

Agenda Item No.:	C
Title of Issue:	Decertification of Eight Dollar Mountain Common School Forest Land Parcel
Date of Presentation:	March 5, 2008
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**SUMMARY**

The purpose of this agenda item is to request Board approval for the decertification of the Eight Dollar Mountain parcel of Common School Forest Land (CSFL) currently managed by the Department through the *CSFL Management Agreement, June 2005*. The State Land Board (SLB) is expected to execute the decertification of this parcel and approve the sale of it at its February 12, 2008 meeting.

**CONTEXT**

The management agreement is a cooperative agreement between the SLB, the Department of State Lands (DSL) and the Department of Forestry. The DSL is requesting decertification of the Eight Dollar Mountain parcel so that they can proceed with the sale of the parcel to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD).

The OPRD identified the Eight Dollar Mountain Parcel as a priority acquisition site in its April 2006 Acquisition Priorities Report. The Eight Dollar Mountain acquisition proposal was reviewed during an executive session of the Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission on November 29, 2007, and was approved for purchase by the Commission at its January 17, 2008 meeting.

DSL has negotiated the sale of the 651-acre Eight Dollar Mountain parcel (Attachment 1) located in Josephine County to OPRD. The remaining 2.06 acres of the parcel will be retained by DSL as a communication site.

Prior to disposing of CSFL subject to the management agreement, the SLB and the Department have historically “decertified” the land from management by the Department. ORS 530.480 allows this process to be carried out by separate resolutions of the SLB and Board.

## **BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS**

In October 2006, the SLB approved the *Asset Management Plan 2006-2016 (ASM)*. This plan provides policy guidance and direction for all Common School Fund lands in Oregon. The AMP classified the Eight Dollar Mountain parcel as Special Stewardship land. The AMP management strategy for the parcel is: "Appraise and evaluate for disposal (sale or exchange) to entity, e.g. OPRD, that would manage for natural resource values."

In conducting its disposal evaluation, DSL considered the current and future trust revenue-producing opportunities of the parcel. There have been no timber management activities on the parcel; the only current revenue comes from the communication site lease situated on a 2.06-acre parcel (Tax lot 301) at the top of the mountain. A rough semi-improved road across Tax Lot 300 provides access to the communication site. The larger parcel (Tax Lot 300) has shallow serpentine soils with steep slopes that are marginal for forest production. The parcel is uneconomical to manage due to the isolated location, limited accessibility, and limited use of the land even for timber. In accordance with the AMP, DSL recognizes that OPRD is better equipped to protect the natural resource and public interest values of the parcel.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The Department recommends that the Board decertify and remove the CSFL designation from the Eight Dollar Mountain parcel as identified in Attachment 1 by executing the attached Resolution and Order (Attachment 2).

## **NEXT STEPS**

Upon decertification of the parcel, no further action is required of the Board.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- (1) Vicinity Map
- (2) Resolution and Order