



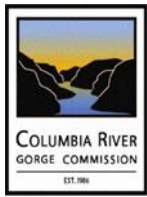
Columbia River Gorge Commission National Scenic Area

Oregon Budget Presentation

Joint Ways & Means Subcommittee on
Natural Resources

Krystyna U. Wolniakowski, Executive Director

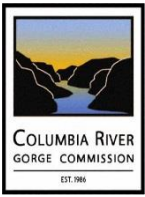
March 20, 2017



Columbia River Gorge Commission



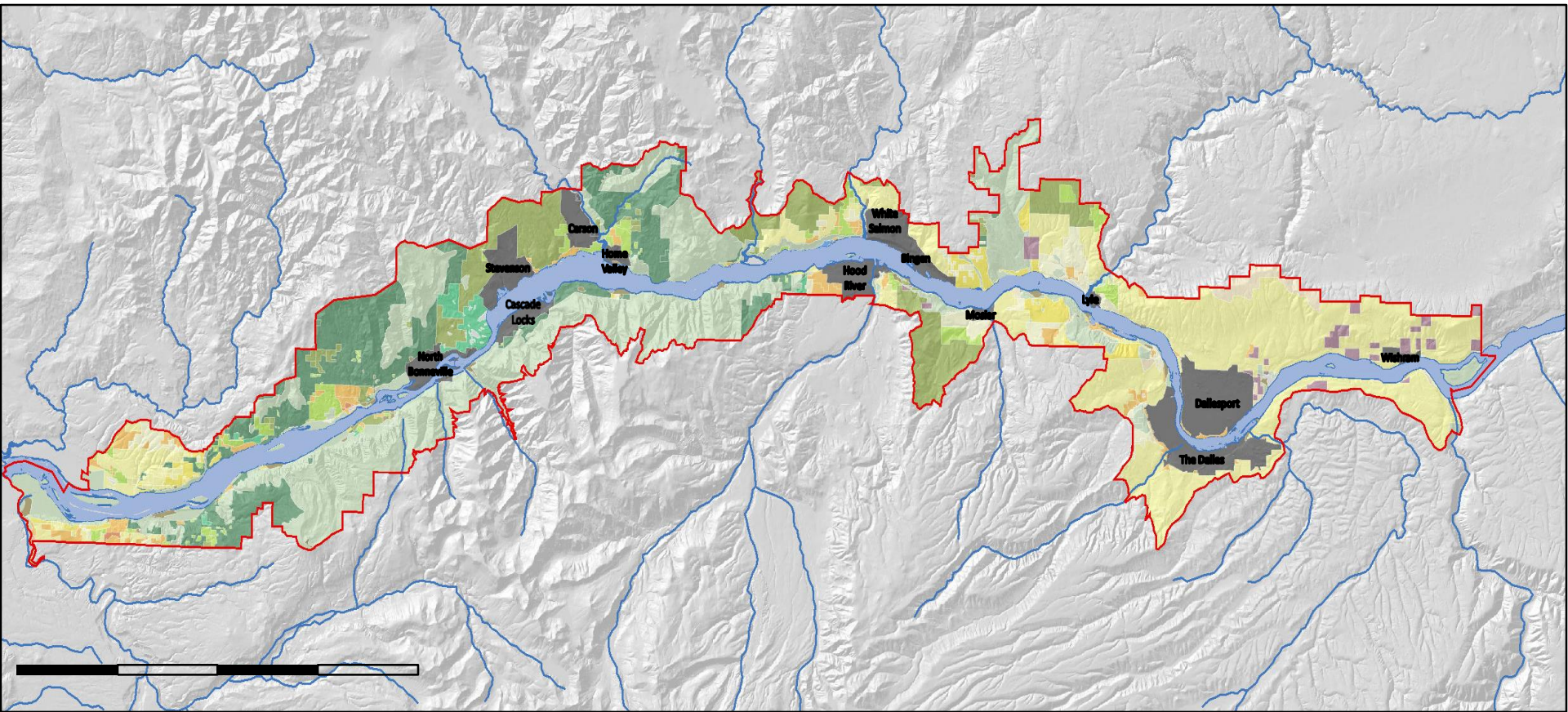
- ❖ 1986 National Scenic Area Act: 2 Purposes
- ❖ Mission
- ❖ Budget Drivers
- ❖ Environmental and External Factors
- ❖ 2015-17 Biennium Budget
- ❖ Accomplishments
- ❖ Goals Moving Forward
- ❖ Gorge 2020 Management Plan Review and Update
- ❖ 2017-19 Biennium Budget Request

