

Elliott State Research Forest Board of Directors

Managed by the Department of State Lands, the Elliott State Research Forest is a nationally important center for forest science and management that also contributes to conservation, education, recreation, Indigenous culture, and local economies in Oregon. The community is welcome to attend meetings of the Elliott State Research Forest Board. Meeting information is posted the week before the meeting. Learn more and sign up to get email updates at: <https://www.oregon.gov/dsl/Pages/Elliott.aspx>.

Name	Location	Board Seat	Term	Appointed on	Term Ends on
Keith Tymchuck	Reedsport	1	3 years	June 11, 2024	October 15, 2027
Kaitlin Lovell	Colton	2	3 years	February 11, 2025	October 15, 2027
Mike Kennedy	Siletz	3	3 years	June 11, 2024	October 15, 2027
Melissa Cribbins	Coos Bay	4	2 years	June 11, 2024	October 15, 2026
Peter Hayes	Portland	5	2 years	June 11, 2024	October 15, 2026
Jennifer Allen	Portland	6	2 years	October 15, 2024	October 15, 2026
Payton Smith	Coos Bay	7	1 year	October 15, 2024	October 15, 2025
Mike Wilson	Dallas	8	1 year	October 15, 2024	October 15, 2025
Haley Lutz	Coos Bay	9	1 year	June 11, 2024	October 15, 2025

Jennifer Allen, Portland

Jennifer Allen recently retired from Portland State University, where she was the Portland Professor of Environment and Natural Resources in the Mark O. Hatfield School of Government; she previously served as director of PSU's Institute for Sustainable Solutions. Jennifer served on the prospective board for the Elliott State Research Forest and chaired the Science Advisory Panel associated with earlier ESRF development efforts. She has also served as a commissioner and chair on the Oregon State Parks Commission as well as on the boards of a number of nonprofits. Jennifer offers knowledge and experience related to governance, research, and organizational development that would be of value to the ESRF board. Jennifer holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Science and Public Policy from George Mason University, a Master of Environmental Management from Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, and a BA in American Studies from Yale University.

Melissa Cribbins, Coos Bay

Melissa Cribbins is a small business owner and an attorney. A former Coos County Commissioner, Melissa is currently a member of the Environmental Protection Agency's Local Government Advisory Council and is past Chair of the National Association of Counties' Energy, Environment and Land Use Committee. Prior to her election in 2012, she worked for the Coquille Indian Tribe as in-house counsel for six years. She is a member of the Oregon State Bar, the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians Bar, and the Washington State Bar, and she also serves as a tribal judge. She has served on multiple boards and committees, including the Elliott State Research Forest Advisory Committee, the Board of Directors for the Association of Oregon Counties, and the Board of Directors for Energy Trust of Oregon. Melissa is a graduate of Portland State University and Gonzaga University.

Peter Hayes, Portland

Peter Hayes and his family own and care for Hyla Woods in the northern Oregon Coast Range where they experiment with what is needed to grow forests that are ecologically complex and resilient, economically sufficient, and culturally helpful. Building on 170 years of family work in forestry and sawmilling, Peter's public involvements include past service on the Oregon Board of Forestry, co-founding and leadership of the Build Local Alliance, and coordination of the NW Innovative Forestry Summit.

Mike Kennedy, Siletz

Mike Kennedy recently retired as the Natural Resources Director for the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, where he was responsible for operation of the Tribal Forestry, Aquatics, Wildlife, Hunting & Fishing, Realty and Environmental Protection programs. Prior to that role, he served as the Tribe's Forester and Presales Forester and spent 8 seasons as a Forestry Technician on the Ochoco National Forest. All told, he has dedicated his career to forest management for 44 years and continues to remain engaged in these issues while living in Siletz, Oregon. Mike holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Forest Management from the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry. In addition to serving on the Elliott State Research Forest Board, he has served on the Siuslaw National Forest Resource Advisory Committee, the BLM Western Oregon Resource Advisory Committee, the Oregon Department of Forestry State Forests Advisory Committee, and the Oregon State University McDonald-Dunn Research Forest Stakeholder Advisory Committee.

