



## Oregon Senate Fact-Finding Mission Application & Approval Form

This application will be used to review and officially approve fact-finding missions allowed under ORS 244.020(6)(b)(H)(i) and required to be reported under ORS 244.060(6) **if the expense per member is estimated to exceed \$50**. This application must be submitted to the Secretary of the Senate **no later than 14 days** before the start of the fact-finding mission, unless as determined by the Secretary good cause exists for submitting the application after the deadline. **To promote transparency, all approved applications and accompanying materials will be posted on the Secretary of the Senate's website.**

Description of Mission: Southern Oregon Fire Season 2013 Tour

Issues or Legislation Related to Mission: Forestland fires

Location of Mission: Canyonville, OR

Date(s) of Mission: April 15, 2014

Person/Entity Paying Expenses: OR Dept. of Forestry

Address of Person/Entity Paying Expenses: 2600 State St., Salem, OR

Invited Members (select one):

All Senators  The following Senators: Baertschiger, Roblan, Dembrow

All Senators on the Committee(s)/Task Force(s) on: \_\_\_\_\_

Staff Invited:  Yes  No      Relatives/Household Members Invited:  Yes  No

Activities will be limited to a factual investigation or other educational purposes:  I agree.

The mission is not being conducted for campaign or partisan political purposes:  I agree.

**Please include the following required attachments with this application:**

1. Written opinion from the Oregon Government Ethics Commission concluding that the event is a permitted fact-finding mission under ORS 244.020(6)(b)(H)(i) and the rules of the commission.
2. Written itinerary or agenda for all scheduled meetings, events, presenters, meals, travel, lodging, or other activities planned during the mission.

**Within thirty (30) days after completion of the mission**, please submit the following required documents to the Secretary of the Senate, which will be posted on the Secretary's website:

1. An attendance sheet listing all Senators, staff, relatives, household members, lobbyists, and all others who participated in the mission.
2. The aggregate value of food, travel, and lodging expenses provided to each Senator, staff member, relative, and household member of the Senator. The aggregate value of expenses for each person shall be determined in the same manner as required by the Oregon Government Ethics Commission for disclosure on a Statement of Economic Interest under ORS 244.060(6).
3. Written confirmation that the mission was conducted substantially according to the itinerary or agenda submitted with the application and, if the mission varied materially from the submitted itinerary or agenda, a written account describing the material variations (i.e., any additional meetings, events, presenters, meals, travel, lodging).

Failure to submit this information within thirty (30) days after completion of the mission will result in an automatic denial of all future applications submitted by the Applicant signing below and the person or entity listed above as paying expenses.

**By signing below, I hereby declare that all information submitted at any time by me, or on my behalf, to the Oregon Senate in connection with this application and fact-finding mission is correct to the best of my**

Signature of Applicant: Arnie Roblan Date: 4-2-2014

Name of Applicant (print): Sen. Arnie Roblan

Address: 900 Court St., Salem, OR, 97301, #S417

Telephone Number: 503-986-1705

E-mail Address: roblana@leg.state.or.us

All information above is required for the application to be considered.

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**For Official Use Only**

Based on the written conclusion of the Oregon Government Ethics Commission and the information submitted by the Applicant, under ORS 244.020(6)(b)(H)(i) this fact-finding mission is hereby:

Officially Sanctioned       Denied

Cynthia Johnson  
Deputy Secretary of the Senate

April 16, 2014  
Date

**Sent:** Friday, March 28, 2014 2:27 PM

**To:** PEREZ Sabrina

**Subject:** RE: Legislative Attendance at April Board of Forestry Events

Good afternoon Ms. Perez,

Thank you for contacting the Oregon Government Ethics Commission with your inquiry regarding office-related events. It would appear from the description of the conference you have provided that the event would more likely qualify as a "fact-finding mission or trip, conference or other meeting" under the gift exception described in ORS 244.020(6)(b)(F). Though similar in premise to the ORS 244.020(6)(b)(H) exception to the definition of "gift," the -(F) exception is intended for events where expenses are paid by "any unit of the federal government, **a state or local government**, a Native American tribe that is recognized by federal law or formally acknowledged by a state, a membership organization to which a public body as defined in ORS 174.109 pays membership dues or a not-for-profit corporation that is tax exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code" (emphasis added).

