



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

Department of State Lands

775 Summer Street NE, Suite 100

Salem, OR 97301-1279

(503) 986-5200

FAX (503) 378-4844

www.oregonstatelands.us

March 14, 2011

TO: The Honorable Richard Devlin
The Honorable Peter Buckley
The Honorable Dennis Richardson,
Co-Chairs, Joint Committee on Ways and Means

State Land Board

John A. Kitzhaber, MD
Governor

FROM: Louise Solliday, Director
Department of State Lands

Kate Brown
Secretary of State

RE: DSL Mission Achievement and Delivery of Services for 2011-13

Ted Wheeler
State Treasurer

The agency's mission is focused on generating revenues from sources constitutionally and statutorily dedicated to the Common School Fund. Maintaining and increasing revenue levels include considerations such as new uses of existing resources, longevity of resources, improved efficiencies, and reduction or realignment of expenses. The agency's success is evidenced by continued growth of the fund that results in larger distributions to schools.

During the 2011-09 biennium, the agency implemented technological strategies aimed at improving efficiencies, reducing paper and managing workload. Many of the projects were the direct result of staff research and recommendations. Examples include:

- Added an "on-line claims" module to the unclaimed property system. Claims inquiries continue to rise, resulting in turnaround time increasing from 30-40 days to 60-90 days. Adding the module allows claimants to file claims online, automates the entry of the information into the system, and fast-tracks approval and payment on claims meeting certain criteria. The agency expects to reduce the claim response time to 30 days or less without adding new staff.
- Developed Web-based application and reporting forms for placer mining. The automation of the placer mining application and annual reporting process increased compliance and reduced staff time for review and data entry.
- Developed new removal-fill administrative rules, effective March 1, to provide for notice-based permitting for certain types of activities and exempt some projects from permit requirements. By simplifying the processes, the agency is improving customer satisfaction, and can focus more attention on compliance monitoring and project review.

Looking forward, the agency has been working with entities interested in alternative energy development on state lands and the territorial sea. DSL has issued permits for wave energy studies, leased land for testing wind turbines, and is exploring the potential for geothermal sites. The agency recently signed its first solar power lease on state land in southeast Oregon.

Implementation of the 2006 – 2016 Asset Management Plan provides for increased revenues in the long term and includes selling non-productive, isolated parcels of land, developing commercial/industrial/residential sites in the Redmond/Bend area, and acquiring land with high revenue potential. The plan directs the agency and Land Board to retain core real estate assets and continually evaluate the land portfolio of the Common School Fund.