

# Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area



Ways and Means  
Subcommittee on Natural Resources

March 18, 2013

# Introduction

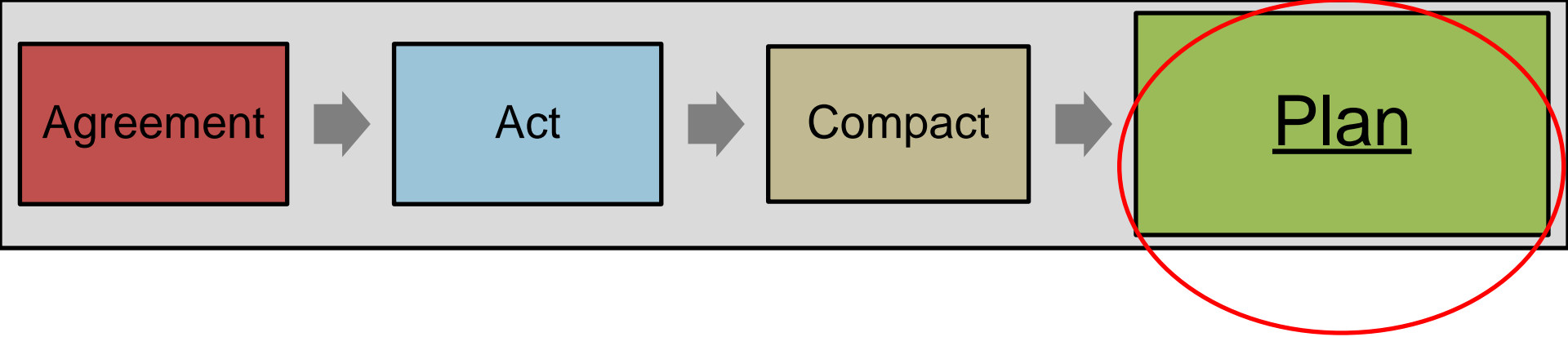
## Columbia River Gorge Commission

- 13-members –
  - 6 Oregon/Washington
  - 6 County
  - 1 US Forest Service
- Interstate Compact Agency
- Purposes
  - Protect and enhance Gorge resources
  - Support and enhance the regional economy

# Budget Facts

Equal Funding = Oregon and Washington

- 100% State General Funds
- Two budgeting processes
- Two performance measure systems
- Two oversight and approval bodies
- Two state policy requirements
- Two auditing processes
- Two political processes



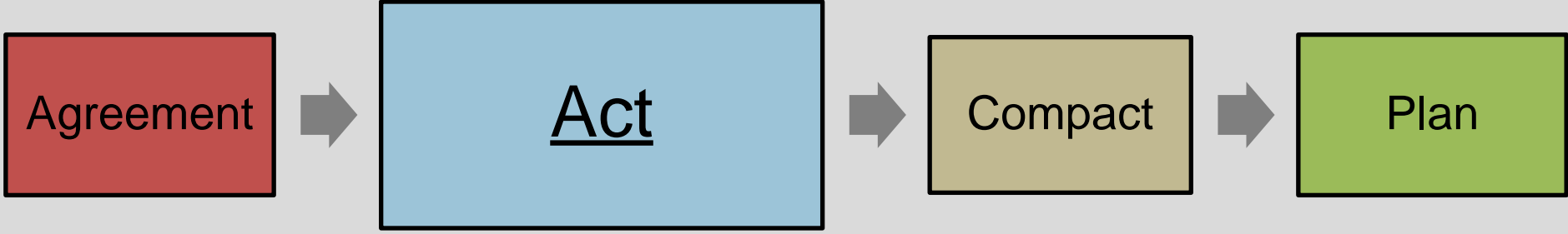
**History**

**Law**

**Implementation**

***Innovation . . .***

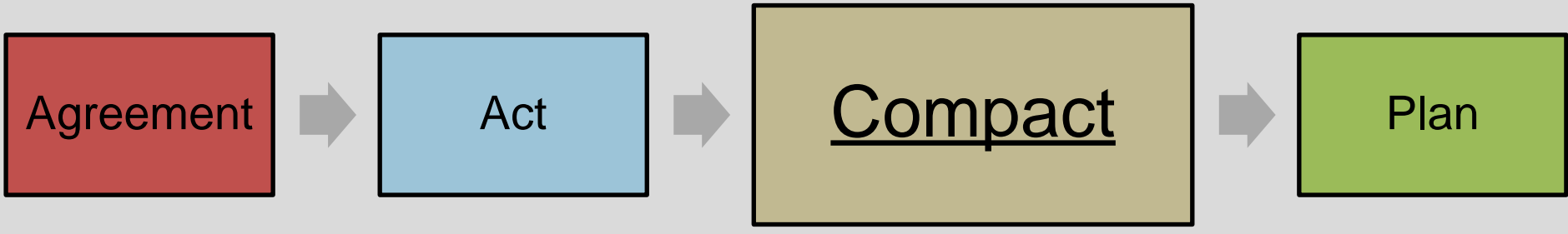
***Leadership . . .***



# **Overview of Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act**

(16 U.S.C. §§ 544-544p)

