



# Natural and Working Lands Fund

## Forestry Natural Climate Solutions Fund Update

3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025





# BACKGROUND

HB 3409 (2023) established natural climate solution policy for the state and created the Fund to support implementation of NCS

Four agencies receive funds (OWEB, ODFW, ODA, ODF)





2023: \$10 million allocation

2024: Commission approved 13 proposed projects

Annual report due to the legislature Sept 15th of each year



# FUND AIMS

-  Provide incentives, technical assistance, and financial assistance to advance natural climate solutions
-  Prioritize programs administered or proposed by an environmental justice community or Tribe
-  Prioritize the use of existing programs and seek to leverage federal investments
-  Optimize the social, health, ecological, climate resilience, and economic co-benefits of natural climate solutions



## CLIMATE ACTION COMMISSION ROLE *(ORS 468A.189)*



Commission determines amount to be allocated

- Ability of agency
- Other sources of funding



Consults with agencies prior to decision-making to understand proposed uses



Reviews progress of, and barriers to, implementing NCS



Coordinates on development and implementation of NCS programs and activities

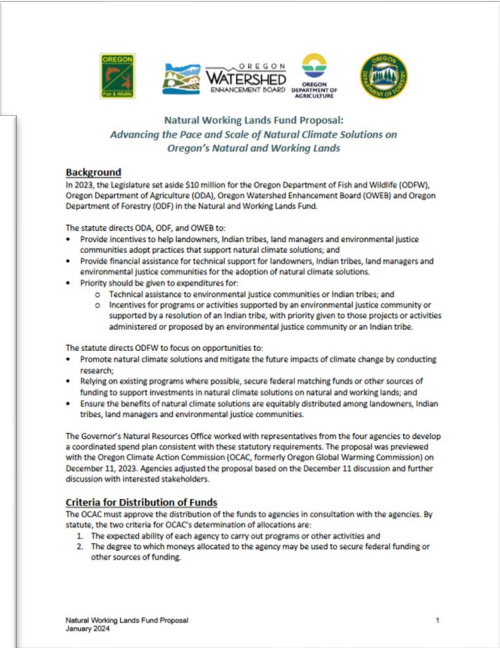
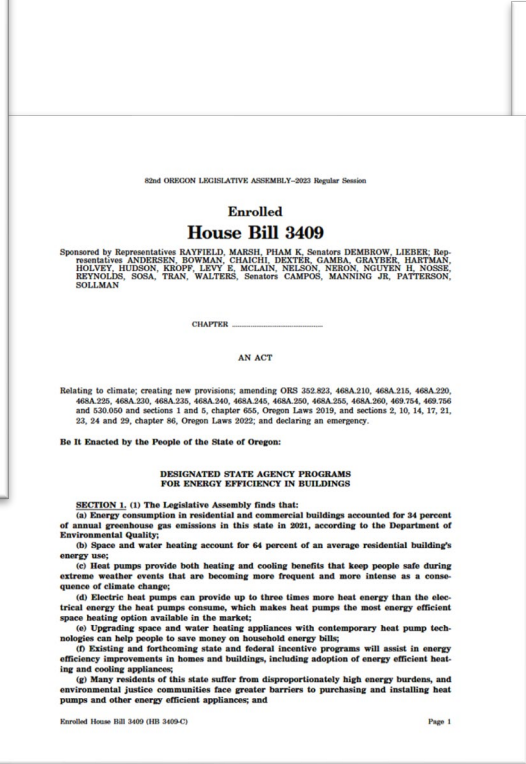
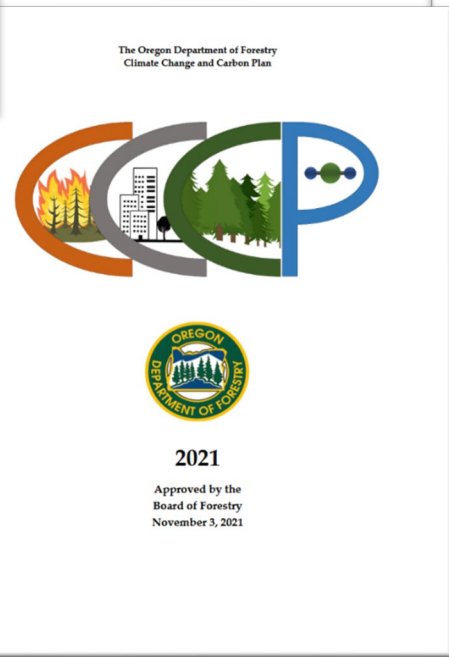
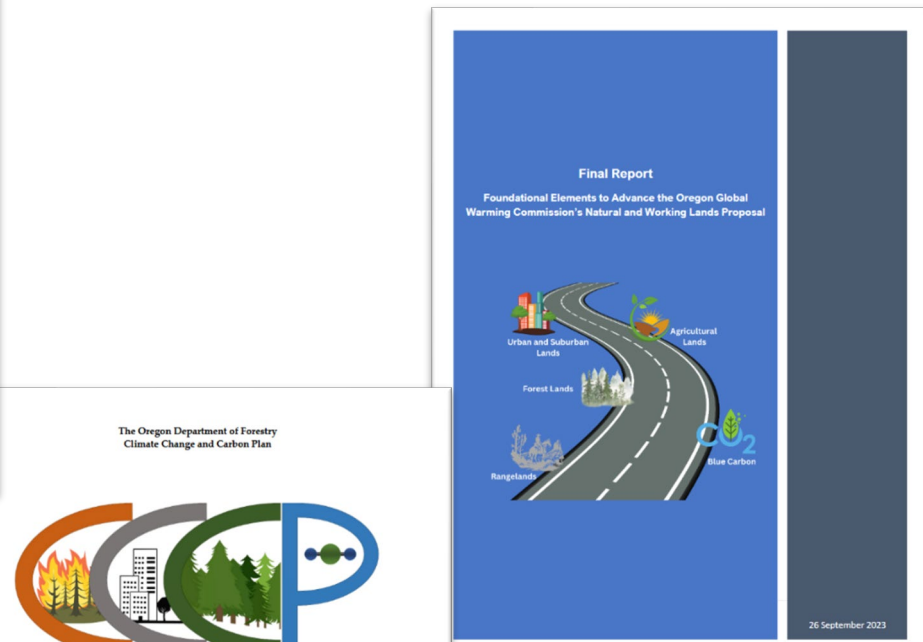
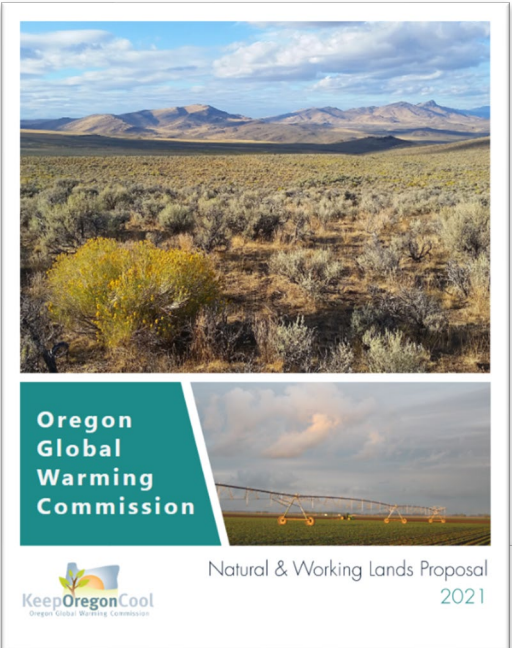