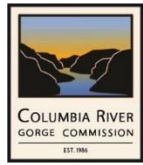


Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area

85 miles of the Columbia River

292,500 Acres





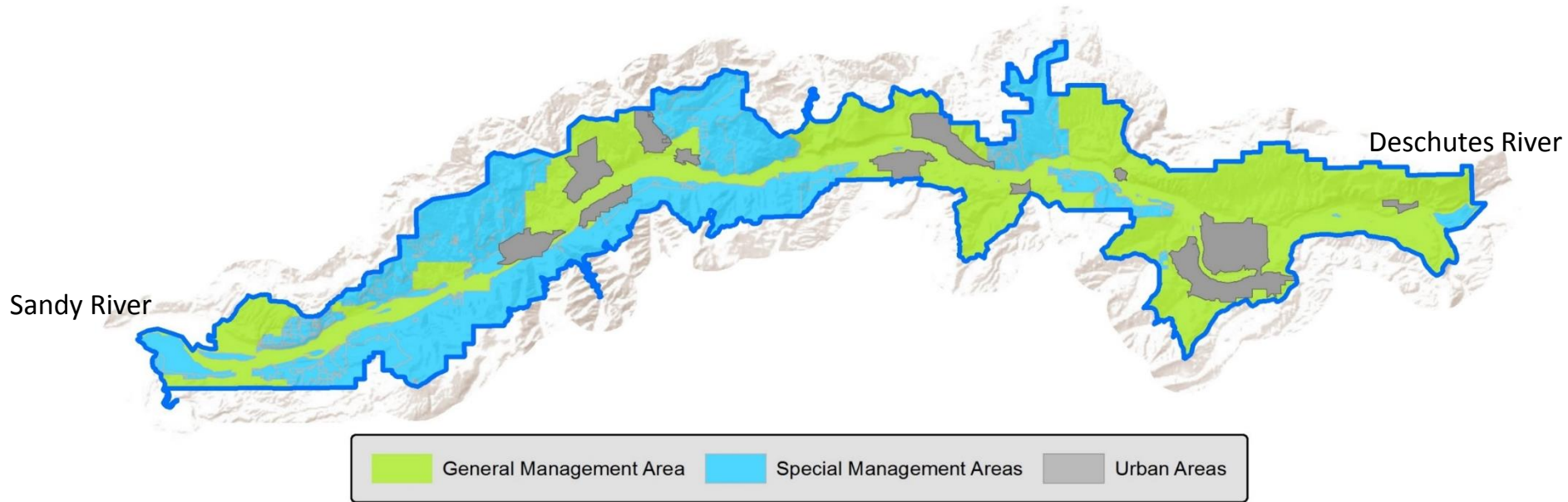
Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area

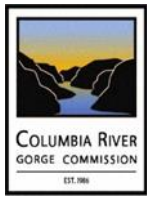


SMA Forest Service

GMA Gorge Commission

13 Urban Areas Exempt



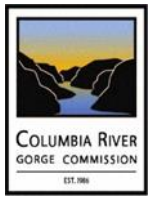


Purposes of National Scenic Area Act (Sec. 3)

Passed by Congress in 1986:

(1) to establish a national scenic area to protect and provide for the enhancement of the scenic, cultural, recreational, and natural resources of the Columbia River Gorge; and

