Executive Order 25-26
Climate Resilience Workplan

Board of Forestry Review

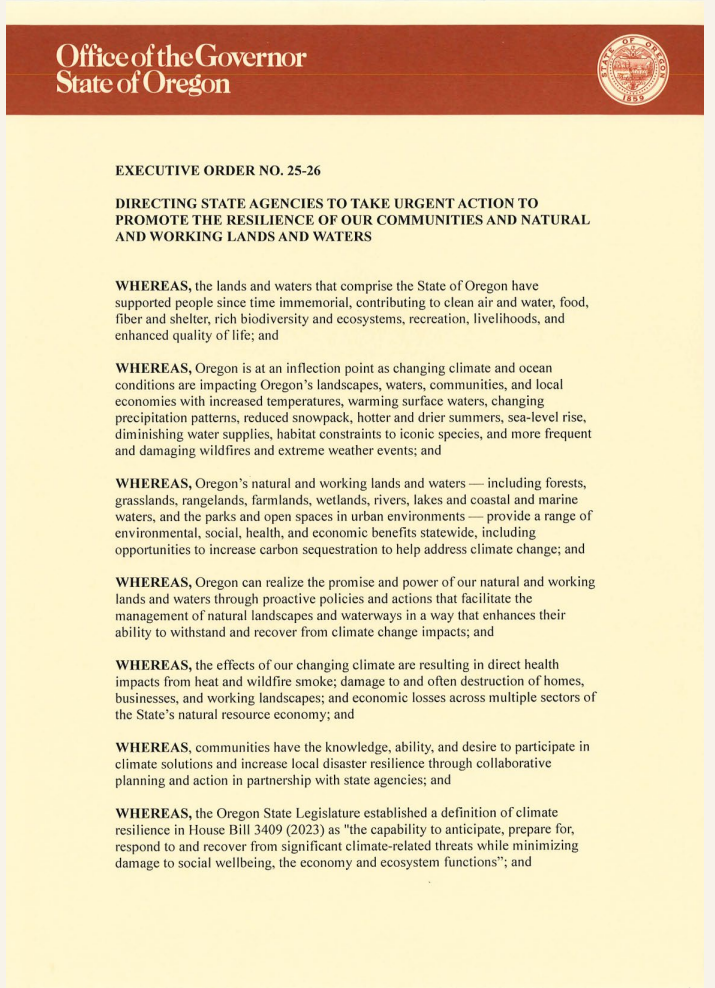
EO 25-26 Climate Resilience Overview

EO Emphasis

Climate impacts are affecting landscapes, waters, communities, and local economies - forests, wildfire, smoke, drought, snowpack, and working landscapes.

EO Response

Use state agency programs, partnerships, and reporting to **promote climate resilient natural and working lands and communities**.



Office of the Governor
State of Oregon

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 25-26

DIRECTING STATE AGENCIES TO TAKE URGENT ACTION TO PROMOTE THE RESILIENCE OF OUR COMMUNITIES AND NATURAL AND WORKING LANDS AND WATERS

WHEREAS, the lands and waters that comprise the State of Oregon have supported people since time immemorial, contributing to clean air and water, food, fiber and shelter, rich biodiversity and ecosystems, recreation, livelihoods, and enhanced quality of life; and

WHEREAS, Oregon is at an inflection point as changing climate and ocean conditions are impacting Oregon's landscapes, waters, communities, and local economies with increased temperatures, warming surface waters, changing precipitation patterns, reduced snowpack, hotter and drier summers, sea-level rise, diminishing water supplies, habitat constraints to iconic species, and more frequent and damaging wildfires and extreme weather events; and

WHEREAS, Oregon's natural and working lands and waters — including forests, grasslands, rangelands, farmlands, wetlands, rivers, lakes and coastal and marine waters, and the parks and open spaces in urban environments — provide a range of environmental, social, health, and economic benefits statewide, including opportunities to increase carbon sequestration to help address climate change; and

WHEREAS, Oregon can realize the promise and power of our natural and working lands and waters through proactive policies and actions that facilitate the management of natural landscapes and waterways in a way that enhances their ability to withstand and recover from climate change impacts; and

WHEREAS, the effects of our changing climate are resulting in direct health impacts from heat and wildfire smoke; damage to and often destruction of homes, businesses, and working landscapes; and economic losses across multiple sectors of the State's natural resource economy; and