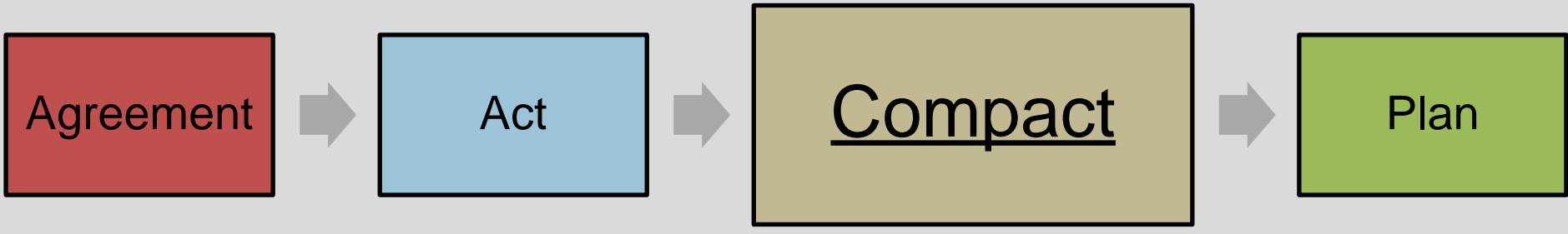
- Sec. 2 - “Definitions”
- Sec. 4 - “Establishment of scenic area”
- Sec. 5 - “Columbia River Gorge Commission”
- Sec. 6 - “Scenic area management plan”
- Sec. 7 - “Administration of scenic area”



# Columbia River Gorge Compact

ORS 196.150 and RCW 43.97.015

- Art. I - establishes Commission
- Art. I - incorporates Scenic Area Act
- Art. IV - specifies funding



## **Related State Statutes**

ORS 196.155 and RCW 43.97.025(1)

directs and provides authority for the governor, state agencies and counties to carry out their respective functions and responsibilities in accordance with the compact and the Act.

Agreement



Act



Compact



Plan

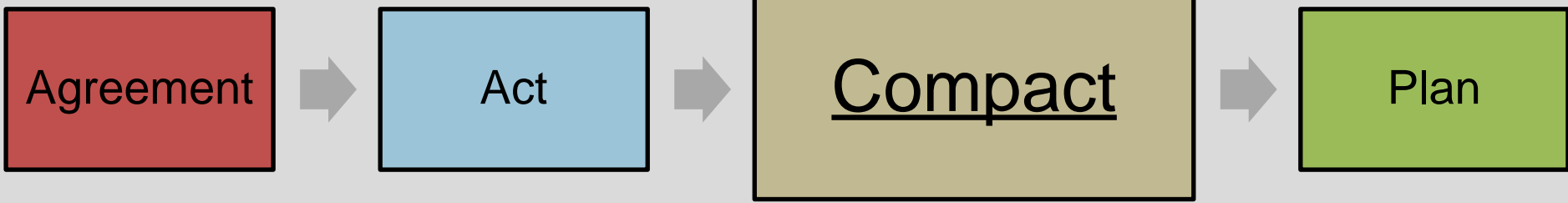
## Constitutional law



“No state shall, without the Consent of Congress . . . enter into any Agreement or Compact with another state . . . .”

U.S. Const. art. I, § 10, cl. 3.



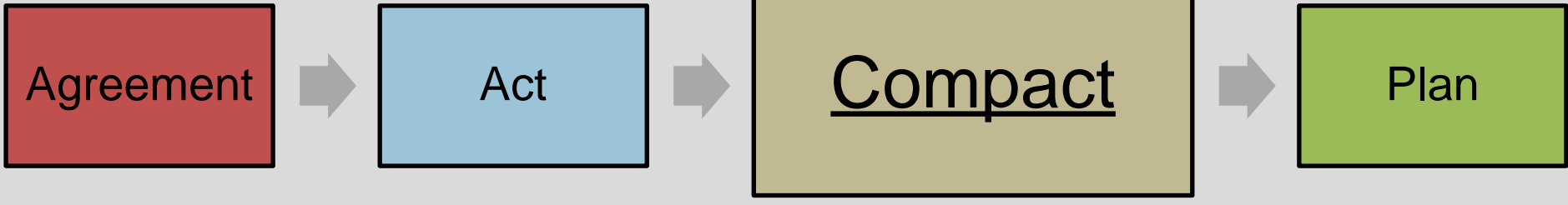


## Constitutional law, cont'd



Consent transforms a compact into federal law.  
*Cuyler v. Adams*, 449 U.S. 433, 442 (1981).