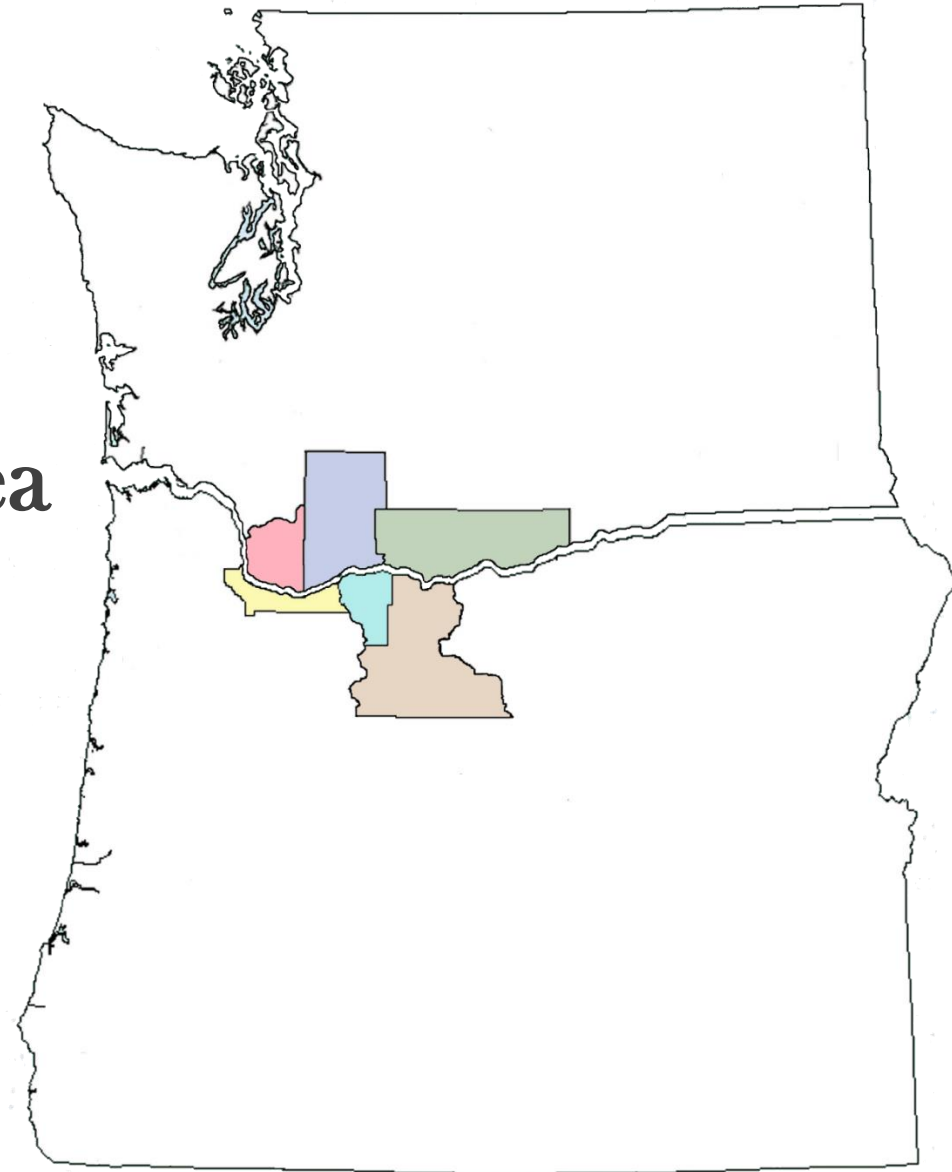
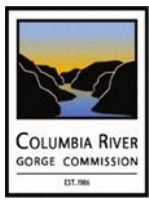
(2) to protect and support the economy of the Columbia River Gorge area by encouraging growth to occur in existing urban areas and by allowing future economic development in a manner that is consistent with paragraph (1).



Columbia River Gorge Commission



- ❖ Bi-state regional planning agency created by an interstate compact between Oregon and Washington under the authority of a federal National Scenic Area Act
- ❖ Mission is to establish, implement and enforce policies through a long-range comprehensive management plan for the bi-state Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area to fulfill purposes of the Act



