications for next State Forester: Should have a wide Forestry background in forest ecology, timber management, harvesting practices, and the current economics of the forest products industry who is well versed in recent science on these topics (climate smart forestry practices and forest product markets). Should also have a firm understanding of Oregon's unique legislative process, ODF history, agency funding and timber taxation. Have experience administering a large agency with a huge budget but will pay great attention to details (i.e., not a generalist). Someone who will hire someone with authority in charge of responding to the climate crisis who understands its impact on forest ecology, wildlife habitat, and forest degradation and truly understands new, extreme wildfire behavior. A person with strong values and commitment who will fight fearlessly for them in the face of strong opposition and political pressure. Yes, a very rare individual indeed!

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**Submission Date:** 04/25/2025 02:25 PM CST

**Submission ID:** 5a782d68-013f-4473-aef6-15ab0444d3be

**Record ID:**

**COLLINS Eleni \* ODF**

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**From:** oregon-gov-web-services@egov.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 27, 2025 8:07 PM  
**To:** FORESTRY Boardof \* ODF  
**Subject:** General  
**Attachments:** formsubmission.csv

Name	Laurie Wayburn
Email	lwayburn@pacificforest.org
Subject	General
Comments	re: Selection of Oregon State Forester Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments regarding important qualities of the next State Forester. Oregon's forests are amongst the most productive and diverse in the world. The provide essential water supplies, world class timber, recreation and much more. Faced with a complex and shifting landscape, Oregon's State Forester must be have a solid grounding in ecology to ensure the critical watershed, biodiversity and climate resilience functions of our forests as well as ongoing timber production. That broad systems understanding is essential to successfully address the multiple stressors and demands on our forests. Please consider this perspective as you rank candidates.

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**Submission Date:** 04/27/2025 10:07 PM CST

**Submission ID:** 8f7d090d-182b-44f5-b144-1a23d423b437

**Record ID:**

**COLLINS Eleni \* ODF**

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**From:** oregon-gov-web-services@egov.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 26, 2025 5:48 PM  
**To:** FORESTRY Boardof \* ODF  
**Subject:** General  
**Attachments:** formsubmission.csv

Name	Wendy Gerlach
Email	wendygerlach@comcast.net
Subject	General
Comments	<p>To the Board of Forestry: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the qualifications and priorities appropriate for the Oregon State Forester. The State Forester should be experienced in forest management including the goals of the Vision for Oregon's Forests, namely management for ecosystems, climate resilience, and workforce and infrastructure. The State Forester should be forward-looking, like the Vision, and work to achieve ecological and economic outcomes through climate-smart forestry and revenue streams from non-traditional forest products such as carbon sequestration and ecosystem services. There is potential for ecological and financial uplift for Oregon communities through programs such as OWEB's easement and acquisition programs, the federal Forest Legacy Program, and the Private Forest Accord Mitigation Grant Fund land acquisition program, all of which offer opportunities for landowners (small forest landowners as well as larger landowners) to diversity revenue streams by sale of easements or fee title on ecologically important lands, often with the benefit of increasing income between harvest rotations. It will be important for the Forester to understand and support these programs, and to commit to working with other Oregon agencies, federal partners, tribes, nonprofits, and landowners in doing so. The State Forester should further the Vision's goal of organizational excellence by continuing the advances made through the Private Forest Accord and the various Habitat Conservation Plans that are underway. Maintaining and supporting past achievements of the Board and Department are essential in order to protect past investment and to gain the benefits of past work. The State Forester will need to prioritize building on existing achievements and policy decisions, as a matter of efficiency as well as effective natural resource management. The State Forester, and the Department, have a mission of serving all Oregonians and making the state healthier ecologically and financially. I look forward to having a State Forester who is committed to implementing the goals of the Board's Vision, who keeps momentum on existing achievements, and who approaches Oregon's forest management with creativity and innovation. Thank you for your work for the State, and for your attention to these comments, Wendy Gerlach</p>

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**Submission Date:** 04/26/2025 07:47 PM CST

**Submission ID:** e845552d-0ba6-4bbd-ae6e-7b77b922b773

**Record ID:**



# Private Forest Accord Implementation

Board of Forestry Retreat  
April 23, 2025







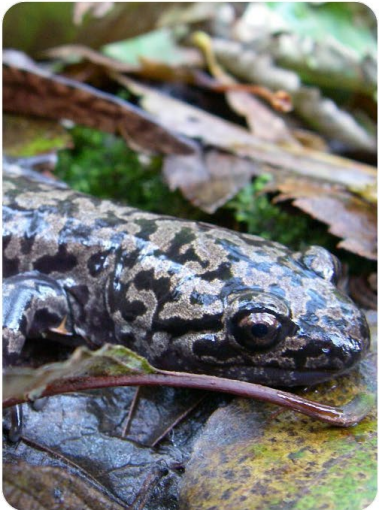
# Implementation Status

<b>SB 1501 (2022) Statutory Requirements</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Status</b>
Board of Forestry (BOF)- Adopt PFA-based rules	11/30/2022	Complete
BOF - Appoint Adaptive Management Program Committee	11/30/2022	Complete
BOF - Submit a proposed draft HCP	12/31/2022	Complete
BOF - If needed, amend PFA-based rule package	7/1/2023	Complete
BOF - Appoint Independent Research and Science Team	Not Specified	Complete
BOF - Start tethered logging rulemaking	3/17/2025	Complete
BOF - Complete post-disturbance harvest rulemaking	11/30/2025	Started
BOF - Report to the legislature whether ITPs were issued by 12/31/2027 and if a petition was received from a PFA Report author	2/1/2028 or earlier	No action needed yet
BOF - Report implementation progress to legislative committees	Annually	Ongoing
ODF - Report information on completed Small Forestland Investment in Stream Habitat (SFISH) grant program projects to legislative committees and the public	Annually	Ongoing