- Interpret compact as federal law
- Non-supremacy of other federal law
- Status of compact agency regulations
- Supremacy (state statutes and constitutions)



# A statute and a contract



a legislatively enacted, binding, and enforceable agreement between two or more states

Agreement



Act



Compact



Plan

# Overview of Management Plan

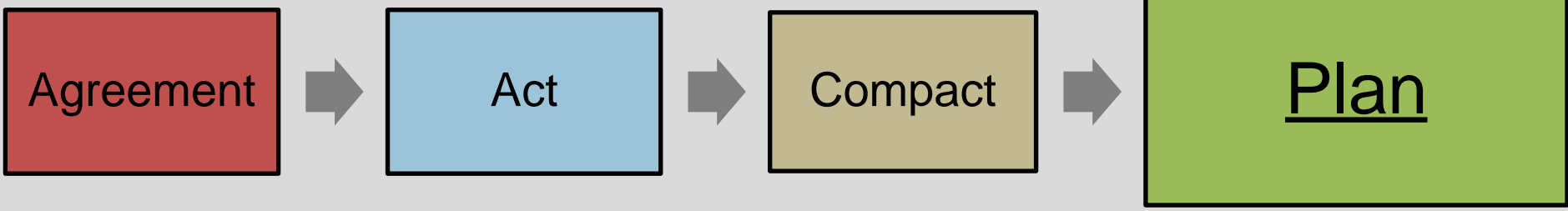
## MANAGEMENT PLAN

for the

Columbia River Gorge  
National Scenic Area



FIRST REVISION - APRIL 2004



## Part I: Resource Protection

- Scenic
  - » Key viewing areas; landscape settings; scenic travel corridors
- Cultural
  - » Archaeological, historic, traditional cultural properties
- Natural
  - » Wetlands, streams, ponds/lakes, wildlife, plants
- Recreation
  - » General goals & policies; recreation intensity classes

Agreement



Act



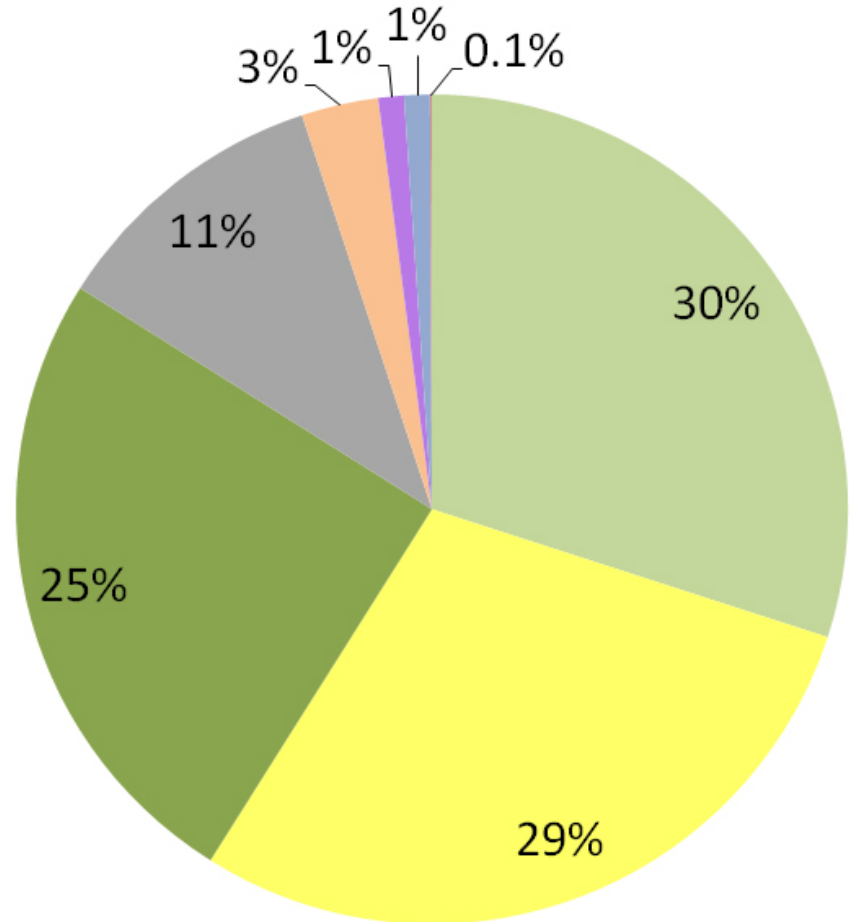
Compact



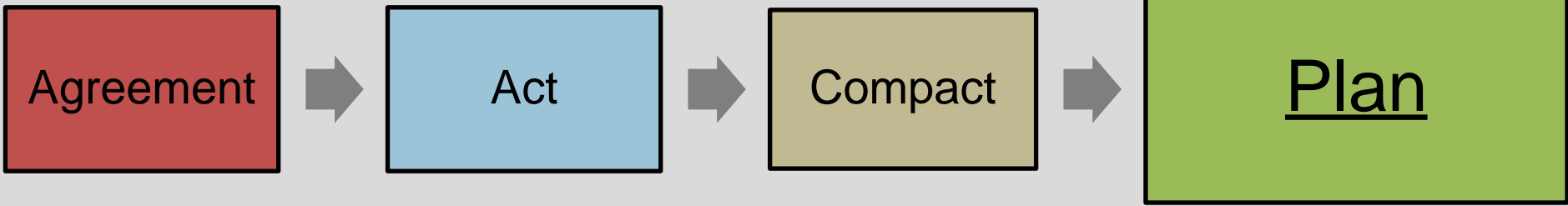
Plan

# Part II: Land use designations

Non-urban areas



- Open Space
- Agriculture
- Forest
- Urban Areas
- Residential
- Tribal Trust
- Recreation
- Commercial and Rural Center



