



Natural and Working Lands Fund

Forestry Natural Climate Solutions Fund Update

3rd 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.

Oregon Global Warming Commission Natural & Working Lands Proposal KeepOregonCool

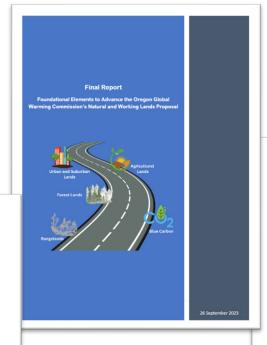
PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

The Oregon Department of Forestry Climate Change and Carbon Plan





Approved by the **Board of Forestry** November 3, 2021



82nd OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY-2023 Regular Session

Enrolled House Bill 3409

AN ACT

Relating to climate; creating new provisions; amending ORS 352.823, 468A.210, 468A.215, 468A.206, 668A.226, 468A.206, 468A.206

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon

SECTION 1. (1) The Legislative Assembly finds that:

(a) Energy consumption in residential and commercial buildings accounted for 34 percent of annual greenhouse gas emissions in this state in 2021, according to the Department of Environmental Quality:

(b) Space and water heating account for 64 percent of an average residential building's

(b) Space and water heating account nor 6s percent or an average energy use;

(c) Heat pumps provide both heating and cooling benefits that keep people safe during extreme weather events that are becoming more frequent and more intense as a consequence of climate change;

(d) Electric heat pumps can provide up to three times more heat energy than the electronic properties of the energy efficient space heating option available in the market;

(e) Upgrading space and water heating appliances with contemporary heat pump technologies can help people to save money on household energy bills;

(f) Existing and forthcoming state and federal incentive programs will assist in energy efficiency improvements in homes and buildings, including adoption of energy efficient heat-

efficiency improvements in homes and buildings, including adoption of energy efficient heat-ing and cooling appliances;

(g) Many residents of this state suffer from disproportionately high energy burdens, and environmental justice communities face greater barriers to purchasing and installing heat pumps and other energy efficient appliances; and

Enrolled House Bill 3409 (HB 3409-C)







Natural Working Lands Fund Proposal: Advancing the Pace and Scale of Natural Climate Solutions on Oregon's Natural and Working Lands

In 2023, the Legislature set aside \$10 million for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), Oregon Department of Agriculture (DDA), Oregon Watersheld Enhancement Board (OWEB) and Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) in the Natural and Working Lands Fund.

- The statute direct OOA, OOF, and OVER but.

 Provide Procedures to help binderware, fortian tribes, lind managers and environmental justice communities adopt practices that support natural climate solutions; and Provide Renaucial sustainance for technical support for landawing, rigiding tribes, land managers and environmental justice communities for the adoption of natural climate solutions.

 Printing Valoud be jeinn to oppenditure for:
- orny should be given to expenditures for or Technical assistance to environmental justice communities or Indian tribes; and o Incentives for programs or activities supported by an environmental justice community or supported by a resolution of an Indian tribe, with priority given to those projects or activities administered or proposed by an environmental justice community or an Indian tribe.

The statute directs ODFW to focus on opportunities to: Promote natural climate solutions and mitigate the future impacts of climate change by conducting

- Relying on existing programs where possible, secure federal matching funds or other sources of funding to support investments in natural climate solutions on natural and working lands; and funding the benefits of natural climate solutions are equitably distributed among landsowners, Indian
- tribes, land managers and environmental justice communities.

The Governor's Natural Resources Office worked with representatives from the four agencies to develop a coordinated spend plan consistent with these statutory requirements. The proposal was previewed with the Oregon Climate Action Commission (DCAC, Formerly Oregon Dloshi Warming Commission) on December 11, 2023. Agencies adjusted the proposal based on the December 11 discussion and further

Criteria for Distribution of Funds

The OCAC must approve the distribution of the funds to agencies in consultation with the agencies. By statute, the two criteria for OCAC's determination of allocations are:

1. The expected ability of each agency to carry out programs or other activities and
2. The degree to which moneys allocated to the agency may be used to secure federal funding or

other sources of funding.

Natural Working Lands Fund Proposal January 2024



PROJECT METRICS



- 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



- 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

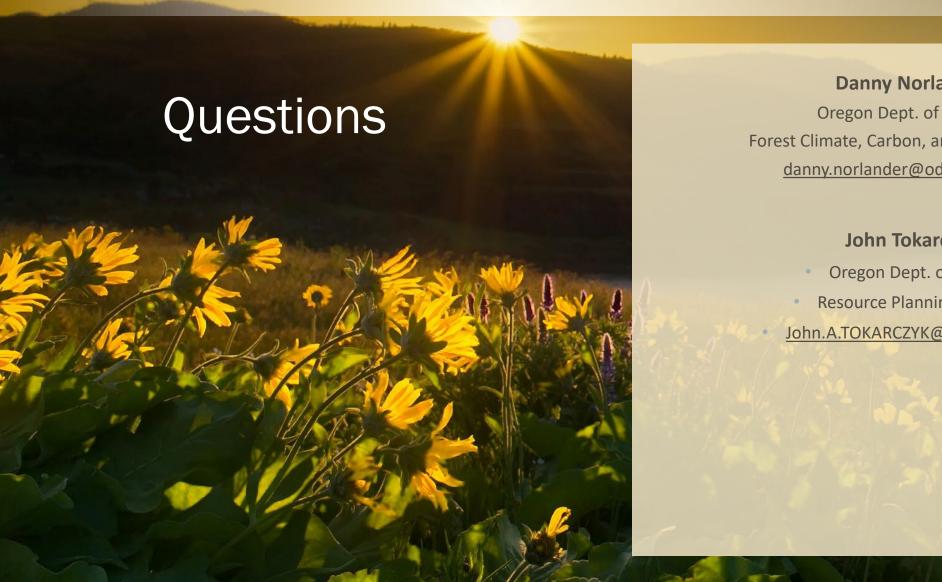
Work to expand interest and connections at the local level

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



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