

## NATURAL RESOURCES AND RECREATION

Agency 460

### Columbia River Gorge Commission

#### Recommendation Summary

Dollars in Thousands

	Annual FTEs	General Fund State	Other Funds	Total Funds
<b>2005-07 Expenditure Authority</b>	10.8	950	864	1,814
<b>Total Maintenance Level</b>	10.9	1,069	901	1,970
Difference	.1	119	37	156
Percent Change from Current Biennium	0.9%	12.5%	4.3%	8.6%
<b>Performance Changes</b>				
Indicator Project Support	.5	31	31	62
Revise Pension Gain-Sharing #		(2)	(2)	(4)
Nonrepresented Staff Health Benefit		5	5	10
Nonrepresented Staff Salary Change		42	42	84
Self Insurance Premium		(74)		(74)
<b>Subtotal</b>	0.5	2	76	78
<b>Total Proposed Budget</b>	11.4	1,071	977	2,048
Difference	.6	121	113	234
Percent Change from Current Biennium	5.6%	12.7%	13.1%	12.9%
<b>Total Proposed Budget by Activity</b>				
Implementation of the Management Plan and National Scenic Area Act	3.8	364	277	641
Policy Making and Hearing Citizen Appeals	4.5	391	391	782
Public Outreach and Technical Assistance to Counties	3.1	240	249	489
Other Statewide Adjustments		76	60	136
<b>Total Proposed Budget</b>	11.4	1,071	977	2,048

#### PERFORMANCE LEVEL CHANGE DESCRIPTIONS

##### Indicator Project Support

The Columbia River Gorge Commission performs activities mandated by the National Scenic Area Act (NSAA). It is currently developing indicators in preparation for the NSAA management plan update in 2010. Good benchmark data does not exist concerning the cumulative effects of land use permit decisions in the Gorge. A half-time position will collect data and evaluate the effects and benefits of NSAA on the Columbia River Gorge during the last twenty years. (General Fund-State, General Fund-Private/Local)

##### Self Insurance Premium

Funding for the Commission's self insurance premium is decreased to reflect claims experience.

## **NATURAL RESOURCES AND RECREATION**

### **ACTIVITY DESCRIPTIONS**

#### **Implementation of the Management Plan and National Scenic Area Act**

All counties of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area administer land use policies set forth by the Gorge Commission, with the exception of Klickitat County. (The Commission implements these policies for Klickitat County.) The Commission reviews county-approved plans for development to ensure consistency with the National Scenic Area Act and Management Plan and disperses grant funding to Clark and Skamania counties to provide planning and permitting services required by the Management Plan. It also reviews federal monies dispensed by Oregon and Washington investment boards in the form of economic development loans and grants.

#### **Policy Making and Hearing Citizen Appeals**

The primary function of the agency is to set land use policies for counties with land in the National Scenic Area. The counties of the Gorge area carry out these policies and issue land use decisions. Citizens may appeal county decisions to the Commission, which acts as a quasi-judicial body by reviewing the facts of the case and rendering a final decision. (General Fund-State, General Fund-Private Local)

#### **Public Outreach and Technical Assistance to Counties**

This activity increases public awareness of the National Scenic Area Act and Management Plan, and provides assistance to counties in its implementation. The Commission is developing a Geographic Information Systems database for the Gorge, which will include a digitized map, parcel identification, and location of scenic, plant, animal and cultural resources. (General Fund-State, General Fund-Private Local)

#### **Other Statewide Adjustments**

This item reflects proposed compensation and other adjustments that were not allocated to individual agency activities. The agency will assign these costs to the proper activities after the budget is enacted.