## Part III: Action Program

- Recreation Development Plan
- Economic Development
- Enhancement Strategies
- Education & Interpretation

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graph LR; A[Agreement] --> B[Act]; B --> C[Compact]; C --> D[Plan];
```

Agreement

Act

Compact

Plan

## Part IV: Administration

- Indian Tribal Treaty Rights & Consultation
- US Forest Service
- Gorge Commission
- Counties –
  - Multnomah, Hood River and Wasco

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graph LR; A[Agreement] --> B[Act]; B --> C[Compact]; C --> D[Plan];
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Agreement

Act

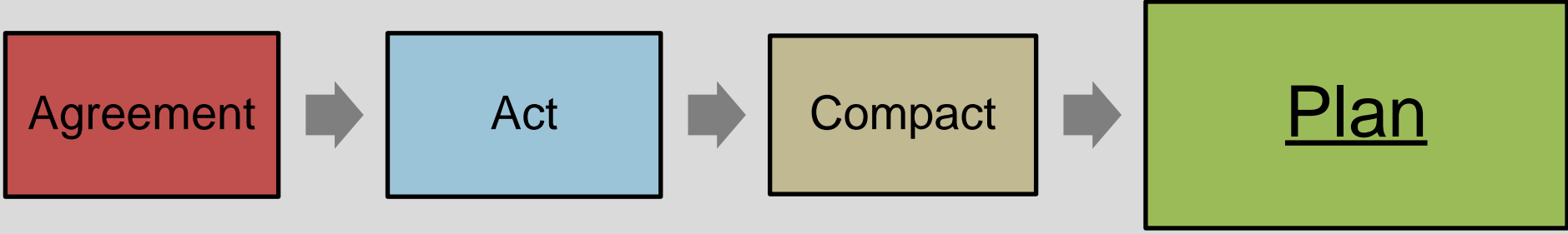
Compact

Plan

## Plan Addresses Regional Issues:

- The Region's Comprehensive Plan
  - » Vision with goals and objectives
  - » Zoning and new development
  - » Regular coordination – local, state, federal, tribal, public
  - » Regional consistency