The National Scenic Area

Covers parts of three counties in Washington and three counties in Oregon

Agreement



Act

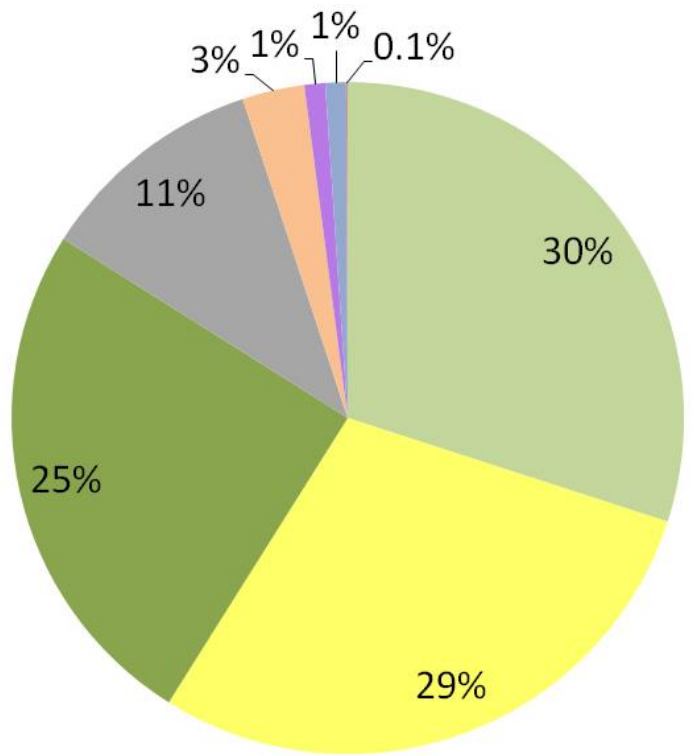


Compact



Plan

Land use designations



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

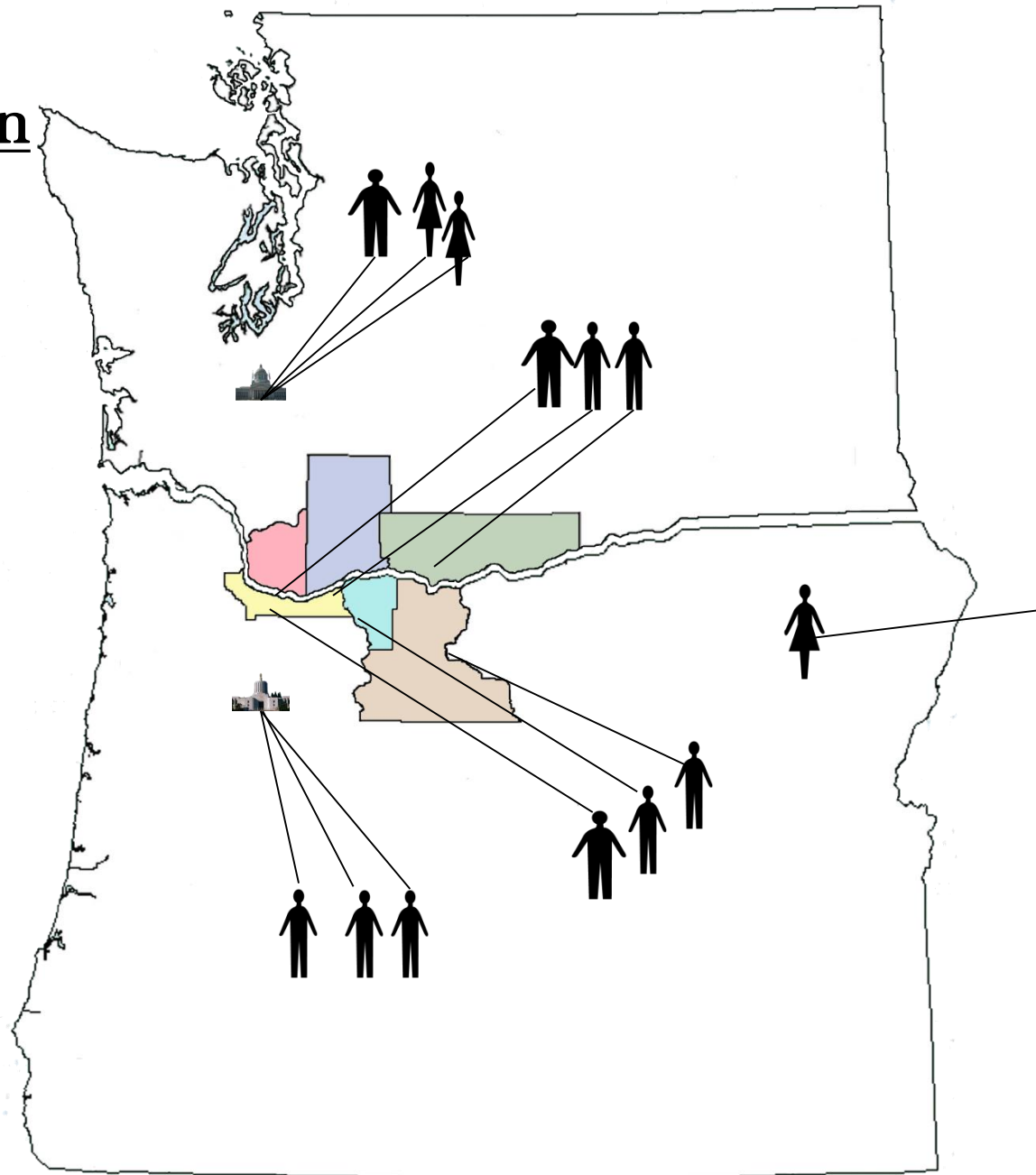
The Gorge Commission

13 Members

Each county selects one county resident to be a member of the Gorge Commission.

The Governor of each state selects three people to be members of the Commission.

The United States Secretary of Agriculture selects one USFS employee to be a member of the Gorge Commission, but they do not have a vote.



Agreement



Act



Compact



Plan

MANAGEMENT PLAN
for the
Columbia River Gorge
National Scenic Area



FIRST REVISION - APRIL 2004

Agency Mission: Regional Planning

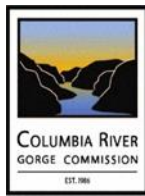


5 Counties Adopted
Ordinances

Klickitat County



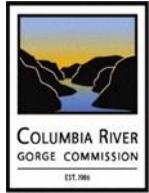
GORGE 2020



Budget Drivers



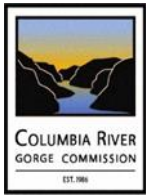
- ❖ NSA Act Requirement to Review the Management Plan is 2 Years Overdue
- ❖ Need to Pro-Actively Engage and Respond to the Public, Agencies and Treaty Tribes in the Gorge 2020 Management Review Process
- ❖ Rapidly Growing Regional Recreation Demands Requires a Coordinated Bi-state Interagency Response with Gorge Commission
- ❖ Need for Thorough and Consistent Review of All County Development Applications
- ❖ Continue to Review, Issue Permits, Do Inspections for Klickitat County
- ❖ Need for More Bi-state Coordination Around Regional Issues in the NSA
- ❖ Increased Demand for Gorge Commission to Review, Provide Support or Comment on Proposed Projects with Impacts on NSA Resources



Environmental and External Factors Affecting Budget Needs



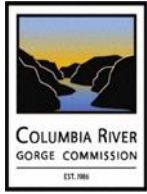
- ❖ Climate Change Adaptation to Trends
- ❖ Increase in Fossil Fuel Transportation through the NSA
- ❖ Increase Risk of Forest Fires from Drought/Forest Health
- ❖ County Planning Capacity for NSA Development Reviews
- ❖ Requirement for Oregon and Washington to Fund Equally



