## Part I - Agency Profile

## **Agency Overview**

In order to effectively manage the endowment lands and funds, Article IX of the Idaho Constitution established the State Board of Land Commissioners, consisting of Idaho's Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, and Superintendent of Public Instruction. The State Auditor (now called State Controller) was added in 1910. The Land Commissioners, acting in the capacity of trustees on behalf of the beneficiary schools and other institutions, were given the responsibility under Article IX, Section 8 of the Constitution (as amended) to manage endowment lands "...in such manner as will secure the maximum long term financial return to the institution to which granted..." In addition to this charge, the Constitution also established a permanent endowment fund, the principal of which "...shall forever remain inviolate and intact..." and the interest from which must be used for the maintenance of the public beneficiaries of the State.

**Beneficiaries:** Public Schools, the Agricultural College Fund (University of Idaho), Charitable Institutions Fund (Idaho State University, Industrial Training School, State Hospital North, Idaho Veterans Homes, and the School for the Deaf and Blind), Normal School Fund (Idaho State University Department of Education and Lewis-Clark State College), the Penitentiary Fund, the School of Science Fund (University of Idaho), State Hospital South Fund, the University Fund (University of Idaho), and the Capitol Commission.

More than 225 full-time dedicated natural resource specialists and support staff, functioning in 10 Supervisory Areas throughout the State, work to implement the management directives as handed down by the Idaho Constitution and the State Board of Land Commissioners. Of the 3.65 million acres originally received, endowment lands currently total nearly 2.5 million acres, including 780,000 acres of commercial timberland and about three million acres of minerals. In addition, the Department of Lands, having been assigned additional duties over the years by the State Legislature, now serves as the host agency to the Idaho Board of Scaling Practices, the Clearwater-Potlatch Timber Protective Association, and the Southern Idaho Timber Protective Association.

In addition to the primary mission of managing endowment trust lands, the Department has been charged by the Idaho Legislature to administer several programs designed to protect natural resources vital to the well-being of Idaho citizens. These include:

- The Idaho Forest Practices Act, which regulates forest management activities on state, private and federal land to ensure continued productivity and protection of soil, air, and water quality.
- The Lake Protection Act, which regulates encroachments over and upon the beds of navigable waters.
- The Idaho Surface Mining, which regulates the permitting and reclamation of surface mining.
- The Idaho Abandoned Mine Reclamation Act, which authorizes reclamation of abandoned mines.
- The Idaho Dredge and Placer Mining Protection Act, which regulates the permitting and reclamation of placer and dredge mining activities.
- The Hazard Reduction law, which ensures the mitigation of fire hazard associated with timber harvest.
- The Idaho Forestry law, which provides for the effective and efficient suppression of wild fires.

The Department also delivers landowner and community assistance programs designed to advance sound resource management. These include, among others, the Forest Stewardship Program, the Community and Urban Forestry Program, the Forest Health Initiative, and the National Fire Plan.

#### **Core Functions/Idaho Code**

The Idaho Department of Lands operates under authority of Idaho Statutes and Idaho Administrative Rules.

- TITLE 38 FORESTRY, FOREST PRODUCTS AND STUMPAGE DISTRICTS
- TITLE 47 MINES AND MINING
- TITLE 58 PUBLIC LANDS

#### **Support Services Division** -

The <u>Fiscal</u> section provides oversight and policy direction for all accounting functions of the agency including accounts payable and receivable, payroll and internal auditing.

<u>Human Resources</u> functions are provided by a Human Resource Officer and two specialists.

The <u>Information Technology</u> section is responsible for providing organizational support for technology-based communication and information systems.

Procurement staff solicit, evaluate, and award contracts with the private sector to carry out the agency's work.

The <u>Records Manager</u> coordinates agency-wide records management in order to make all employees more efficient and organized in their delivery of services to customers.

<u>Legal</u> services are provided by the Office of the Attorney General. Four Deputy Attorneys General are assigned to the Department and have primary responsibility for providing legal advice, initiating legal action to support Department actions, and defending Department actions in court, as necessary.

#### Forestry and Fire Division -

The <u>Forest Management Bureau</u> provides statewide policy direction, technical guidance, and oversight in the utilization, improvement, and protection of the renewable forest resources on endowment trust lands. In addition, the Forest Management Bureau supervises the measurement of forest products harvested as part of the Department's annual timber sale program and the accounting for the receipt of associated payments.

The <u>Forestry Assistance Bureau</u>, staffed by specialists in the various fields of forest management, provides technical assistance to the Department, other government agencies, forestry and green industry professionals, communities, and private forestland owners. It administers the delivery of programs designed to assist in the responsible management of forest resources. The bureau also oversees policy administration of the Idaho Forest Practices Act, which regulates forest practice operations in Idaho.

The <u>Fire Management Bureau</u> provides policy direction and oversight for the prevention, preparedness, and suppression of wildland fires on over six million acres of public and private forest and rangelands across Idaho.

The <u>Technical Services Bureau</u> houses the Geographic Information System (GIS) Program, which provides working solutions to meet IDL's geospatial data collection, analysis, and reporting needs. The bureau also includes the Interdisciplinary Team (ID Team) and Endangered Species Program, which provide specialized technical assistance and recommendations to IDL's land and resource managers across the state.