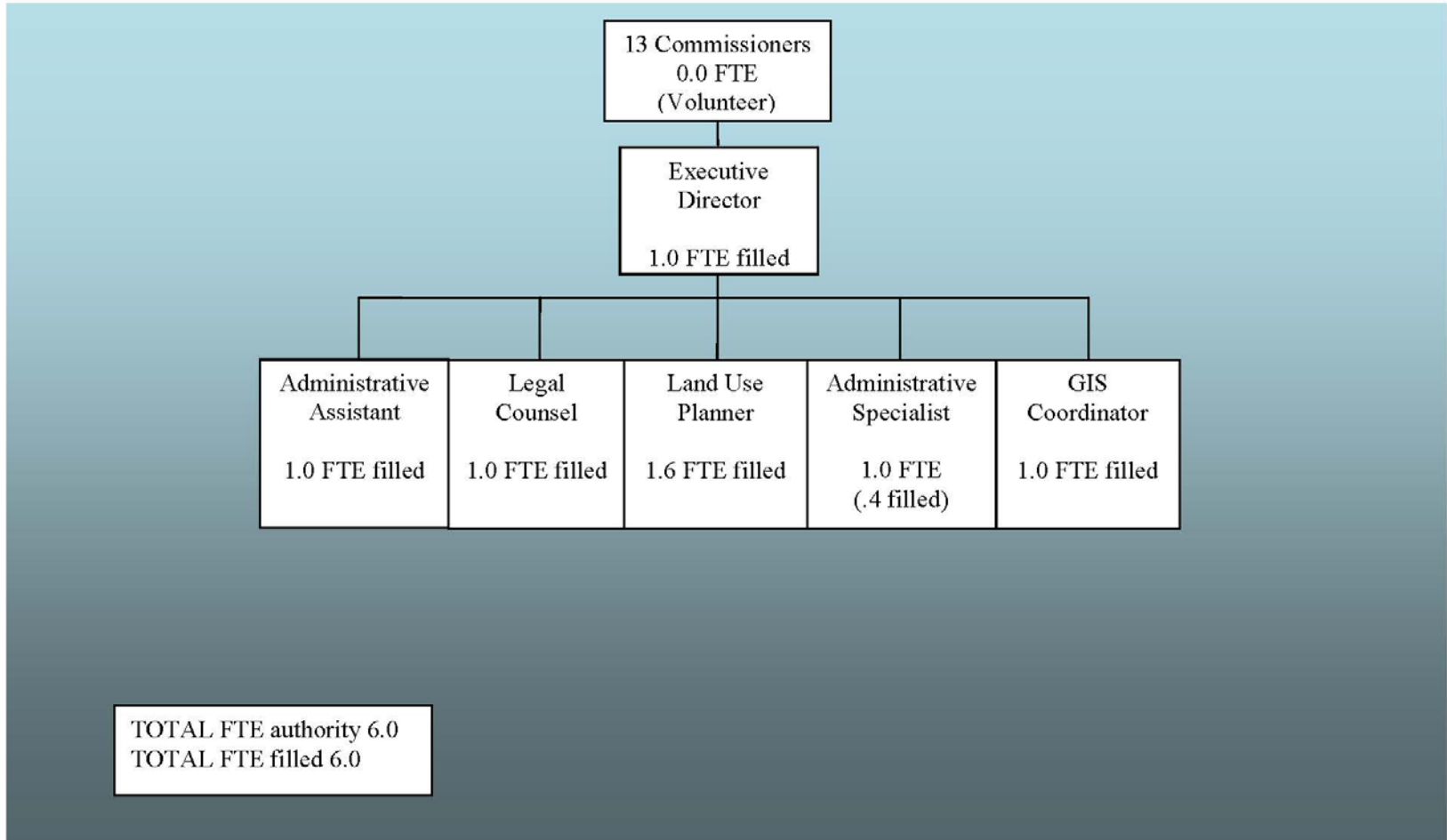
## How the Plan Addresses Regional Issues:

- Cumulative Effects
  - » Inventories, zoning, minimum parcel sizes
  - » Allowable uses
  - » Standards, buffers, and setbacks

# BUDGET NARRATIVE

## Proposed Organizational Chart (with Stable Funding Package)

2013-2015 Biennium



\_\_\_ Agency Request

X Governor's Recommended

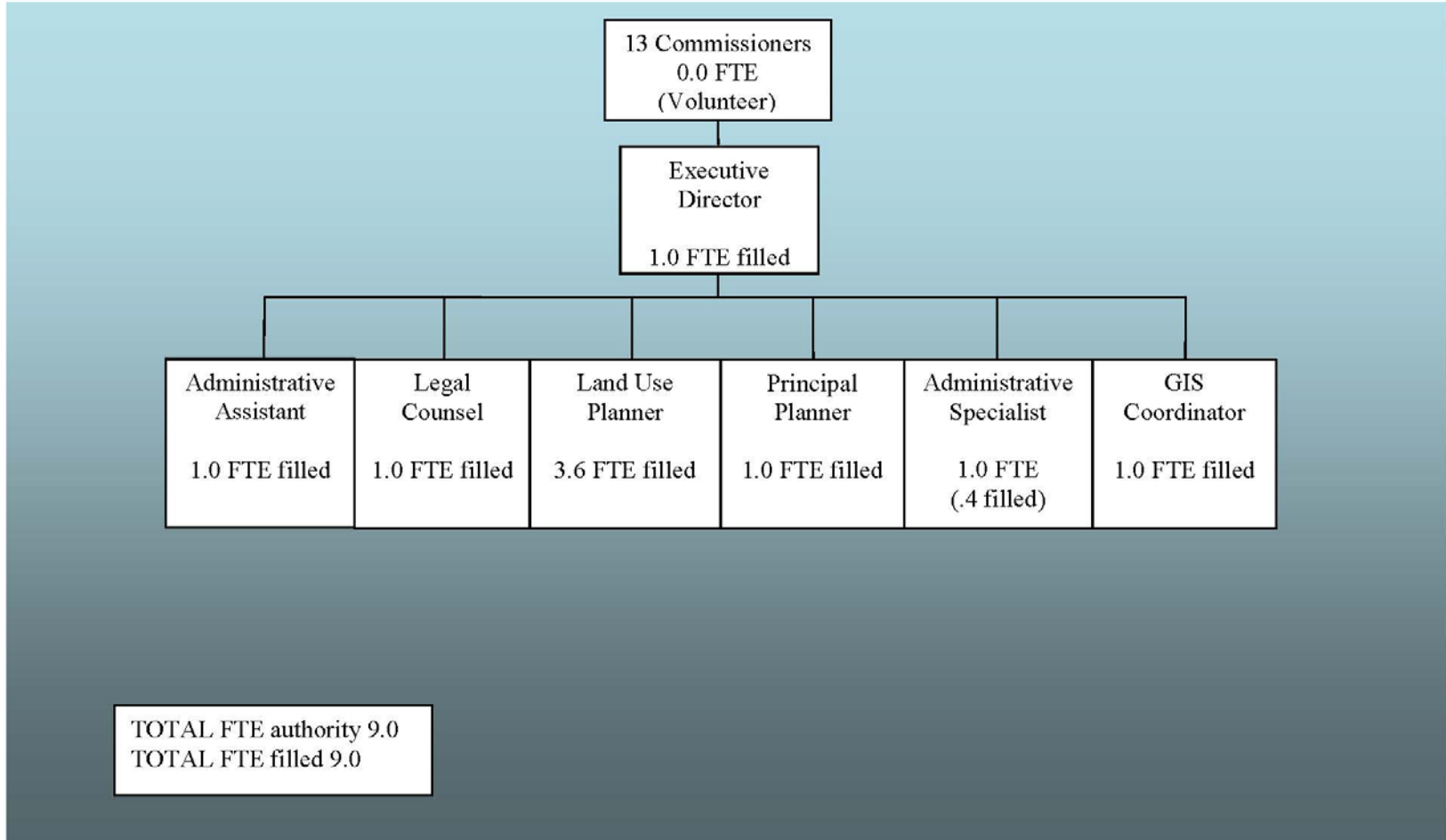
\_\_\_ Legislatively Adopted

Budget Page \_\_\_

# BUDGET NARRATIVE

## Proposed Organizational Chart (with all Option Packages funded)

2013-2015 Biennium



Agency Request

Governor's Recommended

Legislatively Adopted

Budget Page

# Key Performance Measures

- 1. DEVELOPMENT DECISIONS-** Percentage and number of county decisions where Commission comments were addressed in the decision (a) fully; (b) partially
- 2. DEVELOPMENT REVIEWS-** Percentage of Development Reviews that are issued within the required timeframe.