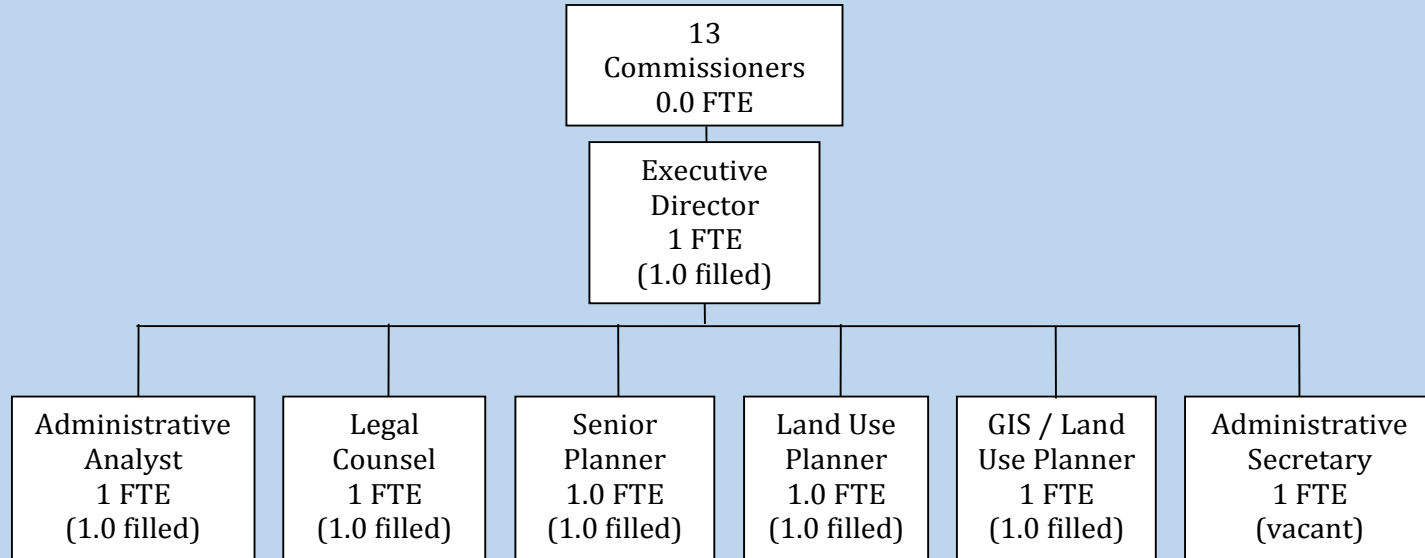
2015-2017 Biennium Budget



- ❖ Total Budget from OR: \$920,291
- ❖ Matching Funds from WA
- ❖ Support for 13 Member Commission
- ❖ Support for 6 FTE (WA authority for 7 FTE)
 - Executive Director
 - Financial Budget Analyst
 - 3 Land Use Planners/GIS
 - Compact Law Attorney
- ❖ Services and Supplies



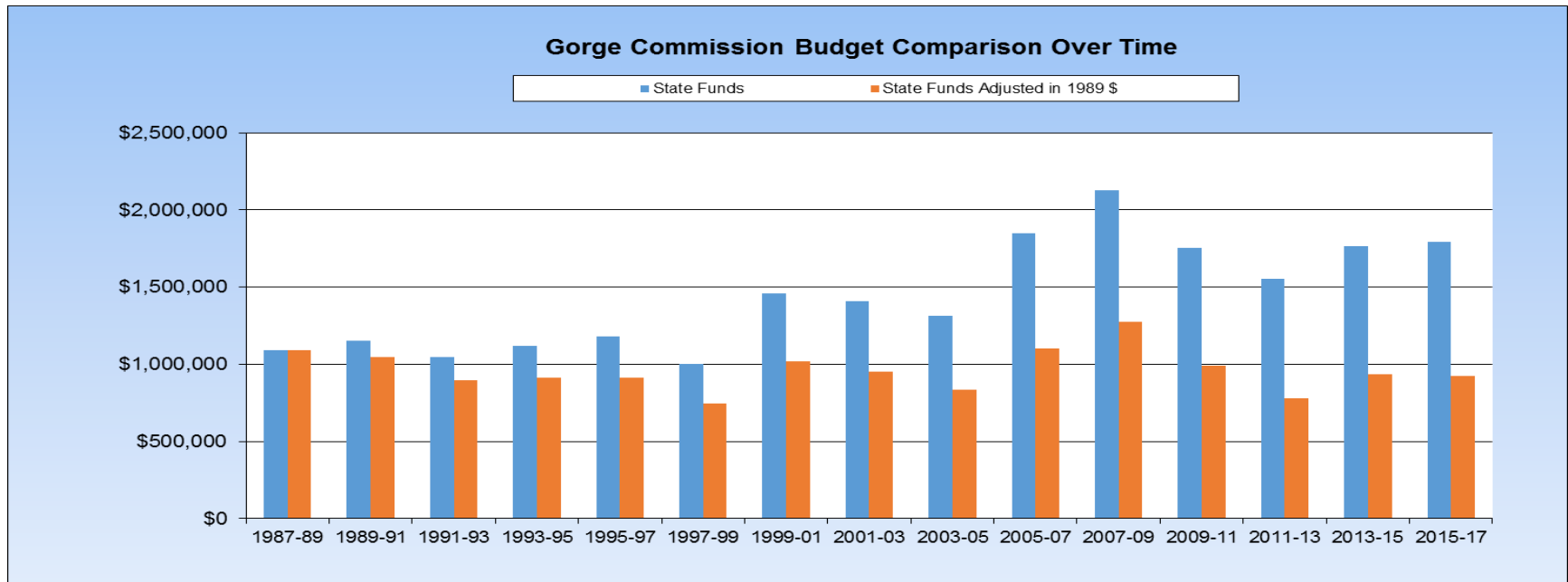
Organizational Chart: 2015-2017



TOTAL WA FTE authority 7.0
TOTAL FTE filled 6.0

Columbia River Gorge Commission

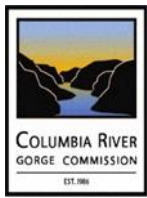
Budget History: 1987 → 2015



2001-2009: 10 FTE

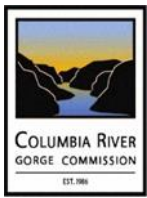
2009-2017: 6 FTE (funded)