WHEREAS, communities have the knowledge, ability, and desire to participate in climate solutions and increase local disaster resilience through collaborative planning and action in partnership with state agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon State Legislature established a definition of climate resilience in House Bill 3409 (2023) as "the capability to anticipate, prepare for, respond to and recover from significant climate-related threats while minimizing damage to social wellbeing, the economy and ecosystem functions"; and

EO Sections and Directives

I. FOSTER RESILIENT LANDS, WATERS AND COMMUNITIES

Define resilience attributes

Keep working lands and waters working

Conserve natural lands and waters

Lead by example on state-managed lands

20 Year Strategy, Community and Wildfire resilience

II. ACCOUNTABILITY, COORDINATION, AND IMPLEMENTATION

Biennial Plans
Agency workplans with targets appropriate to each agency's intersection with the Order.

Board Review
Plans are presented to agency boards or commissions for discussion, review, comment, and public testimony.

Budget Linkage
Future biennial plans inform ARB/GRB development.

Coordination
GNRO and interagency structures coordinate implementation and engagement.

ODF Climate Resilience Biennial Workplan Directives

EO Directives - FOSTER RESILIENT LANDS, WATERS AND COMMUNITIES

Directive	Actions
1 **Resilience Attributes Information & metrics**	Contribute forest information to baseline conditions, Natural and Working Lands metrics, climate and forest change reporting
2 **Working Lands Programs & stewardship**	Administration of FPA and stewardship, existing tools, grants, incentives, and partnerships to support resilient working forests
3 **10×10 Conservation and Restoration**	Track qualifying forest protection, conservation, and restoration actions
4 **Lead by example State-managed lands**	Climate change and forest resilience as an element of State Forests planning and management
5 **20 Year Resilience Strategy Wildfire & communities**	Implement 20 Year Strategy, prescribed fire, Firewise, PRO support, and community wildfire resilience efforts.

1 Resilience Attributes Information & metrics

1.1 Interagency team develop resilience attributes

Literature informed and OWEB/ODFW led – included input from Agencies, Tribes, Federal and local partners, researchers, and conservation partners.

ODF supported contributing forestry, forest-health, wildfire, working-lands, climate, and resource-management perspectives and metrics.

- Shared framework across agencies to apply according to authorities, programs, and responsibilities.

1.2 Interagency team develop baseline conditions

Contribute forest monitoring, status, and restoration and treatment

- Inform forest information in statewide baseline conditions
- Tracking forest change and resilience related action over time

1.3 Consistency with Natural & Working Lands Metrics and Reporting

ODF has actively coordinated with OCAC and informed forest reporting, including forest carbon and forestland monitoring and change.

- Continued support informing forestland OCAC metrics and reporting



Connectivity within and across land and water to facilitate movement of organisms and ecological processes.



Diversity and complex habitats, landscapes, and aquatic systems.



Flood, fire, and other natural processes have space and time to sustain ecological function.



Natural and working lands and waters support, vibrant communities, lifeways, livelihoods, and stewardship.

2 Keep Oregon's Working Lands and Waters Working

The Order directs agencies to utilize resilience attributes to identify and improve programs, processes, and practices that protect and promote stewardship of working lands and waters to adapt to impacts from a changing climate.

ODF will advance FPA administration and supporting programs that support the stewardship, health, productivity, and retention of Oregon's working forests in partnership with landowners and collaborative partners.

FPA administration and stewardship functions encourage efficient forest practices to ensure:
- Continuous growing and harvesting of forest tree species and maintenance of forestlands
- Consistent with sound management of soil, air, water, fish and wildlife and scenic resources
- Providing long term environmental, economic, and social benefits

Supporting programs advance restoration and resilience by promoting stewardship to enhance environmental, economic and community sustainability.
- Programs span ownership types (small, family, industrial, urban and community, tribal, state and federal)
- Small Forestland Owner Office helps land owners reach economic, ecological and stewardship goals through assistance, outreach and education to support FPA compliance, technical and financial assistance (via Small Forestland Investment in Stream Habitat grant program, Forest Conservation Tax Credit program)
- Incentives Program administers federal and state grant and incentive programs to a variety of landowners and partners (Forest Legacy Program, Forest Stewardship Program, Emergency Forest Restoration Program, NRCS programs, the Small Forestland Grant Program and the Landscape Resiliency Program).

