



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Department of State Lands

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December 28, 2010

State Land Board

Theodore R. Kulongoski
Governor

Kate Brown
Secretary of State

Ted Wheeler
State Treasurer

Jessica Keys
Environmental Justice Task Force
Office of the Governor
900 Court Street NE
Salem OR 97301

Re: DSL Annual Report – Calendar Year 2010

Dear Task Force Members:

In accordance with statutory annual reporting requirements, the Department of State Lands (DSL) respectfully submits this report to the Environmental Justice Task Force (EJTF).

DSL handles the day-to-day work of the State Land Board in managing the land and other resources dedicated to the Common School Fund. The agency is comprised of four divisions: Director's Office, (including the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve), Land Management, Wetlands and Waterways Conservation, and Finance and Administration (including the Unclaimed Property Program). As a designated natural resource agency, DSL is committed to actively assist the Task Force in the performance of its duties. DSL assigned the EJTF citizen advocate duties to a wetland specialist position in August 2008, and continues to support those responsibilities.

During 2010 the citizen advocate and members of the task force have participated in several outreach and educational opportunities, especially to build internal capacity and momentum with respect to Environmental Justice (EJ) and the goals of the task force. The citizen advocate and an unclaimed property staff member represented the agency at the EJTF-organized outreach event in March at Portland State University. The two employees answered the public's questions about our programs and searched for (and found) unclaimed property for event attendees. In September, Task Force member R. Will Collin participated in DSL's diversity training panel discussion of "Oregon's Urban-Rural Divide," attended by 35 DSL staff. This discussion focused on the values and attitudes toward, and differences in, access to local and state governments in different populations.

An initial training on Environmental Justice was provided in October to DSL management staff. Task Force member Jonathan Ostar presented "EJ 101" to 19 agency managers to begin building agency EJ capacity. This was followed by a discussion led by the citizen advocate on SB 420 (ORS 182.535 – 182.550), the EJTF proposed modifications to state agency managerial position descriptions and performance evaluations, and the expansion and continuation of internal discussions regarding possible improvements in agency outreach to EJ communities.



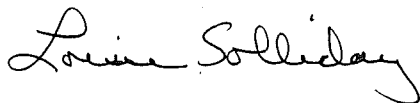
The department continues to be interested in incorporating the EJTF's mapping project product into the agency's existing responsibility to solicit public review and comment for regulatory or proprietary authorizations prior to decision-making. The EJTF has also discussed the possibility of additional language translation resources that agencies might combine with the above effort to increase accessibility within potentially identified EJ communities. The citizen advocate will be taking DEQ's i-Learn modules and working toward using them for further EJ training for management and staff.

DSL continues to coordinate with Oregon's 9 federally recognized tribal governments in accordance with DSL's government-to-government policy, detailed in DSL State Agency Coordination Plan. The department's government-to-government policy was originally established in August 1998 in response to the Governor's Executive Order No. EO 96-30 on state/tribal relations. Each section completed multiple activities and interactions with tribes including internal training, outreach, education and improvements to regulatory processing involving cultural resources. The department's 2010 annual government-to-government report detailing DSL's coordination with the tribes is available upon request.

DSL is a participant in the state agency director's Climate Change Adaptation Workgroup, which developed the Oregon Climate Change Adaptation Framework. This framework summarizes the likely effects of climate change in Oregon and identifies short-term priority actions and future steps needed to adapt to climate change at a state policy level. DSL's representatives to this workgroup are aware that some likely effects of climate change may have disproportionate implications for EJ communities. The work of the EJTF will help DSL coordinate efforts in future adaptation planning that may identify specific actions necessary for vulnerable communities.

DSL is committed to continuing to support the EJTF's efforts, to expand our understanding of EJ issues and improve outreach with EJ communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Louise Solliday".

Louise Solliday
Director