2017-2019: 1 Additional FTE proposed=7 FTE



Key Accomplishments for 2015-2017 Biennium

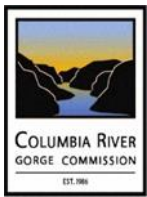
- ❖ Urban Area Boundary Legal Descriptions: ***Completed***
- ❖ Exterior Boundary Legal Descriptions: ***to be completed June 2017***
- ❖ GMA/SMA Boundary Legal Descriptions: ***to be completed June 2017***
- ❖ Klickitat County Active Permits: ***Review Time Reduced to 180 days***
- ❖ 5-year Financial Audit for OR and WA: ***Completed with No Findings***
- ❖ IT Security Audit for OR and WA: ***Completed and passed***
- ❖ Multnomah County Land Use Designations: ***Completed***
- ❖ Development Reviews in 6 Counties: ***75 Completed with 10 Comment Letters/New Tracking System Developed***
- ❖ ***Gorge 2020*** Management Plan Review Process: ***Launched in Nov. 2016***
- ❖ Two Government to Government Summits with Treaty Tribes: ***Completed***
- ❖ Worked with OIB and WIB: ***Approved Loans and Grants***
- ❖ Scenic Resource Monitoring: “Visual Monitoring Points in summer and winter: ***to be completed in June 2017***



