



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:

Launch a conversation between Oregon's leaders to develop a practical plan that will stem the tide of poverty in Frontier Oregon (11 eastern Oregon counties). To this end, our coalition is holding the first-ever Frontier Oregon Summit to address how sustainable natural resource management can create economic opportunities that will restore land and community health to eastern Oregon.

Issues or Legislation Related to Mission: Poverty, natural resources, economic development

Location of Mission: Silvies Valley Ranch, south of Seneca, Oregon

Date(s) of Mission: July 22 and 23, 2014

Person/Entity Paying Expenses:

John J. Audley	Duncan Wyse	Brent Fenty	Colby Marshall
President	President	Executive Director	Vice President
Sustainable Northwest	Oregon Business Council	Oregon Natural Desert Association	Silvies Valley Ranch
813 SW Alder Street, Suite 500	1100 SW 6th Avenue, Suite 1608	50 SW Bond St, Suite 4	40000 East Cowboy Lane
Portland, OR 97205	Portland, OR 97204	Bend, OR 97702	Seneca, OR 97873
(503) 221-6911 (main)	503-595-7603	(541)330-2638	541-573-5150 x 110
(971) 202-6546 (cell)	dwyse@orbusinesscouncil.org	bfenty@onda.org	colby_marshall@silvies.us
jaudley@sustainablenorthwest.org			

Address of Person/Entity Paying Expenses: see above

Invited Members (select one):

- All Senators **The following Senators:** *Senator Michael Dembrow,
Senator Ted Ferrioli, Senator Chris Edwards, Senator Arnie Roblan*

Staff invited: *Jenny Dressler, Sen Rep Caucus*

Relatives/Household Members Invited: *NONE*

Activities will be limited to a factual investigation or other educational purposes: *YES*

The mission is not being conducted for campaign or partisan political purposes: *YES*

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 knowledge and belief.



Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: 7/25/14

Name of Applicant (print): John J. Audley

Address: 813 SW Alder St, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97205

Telephone Number: 971-202-6546

E-mail Address: jaudley@sustainablenorthwest.org

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

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
Secretary of the Senate

7-28-14

Date

From: John Audley [<mailto:jaudley@sustainablenorthwest.org>]

Sent: Friday, August 29, 2014 9:10 AM

To: Johnston Cynthia A

Subject: Frontier Oregon Summit Report

Ms. Johnson,

By all accounts, the Frontier Oregon Summit achieved its mission. Eighty people from across the state joined summit co-sponsors Silvie's Valley Ranch, Sustainable Northwest, Oregon Business Council, and the Oregon Natural Desert Association in a fact finding mission designed to identify key challenges and opportunities to combat poverty and restore the natural environment in eleven of Oregon's far eastern counties.

Frontier Oregon Summit Cabin Assignments

Cabin	Name	Suite or Room
1	John/Jane O'Keeffe	S
	John Audley	R
2	Martha Pagel	S
	Scott Fairly	R
3	Governor John Kitzhaber/Cylvia Hays	S
	Rep. Brian Clem	R
4	Brent Fenty/Chris Van Dyke	S
	Duncan Wyse	R
5	Ed Ray	S
	Stacy Davies	R
6	Rep. Val Hoyle	S
	Rep. Mike McLane	R
7	Kathleen Cantrell Price	S
	Mark Cushing	R
8 (open for tour)	Open for Tours	S
	Open for Tours	R

