



Summer Conference

July 8 – 11, 2012
Eugene, Oregon

The Oregon Department of State Lands hosted the 2012 WSLCA Summer Conference at the Hilton Hotel in Eugene, July 8 - 11. Attendance included approximately 70 WSLCA members from Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wisconsin.

The Children's Land Alliance Supporting Schools (CLASS) held their conference in conjunction with WSLCA's, and about 30 CLASS representatives participated in WSLCA sessions all day Monday and on Wednesday morning.

Conference sessions were focused on both urban and rural issues of importance to WSLCA member states, including balancing revenue generation with conservation on trust lands, and states' successes in urban/commercial development. The agenda included:

Monday, July 9

- **Roll Call**, where all participating states reported on current activities and issues.
- **Luncheon Speaker** Steve Doherty, Senior Advisor to the Secretary, Northwest Region, U.S. Department of the Interior, who spoke about issues facing public land managers in the west.
- **WSLCA Committee Meetings**: Legislative, Communications, Submerged Lands, Resolutions, Asset Management, Land Exchange, Sub-Surface, Surface, and Legal.

Tuesday, July 10

- **Forestry in the West** presentation by Mark Rasmussen, Mason Bruce & Girard, who spoke about recent trends and the outlook for the timber industry in the west; and David Ford, L&C Carbon LLC, who discussed carbon markets and opportunities for public land holders to participate in these markets.
- **Tour to the Elliott State Forest**, an asset of Oregon's Common School Fund. Coos District Forester Jim Young coordinated tour stops to provide a general orientation to current forest management practices and issues, and a discussion of managing the forest to protect threatened and endangered species.

Wednesday, July 11

- **Urban Development of Trust Lands**, a panel composed of Jim Adams (AZ), Tobin Follenweider (CO), Kathy Opp (ID) and Douglas Buchi (UT) who spoke about their states' efforts and challenges regarding development of commercial properties in urban settings.

Redevelopment Walking Tour to the Fifth Street Market/ Eugene Water and Electric Board area, where participants learned about efforts to redevelop the area, and how a parcel of Oregon state land fits into long-range planning. Chris Zahas of Leland Consulting Group, and John Rowell and Kaarin Knudson of Rowell Brokaw Architects, helped lead the tour, along with John Russell, asset manager for the Oregon Department of State Lands.

- *Luncheon Speaker* Eric Quaempts, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, who spoke about the traditional tribal serving order of native wild foods (water ⇒ salmon ⇒ game ⇒ roots ⇒ berries), and how the serving order is a responsible and applied basis for managing natural resources for both the tribal community and for Oregonians.
- *Resource Policy Discussion* which focused on priority policy issues for WSLCA to address during the next two years. These include pursuit of actions to address concerns regarding the ESA listing process currently being used by USFWS under a court settlement, and selection of in-lieu lands to move state trust lands out of federally designated conservation areas.
- *WSLCA Business Meeting* where the organization voted to hire a Washington, D.C.-based consultant to help advance policy issues of importance to WSLCA member states. Current officers were elected for another one-year term, and the 2012-13 budget was adopted.