- 3. AGENCY RATING–** Percent of customers rating their satisfaction with the agency's customer service as "good" or "excellent": overall customer service, timeliness, accuracy, helpfulness, expertise and availability of information.
- 4. BEST PRACTICES**  
Percent of total best practices met by the board

# Other Performance Measures

ALL fundamental purposes of the NSA

Support and assistance to counties

Statutory mandates

Statutory timelines

# KPM #1

New measure in 2010

Target = 75%

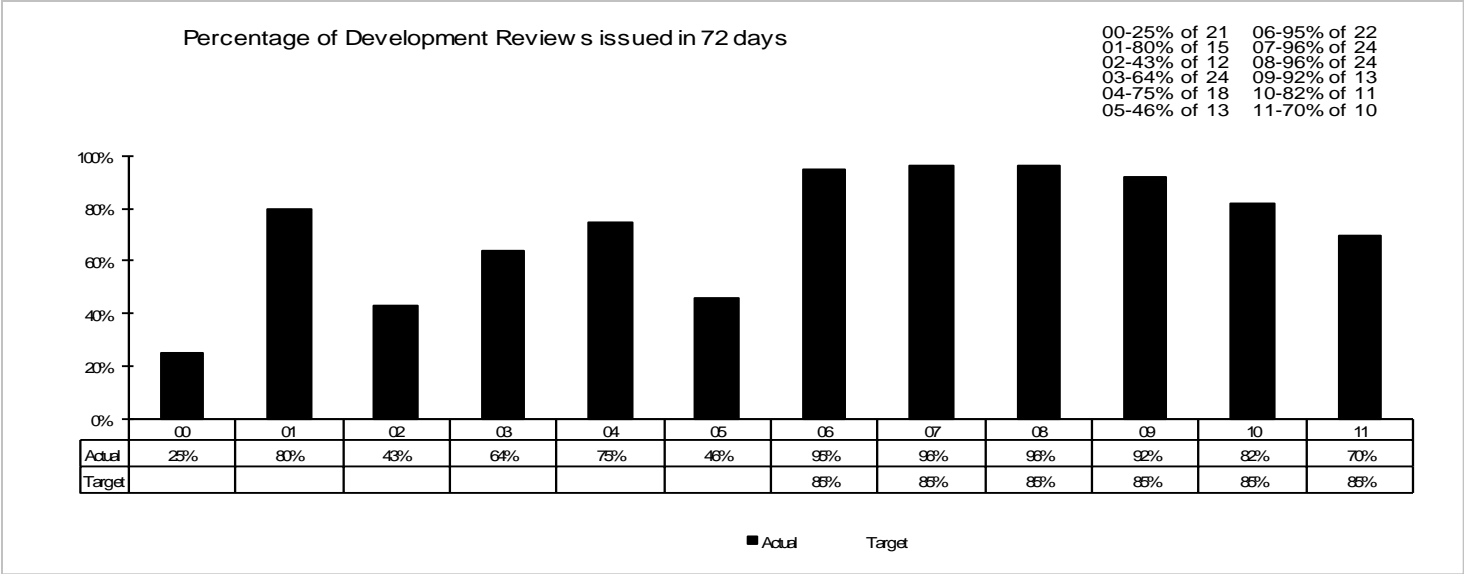
2010 = 94%

2011 = 96%

2012 = 96%

\* Does not reflect overall monitoring capacity.

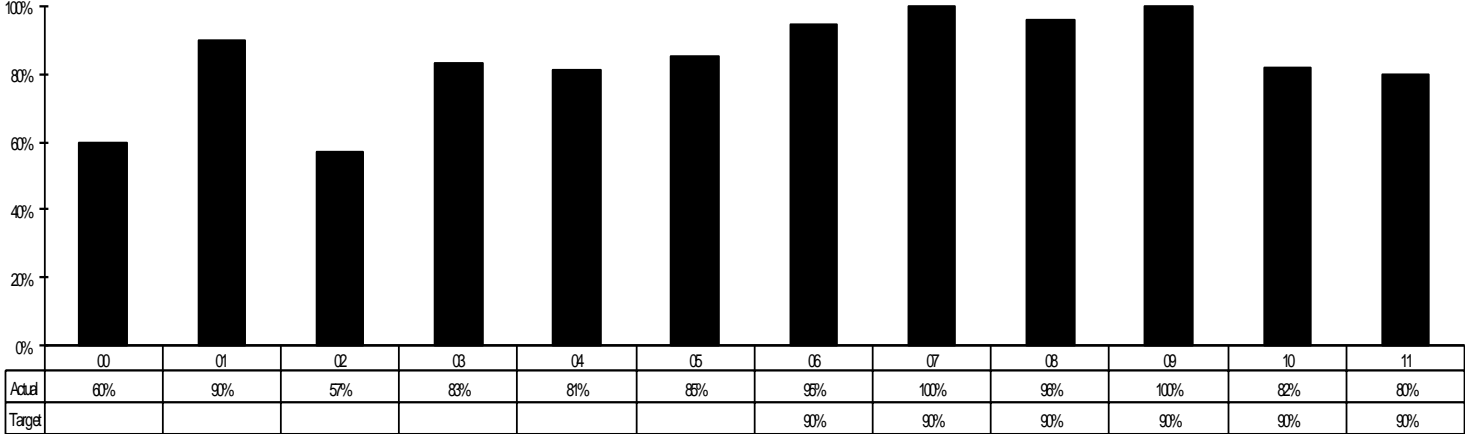
# KPM #2 (a)



# KPM #2 (b)

Percentage of Development Review s issued in 102 days

00-60% of 21    06-95% of 22  
 01-90% of 15    07-100% of 24  
 02-57% of 12    08-96% of 24  
 03-83% of 24    09-100% of 13  
 04-81% of 18    10-82% of 11  