2014 FRONTIER OREGON INFORMATION LIST

#	First	Last Name	Company/Position	Email
2	Dan	Arp	OSU/Ag Dean	dan.i.arp@oregonstate.edu
3	John	Audley	Sustainable Northwest/President	iaudley@sustainablenorthwest.org
4	Jeff	Bailey	Bank of Eastern Oregon/Pres. & CEO	jbailey@beobank.com
5	Sally	Bartlett	Grant County Economic Develop./Director	gced@centurytel.net
6	Cliff	Bentz	Representative, State of Oregon	rep.cliffbentz@state.or.us
7	Robin	Boies	Sustainable Northwest/Board Member	vineyard.boies@gmail.com
8	Brett	Brownscomb	Governor's Office/Natural Resource Policy Advisor	
9	Bobby	Brunoe	Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs /GM - Natural Resources	
10	Knute	Buehler	Business owner	
11	Tom	Byler	Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board/Director	tom.byler@state.or.us
12	Sandy	Campbell	Silvies Valley Ranch/livestock producer	sandy.campbell@silvies.us
13	Scott	Campbell	Silvies Valley Ranch/livestock producer	scott.campbell@silvies.us
14	Nils	Christofersen	Wallowa Resources	nls@wallowaresources.org
15	Brian	Clem	Representative, State of Oregon	dan@brianclem.com
16	Bobby	Cochran	Willamette Partnership	cochran@willamettepartnership.org
17	J.R.	Cook	Northeast Oregon Water Assoc.	
18	Belton	Copp	Restoration Economist/Duke University, MEM & MBA '16	bacoppvi@gmail.com
19	Mark	Cushing	Silvies Valley Ranch/counsel	mark.cushing@tonkon.com
20	Bruce	Dauscavage	Ochoco Lumber Co./President	
21	Todd	Davidson	Travel Oregon	todd@traveloregon.com
22	Stacy	Davies	Roaring Springs Ranch/livestock producer	roaringspringsranch@gmail.com
23	Mike	Dembrow	Senator, State of Oregon	sen.michaeldembrow@state.or.us
24	Martin	Doyle	Duke University	martin.doyle@duke.edu
25	Jenny	Dresler	Senator Ferrioli's natural resource policy staffer	jennifer.dresler@state.or.us
26	Dan	Edge	OSU/Fish & Wildlife Dept. Head	daniel.edge@oregonstate.edu
27	Vernita	Ediger	Blue Mountains Forest Partners	vernita.bmfp@gmail.com
28	Chris	Edwards	Senator, State of Oregon	Sen.ChrisEdwards@state.or.us
29	Chuck	Eggert	Livestock producer/Pacific Natural Foods	
30	Louanna	Eggert	Livestock producer/Pacific Natural Foods	
31	Scott	Fairly	Governor's Office/Regional Solutions	scott.g.fairley@state.or.us
32	Katie	Fast	Oregon Farm Bureau Federation/VP Public Policy	
33	Brent	Fenty	Oregon Natural Desert Assoc./Exec. Dir.	bfenty@onda.org
34	Ted	Ferriofi	Senator, State of Oregon	sen.tedferriofi@state.or.us
35	Joel	Fischer	Oregon Business Association/Senior Policy Analyst	joel@oba-online.org
36	Robb	Foster	Silvies Valley Ranch/livestock producer	robb.foster@silvies.us
37	Melissa	Freeman	The OR Community Fdn/Director of Strategic Projects	mfreeman@oregoncf.org
38	Randy	Fulton	Harney County Economic Develop./Director	randy.fulton@co.harney.or.us

2014 FRONTIER OREGON INFORMATION LIST

39	Gordon	Grant	OSU/Professor, Geosciences	gordon.grant@oregonstate.edu
40	Cylvia	Hayes	Governor's office/First Lady	CVvia@3estrategies.org
41	Paul	Henson	United States Fish and Wildlife Service	
42	Val	Hoyle	Representative, State of Oregon	
43	Tim	Inman	Speaker of the House Office/Legislative Director	tim.inman@state.or.us
44	Tom	Insko	Boise Cascade/State Board of Forestry	TomInsko@BoiseBuilding.com
45	Becky	Johnson	OSU/Cascade Campus, VP	becky.johnson@osucascades.edu
46	Chad	Karges	High Desert Partners	c.karges@yahoo.com.
47	John	Kitzhaber	Governor's office/Governor	
48	Anne	Kubisch	Ford Family Foundation/President	akubisch@tfff.org
49	Meta	Loftsgaarden	Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board/Dep. Dir.	meta.loftsgaarden@state.or.us
50	Kathy	Long Holland	Sustainable Northwest/Board Member	kathy@longsherpa.com
51	Thomas	Maness	OSU/Forestry	Thomas.Maness@oregonstate.edu
52	Colby	Marshal	Silvies Valley Ranch/livestock producer	colby.marshall@silvies.us
53	Mike	McLane	Representative, State of Oregon	
54	Jock	Mills	OSU/Director of Government Affairs	
55	Josh	Newton	Karnopp Petersen /Warm Springs legal counsel	JN@karnopp.com
56	Dan	Nichols	Livestock producer	
57	John	Ogan	Karnopp Petersen /Warm Springs legal counsel	
58	Jane	O'Keefe	Sustainable Northwest/Board Member	jokranich@hotmail.com
59	John	O'Keefe	Livestock producer	
60	Chris	Pair	Governor's office/Press Secretary	chris.pair@state.or.us
61	Jerome	Perez	Bureau of Land Management	jperez@blm.gov
62	Vince	Porter	Governor's office/Economic Policy Advisor	vince.porter@state.or.us
63	Teresa	Raaf	USFS/Forest Supervisor	traaf@fs.fed.us
64	Ed	Ray	OSU/President	
65	Scott	Reed	OSU/Vice Provost - Extension	scott.reed@oregonstate.edu
66	Sean	Robbins	Biz Oregon/Director	sean.robbins@greaterportlandinc.com
67	Jeremy	Rogers	Oregon Business Plan	irogers@orbusinesscouncil.org
68	Andy	Root	Rattlesnake Ranch/livestock producer	
69	Ray	Sessler	Oregon Cattlemen's Association/President	
70	Barbara	Sidway	Baker City Hotel/Business Owner	barbara@geiserrand.com
71	Tony	Sveicar	Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center	tony.sveicar@oregonstate.edu
72	Bruce	Taylor	Defenders of Wildlife	btaylor@defenders.org
73	Chris	Van Dyke	Oregon Natural Desert Assoc./Board Member	cwvandy1@mac.com
74	Vicki	Walker	USDA-Rural Development/State Director	vicki.walker@or.usda.gov
75	Mark	Webb	Landowner	mwebb1285@gmail.com