Kaitlin Lovell, Colton

Kaitlin Lovell is a scientist and a lawyer specializing in endangered species and river ecosystems, with over 25 years of professional experience elevating the role of science in law and policy. She is an expert in the Endangered Species Act and Clean Water Act including the development and implementation of Habitat Conservation Plans. Since 2007 she has served in a variety of roles for the City of Portland including External Finance Manager, Mitigation Policy Director, Regulatory Strategy and Remediation Manager, and thirteen years leading the Science Integration (formerly Science, Fish and Wildlife) Division. A climate practitioner, she is the co-author of Portland's Climate Change Vulnerability and Risk

Assessment, and Climate Preparation Strategy, leading the natural resources assessment and strategy. Kaitlin joined the City after seven years at Trout Unlimited, a national nonprofit fish conservation organization, where she served as salmon policy coordinator and counsel helping to draft Oregon's first recovery plans for Oregon Coast Coho, and for Lower Columbia and Willamette coho, chinook and steelhead. Prior to moving to Oregon in 2001, she served as Assistant University Counsel at Cornell University supporting and defending world renowned research including experimental nature-based climate solutions. Kaitlin is a graduate of Cornell Law School and Bucknell University.

Haley Lutz, Coos Bay

Haley Lutz is an Oregon coast native, born in North Bend. She is the Executive Director of the Coos Watershed Association (CoosWA), a locally organized, non-regulatory organization that has been leading innovative science, restoration, monitoring, and education programs with the Coos watershed community since 1994. CoosWA has a deep interest in the Elliott and related partnerships. Haley holds a Master of Studies in Environmental and Natural Resource Law from Lewis and Clark Law School. Before coming to CoosWA, she worked for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, interned with NOAA Fisheries working on the Oregon Coast Coho Recovery Plan, and led a watershed council on the North Coast. In her spare time, she enjoys fishing, bow hunting, swimming, exploring the outdoors, and trying to keep up with her wild toddler.

Payton Smith, Coos Bay

Born and raised in North Bend, Payton Smith spent much of her youth growing up on the Elliott. After graduating from college at the University of Oregon, she worked for Roseburg Forest Products in Springfield before moving home to Coos Bay. Payton serves as the Director of Communications and Government Affairs for Southport Lumber. Her job connects her with South Coast community and economic vitality efforts in many ways. She also on the South Coast. She also serves on the board of directors for the Judith Ann Mogan Foundation as well as the Boys and Girls Club of Southwestern Oregon.

Keith Tymchuk, Reedsport

Keith Tymchuk is a lifelong resident of Reedsport. A graduate of the University of Oregon and Oregon State University, he has been an educator for 42 years, the last 40 at Reedsport High School teaching Government, History, Psychology and English. He served six terms as Reedsport's mayor, has been a Port of Umpqua Commissioner for 28 years and serves as the Regional Solutions Convener for Douglas, Coos, and Curry Counties. He is currently the President of the Board of Directors for Central Lincoln PUD. Keith also has been involved in projects as diverse as Wave Energy, Community Forests, and the Oregon Coast Trail. Keith served on the Elliott State Research Forest Advisory Committee since its inception in 2019. He is an avid reader and enjoys hunting, fly fishing and golfing in his free time.

Michael Wilson, Dallas

Michael Wilson served as the Natural Resource Department Director for the Grand Ronde Tribe (now retired), where he managed forestry and Indigenous stewardship approaches and programs on the Tribe's forestlands. He has also served on many state and federal committees and planning efforts where he has engaged in forest policy and tribal representation. Currently, he serves as a board member of the Oregon Agricultural Trust and Board Chair of the Polk Soil and Water Conservation District. Mike is a Grand Ronde Tribal member and brings valuable knowledge and experience of tribal forest operations and management. He continues to work on several projects that promote tribal rights and representation. Mike worked and recreated around the Elliott early in his career and worked as part of representation of Grand Ronde Tribal interests in the original Elliott advisory committee. Mike holds an MBA from George Fox University and Business/Environmental Studies from Linfield College.

About the State Land Board and the Department of State Lands: The State Land Board consists of Governor, Secretary of State, and State Treasurer. Established by the Oregon Constitution in 1859, the Land Board oversees the state's Common School Fund. The Department of State Lands is the Land Board's administrative agency, managing the lands and resources that help fund Oregon's public schools and protecting the state's waterways and wetlands for the many benefits they provide.