3 Conserve Natural Lands and Waters

The Order seeks support from agencies to Protect, Conserve, Connect, and Restore 10% of Oregon's Resource Lands and Waters over Ten Years.

ODF will contribute to Oregon's statewide 10 × 10 objective through forest protection, conservation, restoration, connection, forest-retention, and stewardship actions within or supported by Department programs. ODF will coordinate with the Governor's Office and partner agencies to track ODF contributions against the 2025 baseline.

Forest protection and conservation mechanisms include:

- Forest Legacy, conservation easements and durable conservation mechanisms that maintain forests
- Aquatic, riparian and terrestrial conservation actions under the Western Oregon State Forests Habitat Conservation Plan.

Forest restoration, connection, and resilience mechanisms include:

- Implementation of the 20-year Landscape Resiliency Strategy, Federal Forest Restoration Program and Good Neighbor Authority projects, Forest-health and fuels treatments, prescribed and beneficial fire, and post-disturbance reforestation. Enhancement activities in Riparian and Habitat Conservation Areas under the Western Oregon State Forests Habitat Conservation Plan.

4 Lead by Example – State Managed Lands

The order directs agencies that own or manage lands or waters to develop and implement strategies to enhance climate resilience as a co-benefit and ensure impacts of climate change are considered.

ODF will use existing State Forests planning and implementation processes to consider current and future climate conditions and enhance resilience consistent with governing authorities and management objectives.

- Incorporate climate and resilience considerations through the Western Oregon State Forests Management Plan related Implementation Plans, and Annual Operations Plans.
- Continue forest-health, restoration, habitat, aquatic, road, recreation, and other management activities that support resilient forest conditions.
- Monitor aquatic and forest conditions and disturbance patterns to inform adaptive management.
- Monitoring of forest and carbon conditions to support management decisions and stewardship.

Document the multiple ecological, social, and economic benefits provided by State Forests, including timber, habitat, clean water, recreation, education, carbon stewardship, and benefits to counties and rural communities.

5 Community and Wildfire Resilience

The Order charges agencies with implementing the 20-year Landscape Resiliency Plan, leveraging partnerships and using available programs and resources to reduce the risk of wildfire.

Implement the 20 Year Landscape Resiliency Strategy

ODF will advance implementation of Oregon's 20-Year Landscape Resiliency Strategy by coordinating existing programs, partnerships, and funding that support forest restoration, health, fuels reduction, habitat improvement, reforestation, cross-boundary treatments, and climate and ecological resilience.

The strategy utilizes a shared stewardship model which involves many partners, with large scale, cross-boundary, joint priorities working to align federal, state, and private investments to advance economic development and steward lands that can endure extreme fire, drought, and pests.

Create Fire Adapted Communities

ODF will support Fire-Adapted Communities by connecting community wildfire-risk reduction with forest management, fuels treatment, prescribed fire, and landscape-resilience work.

- Continue and expand Firewise outreach, technical assistance, community recognition, and coordination with Community Wildfire Protection Plans and related community wildfire-resilience efforts.
- Support the forest-management and landscape-treatment elements of Community Wildfire Protection Plans.
- Advance prescribed fire through the Certified Burn Manager Program, district support, partnerships, and appropriate Tribal collaboration on cultural burning.

II Reporting and Accountability

EO 25-26 establishes a framework for implementation, reporting, and accountability, including, Board review, consideration of resilience priorities in future budget development, and coordination among related plans and reporting processes.

The Order identifies the Forest Climate and Carbon Plan among existing reporting requirements to be assessed for opportunities to better inform related planning and reporting consistent with the Order.

ODF Reporting and Accountability

ODF will maintain its biennial Climate Resilience Work Plan to identify implementation actions and measures associated with the Department's responsibilities under EO 25-26.

Consistent with the Order's reporting and accountability direction, ODF will:

- Develop future biennial plans on a schedule and in a format that can inform Agency Request Budget and Governor's Recommended Budget development.

- Review applicable agency plans, reporting processes, and performance measures for opportunities to improve consistency, coordination, and reporting efficiency.

- Review and update the Climate Change and Carbon Plan to include relevant EO direction and support monitoring and reporting across forest adaptation, mitigation, and social and economic outcomes. The revision will improve coordination with Oregon's Natural and Working Lands metrics and related statewide climate and resilience reporting.

Questions