2014 FRONTIER OREGON INFORMATION LIST

76	Scott	West	Travel Oregon/Chief Strategy Officer	scott@travealoregon.com
77	Richard	Whitman	Governor's office/Natural Resource Dir.	
78	Greg	Wolf	Governor's office/Deputy Chief of Staff	
79	Duncan	Wyse	Oregon Business Council/President	
80	Les	Zaitz	Grant County Economic Development	leszaitz@gmail.com
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Frontier Oregon Summit Information Packet

July 22-23, 2014

Silvies Valley Ranch



JOHN A. KITZHAVER, MD
GOVERNOR

July 22, 2014

On behalf of the Frontier Oregon sponsors, I would like to thank you for joining me as we launch an important discussion designed to rebuild rural economies and restore the natural environment. Achieving these two goals is central to my administration, and we are pleased to be partners in this important effort.

We're now at the beginning of an essential discussion. I hope that while we are all together at the ranch, you all will share your best ideas for bringing back prosperity to this part of the state. The challenges faced here are unique and finding solutions will require flexibility to achieve the outcomes we need.

Working together under a common vision of restoring economic and environmental health, I believe we can agree on a group of priorities that set the stage for a new era of prosperity in Frontier Oregon – to the benefit of all Oregonians. I appreciate your contributions to making this a reality and look forward to the results.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John A. Kitzhaver".

John A. Kitzhaver, M.D.
Governor



Frontier Oregon Summit Participant Letter

MUST READ

Dear friends,

We are really looking forward to hosting you at the Frontier Oregon Summit in a few days. We are very grateful to Governor John Kitzhaber, Silvies Valley Ranch, Representative Brian Clem, Representative Cliff Bentz, and Senator Ted Ferrioli for their commitment and guidance in making the idea a reality. A few things we need you to realize in your planning for the Summit:

1. Distances are long in Frontier Oregon so plan plenty of drive time, stops for fuel, and eat when you can!
2. It will be hot and dry – it's a desert at 5000 feet – plan on drinking lots of water and sunscreen is always a good idea.
3. The facilities at the ranch are primitive or under construction. The "eco-resort" is not set to open for more than two years and will then have a capacity of 32 guests...there will be 80 people at the summit and there will be open trenches, loose gravel, dirt, and construction going on virtually everywhere. Please be careful.
4. On the field trip, we will be using vans and ranch pickups for transportation to travel two-track dirt and gravel roads. It is a ranch and not a game park so it will be hot, dusty, and rough. You will be getting in and out of the vehicles many times so watch for holes, branches, snakes and other hazards.
5. Dress appropriately. Jeans, a cool shirt/blouse, and comfortable close-toed shoes or boots are appropriate both days. No ties, sport coats, tuxedos, or evening gowns will be allowed!
6. Generally in Frontier Oregon, and in the Silvies Valley specifically, you will find limited to no cell phone coverage or WiFi service. Welcome back to 1970 – enjoy your stay!
7. Come ready to learn, have a good time, and be prepared to think creatively about how to solve problems that have been plaguing Frontier Oregon for four decades.