As such, these events do not need to be officially sanctioned like an -(H) exception, but the unit of government "that provides a public official with expenses with an aggregate value exceeding \$50 for an event described in ORS 244.020(6)(b)(F)" is required by ORS 244.100 to "notify the public official in writing of the amount of the expense" within 10 days after the date the expenses are incurred.

If you have any additional questions, or you believe that I have misunderstood the circumstances you provided, please don't hesitate to contact me again.

Best,

Russ

Russ Casler

Trainer/Program Analyst

Oregon Government Ethics Commission

3218 Pringle Rd. SE, Suite 220

Salem, OR 97302

503-378-8066

\*\*\*\*\*DISCLAIMER\*\*\*\*\*

This staff advice is provided under the authority given in ORS 244.284(1). This opinion offers guidance on how Oregon Government Ethics law may apply to the specific facts described in your request. This opinion is based on my understanding and analysis of the specific circumstances you described and should not be applied to circumstances that differ from those discussed in this request.

## Johnston Cynthia A

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**From:** Patrino Beth  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 16, 2014 10:56 AM  
**To:** Johnston Cynthia A  
**Cc:** Reiley Beth; Berkobien Rick  
**Subject:** Board of Forestry 2013 Fire Tour

Cynthia –

As required by the “Fact-Finding Mission Application and Approval Form,” I am submitting the following information:

- (1) Tour Attendees:
  - a. Oregon Legislators: Senator Roblan, Senator Baertschiger, Senator Dembrow, Representative Witt, Representative Frederick, Representative Freeman
  - b. Legislative Staff: Beth Reiley, Beth Patrino, Krista McDowell, Linda Gilbert
  - c. Others: Please contact the Board of Forestry for a complete list of tour participants.
- (2) Total aggregate cost per person (not all members participated in every portion of the tour) = \$26.80 (food and tour transportation)
- (3) The tour was conducted as described in the previously submitted itinerary.

Please let me know if you require additional information,

Beth

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Beth Patrino, Committee Administrator  
House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources  
Senate Committee on Rural Communities and Economic Development  
Legislative Committee Services  
347 State Capitol, Salem, OR 97301  
503.986.1751 (direct line)

March 6, 2014

[ADDRESS BLOCK]

Greetings:

The 2013 fire season was one of the most challenging in half a century, and the Douglas Complex, south of Roseburg, was the biggest of our fires, at more than 48,000 acres. I invite you to join the Board of Forestry on Tuesday, April 15 to survey this landscape, to consider the profound ways in which wildfires touch our communities, our environment and our economy, and to explore the relationship between forest management and fire.

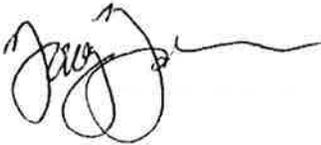
We'll learn about the firefighting complexities posed by rugged terrain, the proximity of homes, and a mix of public and private forest ownerships with very different characteristics. We'll see salvage and recovery in action. We'll hear from a broad cross section of people affected by the fire, and get a sense of how today's forest management decisions will affect this landscape well into the future.

I invite you as well to the Board's regular business meeting, on Monday, April 14 at the Seven Feathers Convention Center in Canyonville, and to a community social that evening, also at Seven Feathers. At the social, the Board will continue its tradition of honoring a local leader's public service in support of forestry and natural resource management.

To assist us in completing our plans, please use the enclosed RSVP form, returning it by April 1. The form also provides details about the times and locations of the events.

I hope you can join us.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug Decker", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Doug Decker  
Oregon State Forester

# Douglas Complex Tour

April 15, 2014

## **Tour Route Overview:**

The tour will start at Seven Feathers Hotel and Casino Resort in Canyonville with a brief welcome, introduction of guests, and a quick recap of the 2013 fire season in the Southern Oregon Area. The tour will then head south on Interstate 5 toward the first stop, west of Glendale. While traveling on Reuben Road / Cow Creek Road between Glendale and the first stop, the fire scar from the Douglas Complex is visible.

After the first stop at the West Fork of Cow Creek, the tour will continue down Cow Creek Road, continuing to drive through the fire scar of the Douglas Complex. The second stop will be on top of Rabbit Mountain, the site where several of many lightning fires were started on July 26th. Lunch will also be served at this location. The tour bus will then continue down Cow Creek Road and return to Seven Feathers Hotel and Casino Resort.

