

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 12-16

PROMOTING WOOD PRODUCTS IN COMMERCE AS A GREEN BUILDING MATERIAL, ENCOURAGING INNOVATIVE USES OF WOOD PRODUCTS AND INCREASING MARKETS FOR OREGON WOOD PRODUCTS

Oregon has the most forestland of any state in the continental United States and is the national leader in softwood lumber and plywood production, forest productivity, timber harvest, logging, forestry research, forestry education and wild land firefighting.

Oregon's forest sector – primary wood products (e.g., lumber, veneer and plywood), secondary wood products (e.g., doors and windows), forestland management, transportation and distribution of forest products and forestry support (e.g., consulting, firefighting and reforestation) – ranks third among Oregon traded-sectors, those industries producing income from goods and services sold out of state; is estimated to directly contribute \$12.7 billion to the state's economy annually; and directly employs 76,000 people generating \$5.2 billion in income and comprises 4.8 percent of Oregon's total payroll and when accounting for both direct and indirect jobs (goods and services purchased by the industry), supports 113,000 jobs and 7 percent of total payroll.

Sustainable forest management provides many benefits, including clean air and water, fish and wildlife habitat, climate change mitigation, renewable energy, forest products used every day, and employment and tax bases for local communities.

Promoting markets for products from sustainably managed forests helps conserve forests by encouraging forest ownership, protects jobs, and strengthens local communities.

Wood is widely recognized as a renewable, reusable and recyclable green building material by the forestry and design/build communities.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DIRECTED AND ORDERED:

1. The Oregon Department of Administrative Services, in collaboration with other state agencies, shall identify at least two state capital construction projects that can be improved by featuring wood products in the design and construction, both structurally and aesthetically, highlighting use of wood products in non-residential construction.

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2. The Oregon Department of Forestry shall collaborate with the Oregon Business Development Department and the Oregon State University College of Forestry, as well as other public and private entities, such as the Oregon Forest Resources Institute, to report to the Governor on whether leading green building rating systems adequately recognize the environmental, social and other related benefits of wood products made from trees grown and harvested in Oregon as compared to other timber growing regions.
3. The Oregon Department of Administrative Services, in consideration of the importance of wood products to the Oregon economy, and in collaboration with other public and private entities, shall investigate the utility of the State of Oregon using wood products in new construction or renovations of state buildings in a manner consistent with the building code, and deliver its recommendation to the Governor.
4. The Oregon Business Development Department shall collaborate with other public and private agencies, including the Oregon Department of Forestry and the Oregon Innovation Council, to develop a strategy to accelerate the research and commercialization of innovative wood products and applications.
5. The Oregon Business Development Department shall collaborate with other public and private agencies to present a work plan to the 2013 Oregon Legislature to increase the market for Oregon wood products, including the promotion and marketing of Oregon wood products to new and existing international and domestic markets.

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6. In the event of a conflict between any provision of Oregon law and this Executive Order, Oregon law will prevail and the remaining terms of this Executive Order shall remain in force and effect.
7. This Executive Order expires at 11:59 p.m. on December 31, 2013.

Done at Portland, Oregon, this 8th day of October, 2012.

John A. Kitzhaber, MD
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Kate Brown
SECRETARY OF STATE