See you there!



Frontier Oregon Summit Agenda

July 22-23, 2014

Tuesday, July 22

Please arrive at Silvies Valley Ranch between 1:00pm – 1:30pm. You will need to plan on 40-45 minute drive from Burns or John Day. The first tour group will leave precisely at 1:30pm.

Please plan on checking in at your hotel in Burns and leave your luggage there before proceeding to Silvies Valley Ranch. Please have lunch before leaving town because once you are at the ranch you will be leaving on a tour and no food will be available.

Check In Procedure

- Enter ranch through the North Gate located off highway 395 via Forest Service Road 37 (located a half mile past mile post 31).
- Check in with security at North Gate. Participants will be instructed to continue to The Summit entrance to complete Summit check-in. People not on the guest list will not be admitted and there are no facilities in the area.
- Participants will check-in at the Gate House and then park.
- Gate House
 - Welcome pack
 - *If you are a state or federal employee, we will provide you payment information at this time if needed.*
- Cars will be parked and remain out throughout the Summit with transportation provided to Burns and back...so that after having a glass of wine you don't have to drive crooked and steep roads loaded with many deer and police. If you wish, local attendees may use your own cars to commute although we recommend against doing so.
- After parking, participants walk to Lodge (10-50 yards) – transportation will be provided for those who are in need of assistance.

1:30pm-6:00pm Frontier Oregon Summit begins – Welcome from Colby Marshall

Restoration Tour:

- Participants will be divided into two groups. Tour stops at the Bridge Creek, Cottonwood Creek Research Area, fuels reduction and energy project, Camp Creek Overlook, Flat Creek Restoration, and the Paine Creek Restoration Project will introduce you to a variety of aspects of watershed, forest, range, and wet meadow restoration-based economic activity.
- Beverages, snacks, and porta potties will be available at Camp Creek overlook 90 minutes into the tour.

- 6:00pm-7:00pm Social Hour
- 7:00pm-8:15pm Dinner
Keynote speaker: Governor John Kitzhaber
- 8:15pm-10:00pm Conversations and s'mores around The Camp Fire

Van Transportation Schedule

- Vans will depart for Burns when full approximately every 15 minutes
- 8:30pm (approx.) First van to Burns
- 10:00pm Last vans to Burns

Wednesday, July 23

- 6:00am-6:45am Participants staying Burns hotels
- Breakfast on own @ hotels or local restaurant (Apple Peddler is within walking distance of both Summit-hosting hotels).
 - Room check out by 6:45am – if not staying a second night, you may bring luggage to van/pickups or leave it with the hotel for you to pick up later.
- Participants staying in cabins
- Breakfast on The Deck
 - Breakfast will be served from 6:15am-7:30am
- 6:45am Load vans (and pickups for luggage) @ hotels
- 7:00am Van/pickups depart Burns for the Summit
- 8:00am-8:30am Opening – Colby Marshall and John Audley
- Welcome
 - Tour Recap
 - Plan for the day
 - A Positive Vision for Ending Poverty and Restoring the Environment: the basics of a restoration economy – Scott Campbell
- 8:30am-8:45am A View From the Host Counties
- Challenges – Randy Fulton, Harney County Economic Development
Opportunities – Sally Bartlett, Grant County Economic Development
- 8:45am-11:30am Key Issues Discussion
- Led by experts in each field, we will discuss natural resource restoration, opportunities in agriculture, ecotourism and Main Street, and the role state government plays in advancing or hindering economic activities in Frontier Oregon.*
- Discussion facilitated by Colby Marshall and John Audley

Watershed Restoration

Brent Fenty, Oregon Natural Desert Association
Martha Pagel, Oregon law water expert

Forest Restoration

Thomas Maness, OSU College of Forestry
Tom Insko, Boise Cascade, State Board of Forestry

During discussions, participants are encouraged to take their own breaks as needed.