## Lands and Waterways Division -

The <u>Endowment Leasing Bureau</u> provides statewide policy direction, technical guidance, and oversight to the Supervisory Areas in the administration of endowment land leases. Endowment land lease types include grazing, agriculture, residential real estate, commercial real estate, non-commercial recreation, conservation, oil and gas, and minerals.

The <u>Resource Protection and Assistance Bureau</u> supports the Supervisory Areas in the processing of encroachment permits under the Lake Protection Act and the approval of reclamation plans under the Surface and Placer Mining Act. Submerged land leases are maintained for commercial marinas, float homes, and community docks located over public trust lands. This bureau also supports the Idaho Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, which regulates the exploration, drilling, and production of oil and gas resources in Idaho to ensure the conservation of oil and gas and the protection of surface and groundwater.

The <u>Real Estate Services Bureau</u> is responsible for handling the completion of land acquisition, exchange, or disposal transactions. The bureau is responsible for developing policies and procedures associated with acquiring and granting rights-of-way, disclaimers of interest along navigable rivers, and conducting appraisals for departmental purposes. The Land Records unit is housed in this bureau and maintains land ownership records and databases to assist in planning and implementing management strategies of lands and resources within departmental control.

<u>Scaling Practices</u> - The primary purpose of the Board is to enforce log scaling (measurement) standards prescribed by statute and regulations. The Board tests and licenses scaling practitioners and subjects them to routine, unannounced checks to ensure proficiency.

**Revenue and Expenditures** 

Revenue	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
General Fund (appropriation)	\$3,921,400	\$4,258,000	\$5,174,300	\$5,274,000
Fire Suppression Deficiency	\$3,045,800	\$5,498,500	\$6,403,100	\$7,618,300
Department of Lands	\$7,260,700	\$7,223,600	\$7,459,200	\$7,428,700
Federal Grants	\$5,821,400	\$3,365,200	\$2,650,200	\$7,648,900
American Recovery	\$609,500	\$92,400	\$0	\$0
Permanent Endowment	\$3,309,800	\$2,493,800	\$2,415,100	\$2,429,300
Endowment Earnings Reserve	\$62,448,100	\$72,525,000	\$87,352,200	\$82,357,900
Misc. / Pass-through Funds	\$1,893,200	\$906,600	<u>\$12,940,000</u>	\$39,557,700
Total	\$88,309,900	\$96,363,100	\$112,748,100	\$152,313,000
Expenditure	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
Personnel Costs	\$21,523,400	\$24,244,400	\$24,269,100	\$25,850,300
Operating Expenditures	\$18,311,700	\$24,326,600	\$33,869,300	\$31,579,700
Capital Outlay	\$1,475,000	\$1,723,900	\$1,021,400	\$1,512,700
Trustee/Benefit Payments	\$4,034,400	\$3,285,300	\$2,957,200	\$7,795,200
Total	\$45,344,500	\$53,580,200	\$62,117,000	\$66,737,400

Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
Submit the timber sale volume from the annual timber sales plan to Land Board by June 30 of each year	105%	103%	101%	98%
Complete public involvement process, compile identified issues for Land Board approval each April	100%	100%	100%	100%
Review 10% of proposed timber sales for compliance with rules and regulations	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed
Provide professional management plan assistance to forest landowners	52 owners	60 owners	59 owners	153 owners
Provide Cooperative Extension training sessions throughout Idaho	31 workshops	28 workshops	30 workshops	32 workshops
Target 40-60% of forest practices	64% inspected	59% inspected	53% inspected	53% inspected

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
for inspections for compliance with FPA				
Administer land bank program	2 sales - \$524,800	1 sale - \$116,035	34 sales - \$11,739,532	94 sales - \$40,083,422
Acquire at least 5 permanent easements	13	7	10	10
Administer leases (submerged, range, commercial, cottage site, mineral, crop, oil & gas, geothermal and misc.)	2,482 leases	2,495 leases	2,942 leases	2599 leases
Establish occupancy of commercial buildings at 85%	76%	89%	91%	84%
Process Navigable Waters Encroachment Applications	438	311	302	412
Control 94% of fires at 10 acres or less	94.4%	90%	94%	92%
Inspect logging jobs for compliance with fire hazard management rules (statistics for calendar year)	950	785	621	1406
Provide a comprehensive fire prevention program, including the issuance of burning permits	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete
Mining reclamation plans approved	37	18	11	21
Abandoned mines investigated, reclaimed, or mitigated	1	1	5	9
Conduct scaling workshops	2 workshops	1 workshop	10 workshops	9 workshops

# Part II - Performance Measures

Performance Measure	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	Benchmark
Check scales conducted	100	134	121	189	120
2. Fire readiness reviews completed	13	13	11	12	5
Conduct at least one joint fire simulation exercises with a county	5	5	3	5	1
4. From 2006 to 2011 increase the percentage of annual timber sale plan volume submitted to Land Board by December 31 to 50%	77%	65%	70%	62	50% of sale volume submitted by Dec 2011
5. Develop and implement	2.75%	3.53%	4.17%	4.56%	4% return

Performance Measure	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	Benchmark
annual forest management plan designed to yield an average 4% return on investment (exclusive of land value appreciation)					on investment
6. Improve management succession by increasing the percentage of qualified internal candidates available to fill vacancies	37%	39%	55%	46%	80% of promotional openings filled with a qualified internal candidate

### **For More Information Contact**

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