# PFA Habitat Conservation Plan

- What is an HCP?
- Current status
- Next steps in HCP development





# Small Forestland Owner Office

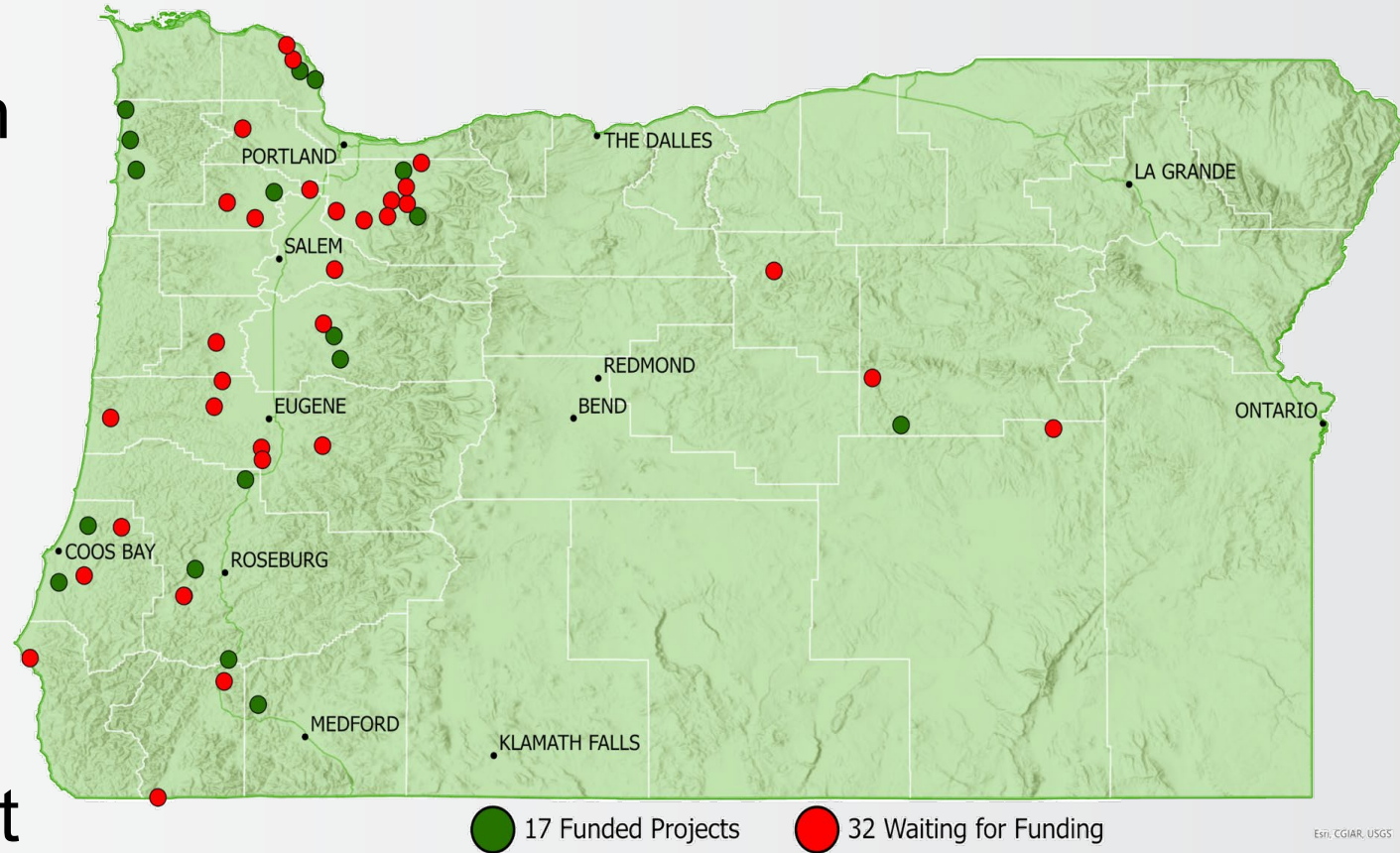
- Small Forestland Owner Foresters
- Private Forest Accord Programs & Incentives
- Financial and Technical Assistance
- Landowner Outreach & Education





# PFA Programs for Small Forestland Owners

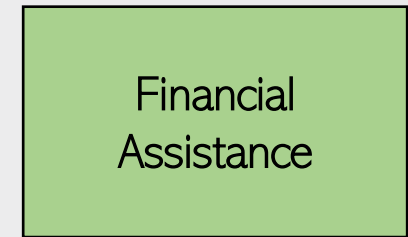
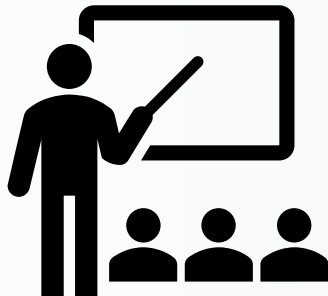
- Small Forestland Investment in Stream Habitat (SFISH) grant program
- SFO Alternatives
  - SFO Minimum Option
  - Road Condition Assessments
- Forest Conservation Tax Credit





# Financial & Technical Assistance Programs

A suite of state and federal programs enable the delivery of financial, technical or both types of assistance to landowners.





# Training & Outreach



2025 Reforestation Training Series  
Above: Lava Nursery Inc., Hood River, OR  
Left: IFA Nurseries, Elkton, OR

[Sample Video](#)





# Partners in Implementation

- Committee for Family Forestlands
- Partnership for Forestry Education
- Oregon Forest Resources Institute





# Questions?