Business Restoration: Agriculture Opportunities

Stacy Davies, Roaring Springs Ranch
Andy Root, Rattlesnake Ranch
Tony Svejcar, Agriculture Research Service

Business Restoration: Main Street and Ecotourism

Barbara Sidway, Geiser Grand Hotel
Scott West, Travel Oregon

Changing Cultures

Les Zaitz, Grant County Community Leader

11:30am-12:15pm

Lunch

Discussion of Silvies eco-resort, wildlife, fishery, golf, and other amenities

12:15pm-1:40pm

Setting Priorities

Focus on simple solutions that could be enacted in the next year to create jobs, stem the tide of poverty, and make the land healthier in Frontier Oregon

Discussion facilitated by Colby Marshall and John Audley

1:40pm-1:50pm

Future Engagement

Mark Cushing, Tonkon Torp

1:50pm-2:00pm

Partnerships

Rep. Brian Clem

2:00pm-2:15pm

Closing Comments by Governor John Kitzhaber

2:15pm-2:30pm

Next Steps

3:00pm-5:00pm

Post-meeting tour of The Golf Course and other ranch projects for those Interested

FRONTIER OREGON SUMMIT

THE REASON FOR THE FRONTIER OREGON SUMMIT

To launch a conversation among a small group of Oregon leaders and to develop a practical plan for sustainable and realistic economic development. Poverty looms across Frontier Oregon. Beyond the individual human toll, this poverty sucks millions of dollars out of our state coffers and, if nothing is done, the amount will continue to grow and decrease funds otherwise available for economic development, education and other critical services throughout the state.

This is a squandered opportunity. Frontier Oregon, which encompasses 52 percent of the state (an area 20 percent bigger than Ohio), has vast opportunities for economic success and growth just through restoration of its environment, resulting in benefits to society, wildlife and agriculture. For example, a modest 10 percent increase in sustainable livestock production would generate more than one hundred million new dollars in Oregon. Capitalizing on our state's reputation of sustainable, environmentally sensitive businesses, a long-term ecotourism industry would make Frontier Oregon a long-term economic engine for the state.

Taking advantage of this opportunity will be the topic of the Summit.

WHY THE LOCATION?

In 2011, the Oregon Legislature passed HB3465 with broad, bi-partisan support. This law authorized Silvies Valley Ranch to innovate and develop ideas that could make a positive economic difference in Frontier Oregon. Since passage of "the Silvies bill," the Ranch has completed many restoration projects, and they have greatly increased the economic output and value of the Ranch as hoped. The Ranch has also worked to develop an ecotourism concept (including the lowest carbon footprint, modern golf course in the United States) that is expected to set an example and bring in tourists from around the world when it opens in 2017. From three jobs at the Ranch in 2009, the Ranch now has 24 full-time and many other contract and seasonal positions. As the eco-resort and golf course are opened, about 30 more jobs will be created. The Ranch also cares for twice as many cattle, many times more wildlife and, with help from OSU, is developing a breed of goats specifically adapted to the Frontier Oregon climate that eat brush and juniper, avoid riparian areas and don't compete with cattle for forage – a new second crop for ranchers that decreases the danger of wildfire (and creates new income for Oregon).

A tour of Silvies Valley Ranch will demonstrate to Summit participants that an ecologic and economic turnaround in Frontier Oregon is both do-able and not very complicated. We need to focus education and resources on the businesses already in the region, focus on sustainable ecological restorations and remove the barriers to their success. We will then recover our watersheds, riparian areas and wet meadows – with the biodiversity, increased forage production and other benefits that go along with them.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE SUMMIT

- Agreement on the short-, medium- and long-term priorities to bring back prosperity and healthy natural systems to Frontier Oregon
- Direction for the group to engage others in restoring Frontier Oregon's prosperity by supporting and expanding an ongoing Frontier Oregon initiative
- Shared understanding of the need to focus on outcomes over process; concentrating on a shared vision will drive action and leave more room for innovation as we address poverty and restore the natural environment in rural Oregon



FRONTIER OREGON SUMMIT

THE ISSUE

Poverty looms across Frontier Oregon, draining money from the state's coffers and thereby decreasing available funding for economic development, education and other critical services needed throughout the state.

Encompassing about 52 percent of the state – a land mass 20 percent larger than the state of Ohio – Frontier Oregon areas are far from densely populated communities and are prone to high poverty, high unemployment, low educational attainment and old, outdated infrastructure.

- Degradation of the economy over 30 years has contributed to more than 70 percent of grade school students in some Frontier Oregon communities now qualifying for free breakfast
- 11,500 cattle and hay ranches sell about 500,000 head of livestock annually and generally squeak by economically
- The lack of high-speed Internet connections makes it virtually impossible to attract many companies just an hour south of The Dalles – and most of Frontier Oregon is much farther. Even telephone service is difficult to obtain in large areas of the region

THE OPPORTUNITY

Meanwhile, these rural parts of the state offer many prospects for economic success.