ODOE staff supports the Commission in these duties.

- Statute also allows the state to contract to support these duties.



# PROJECT DEVELOPMENT





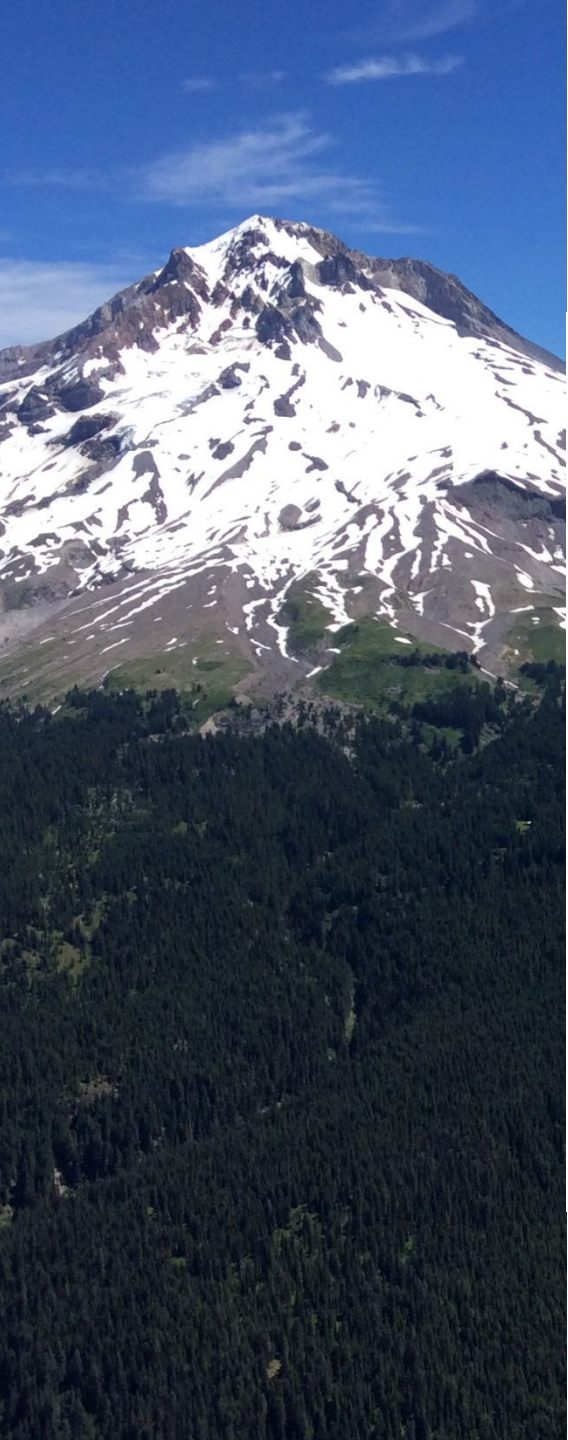
## PROJECT METRICS



### **Natural Climate Solutions – Metrics for Tracking Outcomes**

- Acres treated/restored (by treatment type)
- Seeding/planting rates/density (by species)
- Ecological function repaired
- Seedlings grown (by species and estimated future impact/purpose)
- Opportunities for bidirectional learning





# CLIMATE ACTION COMMISSION ROLE

ODOE Deliverable	OCAC Meeting Target Dates (subject to change)	OCAC Role	ODOE Deadline
N&WL Fund Annual Report	Aug	Approve	September 15
N&WL Workforce Needs Study	Jun/Aug/Dec	Consult	December 31
N&WL Land-Based Inventory	Jun/Oct/Dec	Consult	December 31
GHG Reduction Forecast (TIGHGER 2.0)	Jun/Oct-Nov/Dec	Consult	December 31
N&WL Metrics	Sept-Oct/Feb 2026	Consult	March 2026
N&WL Non-Binding Goals	Jan-Mar 2026	Approve	April 2026

# CLIMATE ACTION COMMISSION ROLE

## NWL Committee

Position	First	Last	Organization	Title
Tribal culture, customs and government	Katherine	Minthorn	Inter-Tribal Agriculture Council	Associate Director-Tech Assistance Network
Local government	Ellen	Hammond	Jefferson County SWCD	Conservation Specialist
Urban forestry or parks management	Jonathan	Soll	Metro	Science and Stewardship Division Manager
Forestry or forest products	Jason	Callahan	Green Diamond	Policy and Communications Manager
Forestry or forest products	Betsy	Earls	Weyerhaeuser	Government Affairs Manager
Forestry or forest products (Private landowner <5,000 acres)	Ben	Hayes	Springboard Forestry and Hyla Woods	Owner and Forester, Hyla Woods
Agriculture	Jocelyn	Bridson	Tillamook County Creamery Association	Director, Environment and Community Impact
Livestock	Aubri	Spear	Sustainable NW	Regenerative Ranching Program Manager
Blue carbon	Jazmin	Dagostino	The Pew Charitable Trusts	Policy Associate
Environmental Justice	VACANT	VACANT	VACANT	VACANT
Conservation or environmental management	Lauren	Link	The Nature Conservancy	Policy Associate
Conservation or environmental management	Megan	Kemple	Oregon Climate and Agriculture Network	Executive Director
Landowner technical assistance	Dean	Moberg	Tualatin SWCD	Director
Landowner technical assistance	Andrea	Kreiner	Oregon Association of Conservation Districts	Executive Director





# CLIMATE ACTION COMMISSION ROLE



## **Contract Status:**

- Land-based Net Carbon Inventory- Fully executed July 7, 2025
- Natural Climate Solution Workforce Development and Training Program Needs
  - Study- Fully executed June 25, 2025
- Natural Climate Solutions and Metrics RFP- Posted July 14th, 2025, in contracting process

# ODF SUMMARY

Increase adoption of climate-smart forestry practices for sequestration and continued ecosystem function as forest types shift:

- ❖ \$1.5M for implementation of Climate-Smart Forestry as outlined in Climate Change and Carbon Plan
- ❖ \$1M to incentivize Climate-Smart Forestry in partnership with Tribes and traditionally marginalized landowners
- ❖ \$750k to build capacity for climate-ready seed and seedlings at existing ODF facility



# ODF UPDATE

## Implementation underway at the J.E. Schroeder Seed Orchard.

- Management and harvest planning for existing, acorn-bearing Oregon white oak for use now and in the future
- Irrigation and water supply planning and implementation
- Partnering with USFS for new future climate ready orchards
- Ensuring infrastructure is ready for future and existing seed storage (current inventory ~\$14 million).



# ODF FUTURE INTENT

Complete the previous allocated projects

Work to expand interest and connections at the local level

Continue to produce and coproduce relevant and meaningful science and reports

Work with the refined proposal process for any future allocations

Revise and update the Climate Change and Carbon Plan



# CONTACT INFORMATION

## Questions

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