



NEWS RELEASE – for immediate release

More information: Julie Curtis – 503-986-5298; julie.curtis@state.or.us

Feb. 14, 2017

17-05

Land Board approves modification to potential sale of Elliott State Forest

Governor asks State Lands staff to consider public ownership option

Salem – The State Land Board today voted to continue with the Protocol for selling the Common School Lands within the Elliott State Forest. With Secretary of State Dennis Richardson and State Treasurer Tobias Read voting yes, and Governor Kate Brown voting no, the board approved a motion put forth by Treasurer Read:

- Continue working with Lone Rock Timber Management Company and their tribal partners (Elliott Forest LLC) on developing a purchase and sale agreement for 82,500 acres within the Elliott under the Protocol.
- Amend the Protocol to include: 1) a provision whereby the state may buy back up to \$25 million worth of acreage devoted to conservation; 2) incorporate Forest Stewardship Council principles into the agreement; and 3) give rights of first refusal to the five federally recognized tribes in western Oregon on any lands that are put up for sale after the transfer to Elliott Forest LLC.

At the end of the meeting, Governor Brown directed Department of State Lands director Jim Paul to investigate public ownership options for the forest, and report back to the Land Board at a future public meeting.

The State Land Board consists of Governor Kate Brown, Secretary of State Dennis Richardson and State Treasurer Tobias Read. The Department of State Lands administers diverse natural and fiscal resources. Many of the resources generate revenue for the Common School Fund, such as state-owned rangelands and timberlands, waterway leases, estates for which no will or heirs exist, and unclaimed property. Twice a year, the agency distributes fund investment earnings to support K-12 public schools. The agency also administers Oregon's Removal-Fill Law, which requires people removing or filling certain amounts of material in waters of the state to obtain a permit.

####

www.oregon.gov/dsl