- Frontier Oregon boasts expansive, beautiful vistas and wildlife
- Highways and small airports allow for transportation to and through the area
- The nearby Oregon State University Bend campus offers service-oriented academic programs in hospitality, marketing, business development, and eco-tourism
- New sustainable farming and ranching practices along with new industries involving biomass and other forms of clean energy production could transform the area into an economic driver for the state

ABOUT THE SUMMIT

- The Summit is sponsored by Silvies Valley Ranch, a Frontier Oregon institution established in 1883, and three of the state's most engaged organizations – Sustainable Northwest, Oregon Natural Desert Association and Oregon Business Council – to explore ways in which Frontier Oregon might be revitalized through a combination of public policy enhancements, market-based incentives, educational programs and other initiatives.
- The site for the Summit – Silvies Valley Ranch, near Seneca, Oregon – was selected as an appropriate backdrop because of the many innovative programs, including ecotourism and sustainable livestock operations, taking place there. The Ranch was established as a pilot area for economic initiatives aimed at revitalizing Frontier Oregon through bipartisan legislation passed in the 2011 legislative session.
- This gathering of policymakers, business, educators and nonprofit leaders will focus on the results and opportunities provided through the 2011 legislation and look ahead to ways Frontier Oregon might be revitalized to the benefit of the entire state.
- An intimate setting will allow for candid discussions and creative brainstorming. The best ideas to emerge from these conversations may eventually make their way into public forums such as the Oregon Business Plan or other public policy initiatives.

For additional information about the Summit, please contact Kara Hansen at 503-274-8886.



ABOUT FRONTIER OREGON

Frontier Oregon spans 11 counties east of the Cascade mountains, including Baker, Crook, Grant, Harney, Jefferson, Lake, Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla, Union and Wallowa counties.

These counties are generally far from densely populated communities and are largely prone to high poverty, high unemployment, low educational attainment and old, outdated infrastructure.

SELECT DATA FROM AMERICAN FACTFINDER (U.S. CENSUS BUREAU)

	Harney County	Lake County	Grant County	Malheur County	Oregon
POPULATION: IN DECLINE, OLDER THAN REST OF STATE					
Population (2013 estimated)	7,146	7,820	7,283	30,479	3,930,065
Growth (2010-2013)	-3.70%	-0.90%	-2.18%	-2.70%	2.60%
Labor force (16 years and older)	59.40%	56.70%	54.40%	53.20%	63.70%
Mean age (2012)	46	45	50	38	38
EDUCATION: LESS LIKELY TO HOLD BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR HIGHER					
Educational attainment (25 years & older)					
Didn't finish high school	10.60%	13.60%	10.20%	20.20%	10.90%
High school or equivalent	37.20%	34%	35.20%	30.10%	24.80%
Some college/AA degree	36.50%	32.50%	36.20%	36%	35.10%
Bachelor's degree or higher	15.70%	19.80%	17.50%	13.70%	29.20%
Occupation (percent of labor force)					
Management, business, science, technical	36.20%	34.50%	32.80%	29.90%	36.00%
Services	20.20%	16.10%	20.60%	22.90%	18.10%
Sales & office	18.80%	1.80%	23.60%	19.70%	24.50%
Natural resources	18.00%	15.80%	12.30%	14.50%	9.40%
Production & transportation	6.80%	11.80%	10.70%	12.90%	12.00%
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING: MORE RESIDENTS IN POVERTY, MORE UNINSURED					
Household income					
Mean	\$39,674	\$40,049	\$34,337	\$37,191	\$50,036
Median	\$49,554	\$51,203	\$49,984	\$48,648	\$66,161
Earnings					
Mean industry earnings (full- and part-time jobs)	\$28,003	\$25,658	\$25,580	\$22,406	\$31,231
Mean industry earnings: Male	\$35,787	\$31,266	\$34,792	\$27,945	\$37,840
Mean: Full-time male	\$44,800	\$37,837	\$39,070	\$34,918	\$47,561
Mean industry earnings: Female	\$21,320	\$19,142	\$18,508	\$17,696	\$25,715
Mean: Full-time female	\$32,044	\$34,742	\$29,063	\$28,726	\$36,632
Population living below poverty level	19.10%	17.20%	15.70%	25.00%	15.50%
<18 years of age	29.00%	23.70%	19.60%	33.00%	20.60%
>65 years of age	9.40%	5.00%	12.60%	12.00%	8.00%
Population with no health care coverage	16.20%	14.90%	16.40%	23.00%	16.00%
HOUSING: VALUES LOW, RENTS HIGH					
Housing					
Mean housing value (2012)	\$119,800	141,800	\$133,500	\$141,100	\$246,100
Percent of state average	49%	58%	47%	57%	100%
Owner-occupied	64%	67.40%	70%	64%	62.50%
Percent of owner-occupied without mortgage	46%	48.90%	52.30%	41.70%	30%
Average monthly rent	\$523	\$568	\$605	\$580	\$854
Renters paying > 35% of income on housing	26.10%	25.90%	30.10%	46.70%	44.50%