**8:00**

### **Seven Feathers Conference Room**

Welcome and Introductions to the tour.

### **Buses Leave - Travel to Stop #1**

#### **Stop #1: West Fork of Cow Creek**

Discuss and understand the impact that the 2013 fire season had on the non-timber resources and local communities.

### **Buses Leave - Travel to Stop #2**

#### **Stop #2: Rabbit Mountain**

Lunch

Discuss and understand the complexities created by the ownership pattern and land management styles in Southern Oregon during a fire event.

### **Buses Leave - Travel to Seven Feathers**

**Arrive at Seven Feathers**

# Tour Introductions: Seven Feathers Hotel and Casino Resort

**Timeframe:** 1/2 hour

**Lead Topic:** Welcome and Introductions

**Secondary Topics:**

1. Tour overview / tour packets
2. Review of 2013 fire season in Southern Oregon Area

**Key Messages:**

- Severe Fire Conditions during 2013
- July 26th, 2013 lightning storm
- ODF's Complete and Coordinated System

The already busy fire season in Oregon got even busier after an unexpected lightning storm moved over the Southern Oregon Area, igniting more than 80 fires on land protected by the Oregon Department of Forestry and the Douglas Forest Protective Association, along with several fires on the Umpqua National Forest and the Rogue - Siskiyou National Forest. While many of these fires were caught during the initial attack phase, several escaped containment and went into the extended attack phase. These fires were:

**Douglas Complex:** 48,679 acres on the Douglas and Southwest Oregon District

**Big Windy Complex:** 26,725 Acres on the Southwest Oregon District

**Brimstone:** 2,298 acres on the Southwest Oregon District

**Labrador:** 2,023 acres on Rogue River - Siskiyou National Forest

**Whiskey Complex:** 17,891 acres on the Umpqua National Forest

**Presenters:**

Melvin Thornton, Douglas Forest Protective Association District Manager

## **Tour Stop #1: West Fork of Cow Creek**

**Timeframe:** One hour

**Break:** Snacks, water, and Coffee

**Lead Topic:** To understand the impacts of the fires to non-timber resources

**Key Messages:**

- **Railroad:**
  - Damage to the rail caused by the fire
  - Importance of keeping the line open
  - Measures that Central Oregon & Pacific Railroad takes to prevent fires during fire season
- **Rafting Community**
  - Costs of closing the river
  - Importance to their livelihood
  - Importance of outreach
  - Measures to prevent future impacts
- **ODFW**
  - Fire impacts to birds, fish, and other animals
  - Coordination in the fire efforts
- **Local Communities**
  - Homes threatened
  - Air quality
  - Impact of fire team in a town
  - Impact on schools due to fire team usage

**Presenters:**

Railroad Rep?

Brad Niva, Rafting Community

Larry Cooper, ODFW.

Josephine County Emergency Management Personnel

## Tour Stop #2: Rabbit Mountain

**Timeframe:** 2 1/2 hours - lunch will be provided here

**Lead Topic:** To understand the complexities during a fire situation created by the ownership pattern and varying land management practices in Southern Oregon.

**Secondary Topics:**

1. To understand the fire actions during the fires
2. Future fire hazard in the area

**Key Messages:**

- Discussion / overview of fire actions during the fires.
- Fire technology demonstration / lunch
- Importance of Relationships
  - County / State / Federal
  - Fire departments
  - Landowners & operators
  - Non - fire related agencies
- Private Landowner Perspective:
  - Role during the fire. Part of the “Complete and Coordinated System.”
  - Complications and costs related to reforestation following a large fire event.
  - Outlook / rehab plans for the fire affected areas.
  - The importance of actively managing property after a fire (or not)
- BLM Perspective:
  - BLM role / BLM contract. How did it work?
  - To understand the decision process and limitations to salvage burned timber on LSR and Matrix lands.
  - Outlook / rehab plans for the fire affected areas.
  - The importance of actively managing property after a fire (or not)
- Future outlook on fire risk in the burned areas.

**Presenters:**

Melvin/Dan/Dave ?

Abbie Jossie, Roseburg BLM

Dayne Barron, Medford BLM

Mary Smelcer, Medford BLM

Phil Adams, Roseburg Resources

Pat Skrip, Douglas Forest Protective Association

Jeff Turchetto, Douglas Forest Protective Association

Others?