 05-85% of 13    11-80% of 10



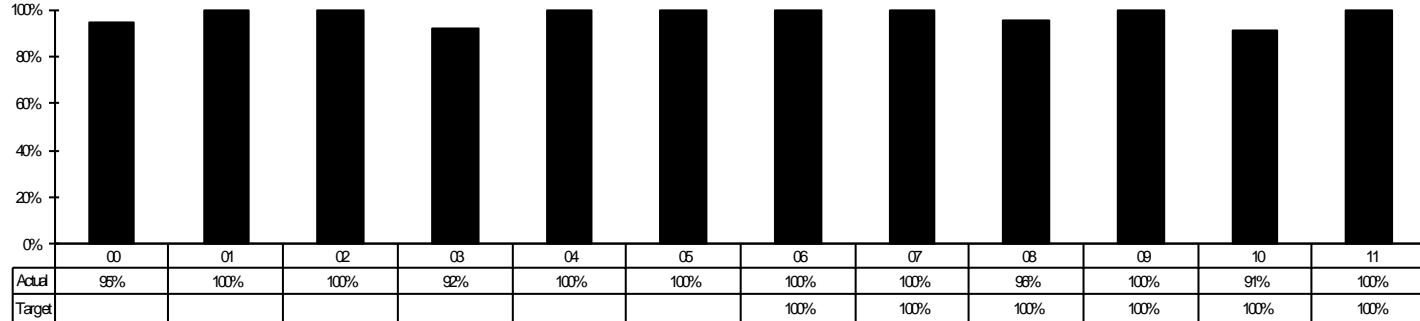
■ Actual    Target



# KPM #2 (c)

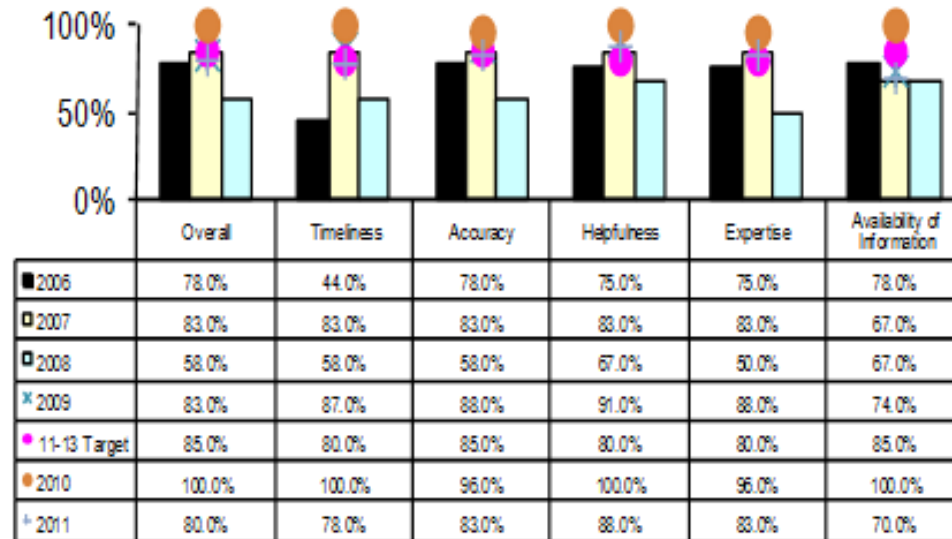
Percentage of Development Reviews issued in 150 days

00-95% of 21    06-100% of 22  
 01-100% of 15    07-100% of 24  
 02-100% of 12    08-96% of 24  
 03-92% of 24    09-100% of 13  
 04-100% of 18    10-100% of 11  
 05-100% of 13    11-100% of 10



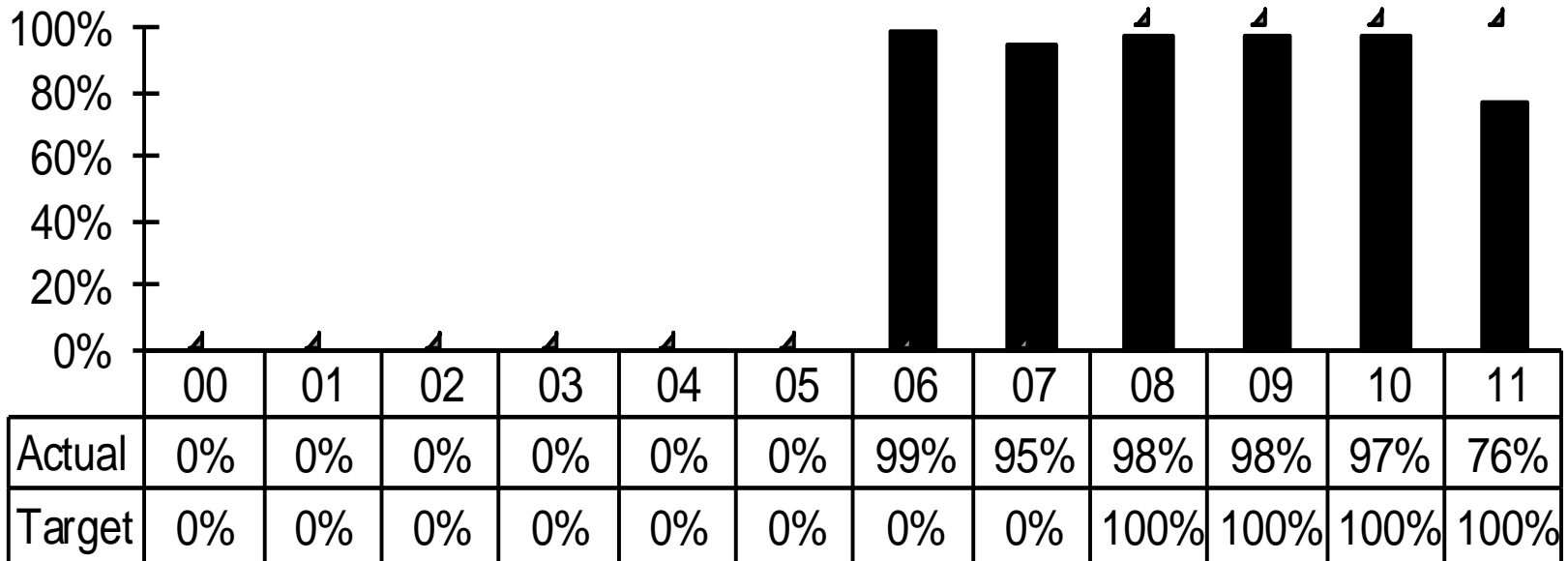
■ Actual Target

# KPM #3 Customer Service



# KPM # 4

## Percent of total best practices met by the board



■ Actual    ◆ Target

# Program Changes

Since 2008:

- 27% overall budget reductions
- 40% reduction in staff 9.25 → 5.6 FTE
- 65% reduction in planning staff 4.5 → 1.6 FTE
- 100% reduction in budget staff 1 → 0 FTE
- Reduced meeting schedules
- Reduced regional coordination
- Reduced travel
- ***Proposed Administrative Audit 2013-2014***

# Current Impacts

- Challenges with public response, outreach
- Limited technical assistance to local, state, federal, tribal agencies and the public
- Minimal oversight, performance monitoring
- Challenges with current planning responsibilities
- Suspension of deadlines for permit review
- No long-range planning or updates to overdue management plan review
- Lost opportunities for collaboration and external investment
- Lost innovation and cost efficiencies for communities

# Expected Impacts

- Increase in development and recreation use
- Increased demand for technical assistance
- Increased need for oversight, performance monitoring
- Increased planning/review responsibilities
- Continued need for long-range planning and overdue management plan review
  - Recreation
  - Transportation
  - Land use
  - Urban Area policy
  - Resource protection
  - Tribal coordination
  - Economic and community development
  - Infrastructure investment