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

Government Ethics Commission

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Salem, OR 97302-1514

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July 14, 2014

Frontier Oregon Summit Coalition
c/o Colby Marshall
40000 E Cowboy Lane
Seneca, Oregon 97873

Dear Mr. Marshall:

This letter of advice is provided in response to your request received on July 9, 2014 which presented a question regarding how the provisions of Oregon Government Ethics law may apply to public officials who may participate in the Frontier Oregon Summit (Summit) scheduled for July 22nd & 23rd, 2014 sponsored by the Frontier Oregon Summit Coalition (Coalition).

I understand that this Summit is planned as a multiple day event and co-sponsored by Silvies Valley Ranch (SVR), Sustainable Northwest (SNW), the Oregon Business Council (OBC), and the Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA). Invited participants will include legislators and their staff as well as a variety of public officials that represent governmental agencies from various state and local jurisdictions. Those who participate will be provided food, beverage, lodging and transportation to various sites. In addition, tour and meeting materials and paraphernalia will be provided.

You indicated that the purpose of this event is to educate and inform state and local government officials regarding the benefits of sustainable ecological restoration. Information provided will highlight the opportunities regarding sustainable ecological restoration for future planning. Sites visited during the tour will provide information on ecological and economic improvements and tour restoration projects.

This analysis and advice is being offered under the authority provided in ORS 244.284 as guidance on how the current provisions of Oregon Government Ethics law may apply to the specific circumstances you have presented. Under most circumstances, when a public official is offered food, transportation, or lodging, at no cost to the public official, it would be a gift as defined in ORS 244.020(6)(a).

If the provider of a gift to a public official has a legislative or administrative interest in the votes or decisions of the public official there are conditions and restrictions that apply to the acceptance of the gift. A legislative or administrative interest is defined in ORS 244.020(9) as an economic interest that is distinct from the economic interest held by members of the general public in the votes or decisions of the public official.

It appears that the members of the Coalition may have an economic interest that is distinct from the economic interest held by the general public in the decisions or votes in the Oregon Legislative Assembly, members of the legislature and any state or local agencies represented by the public officials who may wish to participate in the planned event. Therefore, the conditions and restrictions on paid expenses offered to those public officials who may wish to participate in this planned event would apply.

ORS 244.020(6)(b) identifies occasions wherein public officials may accept gifts, such as paid expenses for food, lodging or other items of value. The exception relevant to your inquiry is described in ORS 244.020(6)(b)(H) as follows:

ORS 244.020(6)(b)(H) "Reasonable food, travel or lodging expenses provided to a public official, a relative of the public official accompanying the public official, a member of the household of the public official accompanying the public official or a staff member of the public official accompanying the public official, when the public official is representing state government as defined in ORS 174.111, a local government as defined in ORS 174.116 or a special government body as defined in ORS 174.11:

- (i) On an officially sanctioned trade-promotion or fact-finding mission; or
- (ii) In officially designated negotiations, or economic development activities, where receipt of the expenses is approved in advance."

While the public officials could accept the offer, ORS 244.020(6)(b)(H) requires a "fact-finding mission" to be "officially sanctioned" before public officials can accept the offer of food, beverages and travel expenses.

The Oregon Government Ethics Commission issued Oregon Administrative Rules in which the terms "fact-finding mission" and "officially sanctioned" were defined. Those definitions are provided in OAR 199-005-0001(2) and OAR 199-005-0020(3)(b) as follows:

"A 'fact finding mission or trip' is any activity related to a cultural or educational purpose, or any activity aimed at providing intergovernmental assistance, such as for the purpose of international aid or sharing best practices, or developing intergovernmental relationships directly related to the public official's duties. The sponsor of a fact finding mission should be directly and immediately associated with the event or location being visited." [OAR 199-005-0001(2)]

"'Officially sanctioned or officially designated' means written approval by a state or local public body or by a person authorized by the public body to provide that approval. When the activity is officially designated as negotiations or economic activity, the written notice will include approval for the public official to accept the payment of reasonable expenses. Unless the public body determines otherwise, the written notice from the following is sufficient to constitute an officially sanctioned or officially designated activity under ORS 244.020(6)(b)(H) [OAR 199-005-0020(3)(b)]:

- (A) A supervisor;
- (B) A governing body of a public body;
- (C) The President of the Senate, Speaker of the House, the designated majority or minority leaders of either chamber or appointed committees of the Legislative Assembly for any elected member;
- (D) Elected state officials holding the positions of Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Attorney General, Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor and Industries, and Superintendent of Public Instruction have authority to officially sanction or designate events for themselves;
- (E) Elected state court judges and district attorneys have authority to officially sanction or designate events for themselves;
- (F) Elected county sheriffs, surveyors, treasurers, assessors and justices of the peace have authority to officially sanction or designate events for themselves;

(G) The chief administrators of state executive departments, commissions or boards have authority to officially sanction or designate events for themselves;

(H) The chief administrator of a city or county government or a special district has authority to officially sanction or designate events for themselves.

Based on the information you provided, ORS 244.020(6)(b)(H) would allow the transportation, meals and lodging to be accepted by the public officials who participate in the event once their participation has been "official sanctioned."

The baseball cap and water bottle, however would appear to be a gift as defined in ORS 244.020(6)(a). It would appear that Coalition may have an economic interest in the public officials who may wish to participate in this event. ORS 244.025 identifies that during a calendar year, a public official, a candidate or relative or member of the household of the public official or candidate may not solicit or receive, directly or indirectly, any gift or gifts with an aggregate value in excess of \$50 from any single source that could reasonably be known to have a legislative or administrative interest.

It appears based on the information provided in your request that the value of the baseball cap and water bottle is under the aggregate value in which a public official may receive in a calendar year and public officials who may wish to partake of this gift would not be prohibited but need to be aware of any future gifts from this source in the 2014 calendar year so as not to exceed gifts with an aggregate value in excess of \$50.

There may be public officials who participate in the event who are also required to file with the Oregon Government Ethics Commission an Annual Verified Statement of Economic Interest (SEI). ORS 244.060(6) requires the officials to identify all expenses with an aggregate value exceeding \$50, received when participating in an event described in ORS 244.020(6)(b)(H). The event and the value of the transportation, meals and lodging must be listed on the SEI if the aggregate value exceeds \$50. It would be helpful to the participating public officials if you provided information that would assist them in completing the SEI.

If lobbyists or the clients or employers of lobbyist are the source of paid expenses for food and refreshment that is defined as a gift in ORS 244.020(5)(a) and it is a lobbying or goodwill building activity expense, it is required to be included in the quarterly expenditure reports as a lobbying activity expense.

Frontier Oregon Summit Coalition
C/o Colby Marshall
July 14, 2014
Page 5

If you have any additional questions regarding the application of Oregon Government Ethics law or Oregon Lobbying Regulations please feel free to contact me directly.

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Sincerely,



Ronald A. Bersin
Executive Director

RAB/th

*****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.

Frontier Oregon Summit Cost Receipt

Please print when filling in information - fax or scan a copy to Sustainable Northwest
and an invoice will be sent to you.

Name _____
 Street Address _____
 City, ZIP Code _____
 Phone _____
 E-mail _____

Item Description	Price	Check box to select	Total
Summit Hotel Transportation	\$61		
Summit Social Hour	\$35		
Summit Dinner	\$65		
Summit Breakfast	\$15		
Summit Lunch	\$20		
Summit Meeting Materials			
Summit Ball Cap	\$14		
Summit Water Bottle	\$5		
Summit Notebook	\$7		
Summit Pen	\$6		
Silvies Valley Ranch Overnight Accommodations			
Cabin Suite	\$175 per night		
Cabin Room	\$120 per night		
TOTAL			

For billing, please contact Sustainable Northwest	
Address	813 SW Alder, Suite 500 Portland, OR 97205
Phone	(503) 221-6911