Key Performance Measures

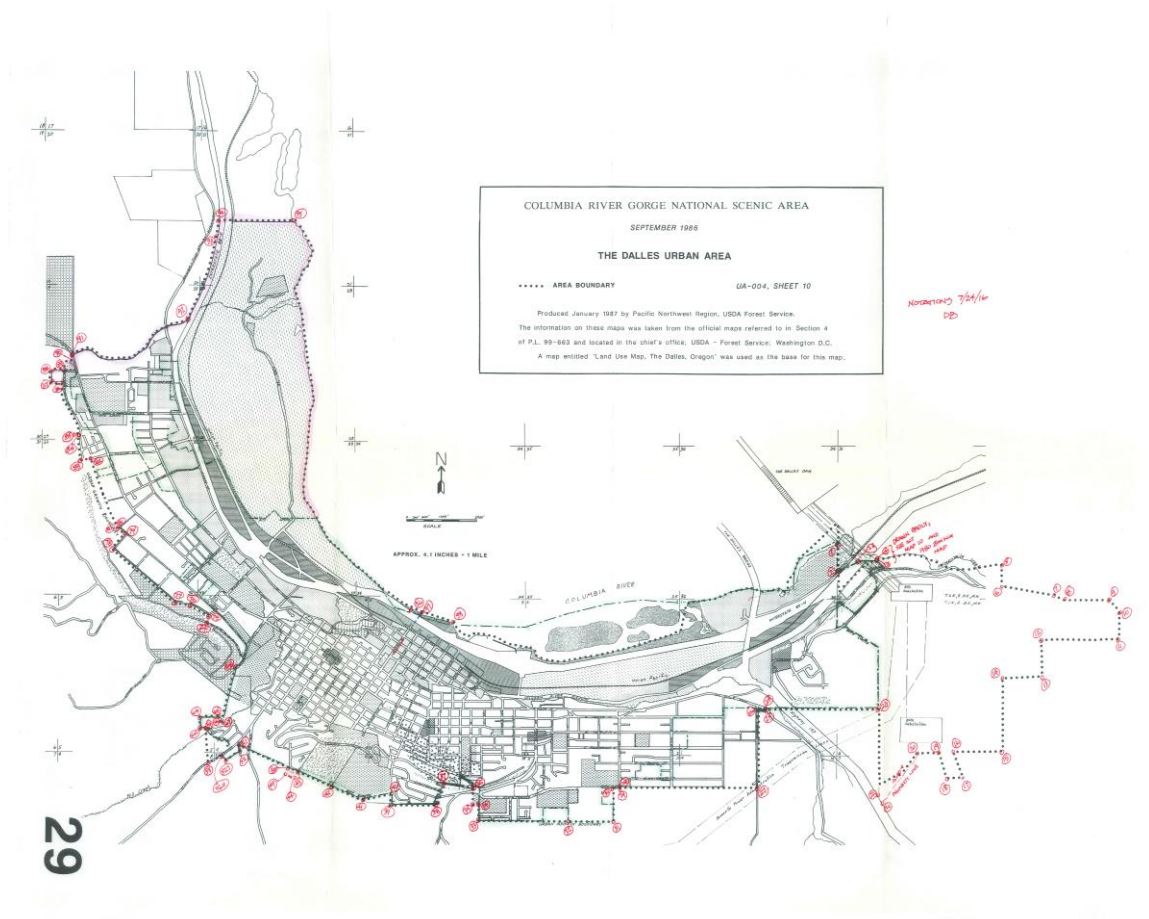


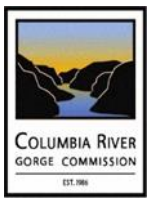
1. County Decisions: Percentage and number of county decisions where Gorge Commission comments were addressed in the decision : a) fully; b) partially: **Target 75%/No data yet**
2. Percentage of development reviews that are issued in the required timeframe: **Target 75%/Actual 30%**
3. Customer Service: percentage of customers rating their satisfaction with the agency's customer service as "good" or "excellent", overall customer service, timelines, accuracy, helpfulness, expertise and availability of information: **Target: 75%/Actual 71%**
4. Percent of total best practices met by the Board. **Target 80%/Actual 100%**



Urban Area Legal Descriptions

Example: The Dalles



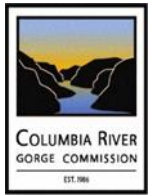


GORGE 2020

Management Plan Update

“... at least every ten years, the Commission shall review the Management Plan to determine whether it should be revised.” Sec. 6(g)



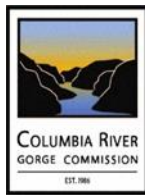


GORGE 2020



Act's Standards for Management Plan

- ❖ Protect and enhance agricultural lands, forest lands, open spaces, recreation resources, educational and interpretive opportunities. Sec. 6(d)(1)-(4)
- ❖ Prohibit major development in special management areas. Sec. 6(d)(5)
- ❖ Prohibit industrial development outside of urban areas. Sec. 6(d)(6)
- ❖ Require that commercial, residential, and mining operations take place without adversely affecting scenic, cultural, recreation, and natural resources. Sec. 6(d)(7)-(9)



GORGE 2020

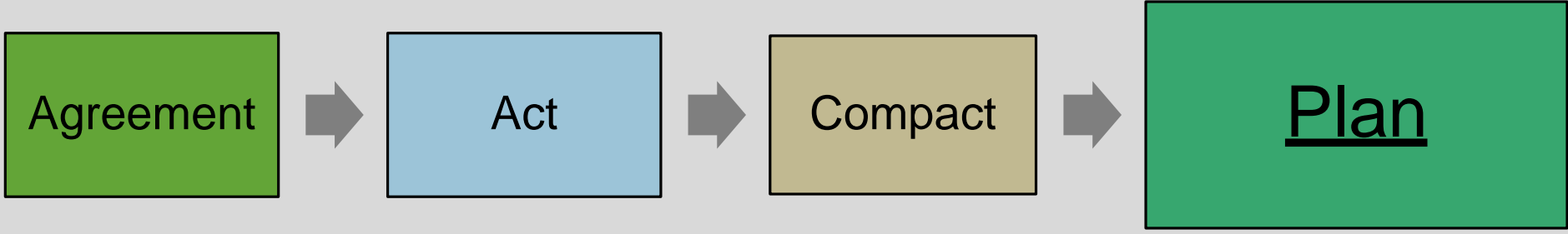
Review and Revision



Review: Identify issues, analyze data and information relating to those issues, and determine whether to revise the Management Plan.

Revision: Actual changes to the Management Plan to address the identified issues.

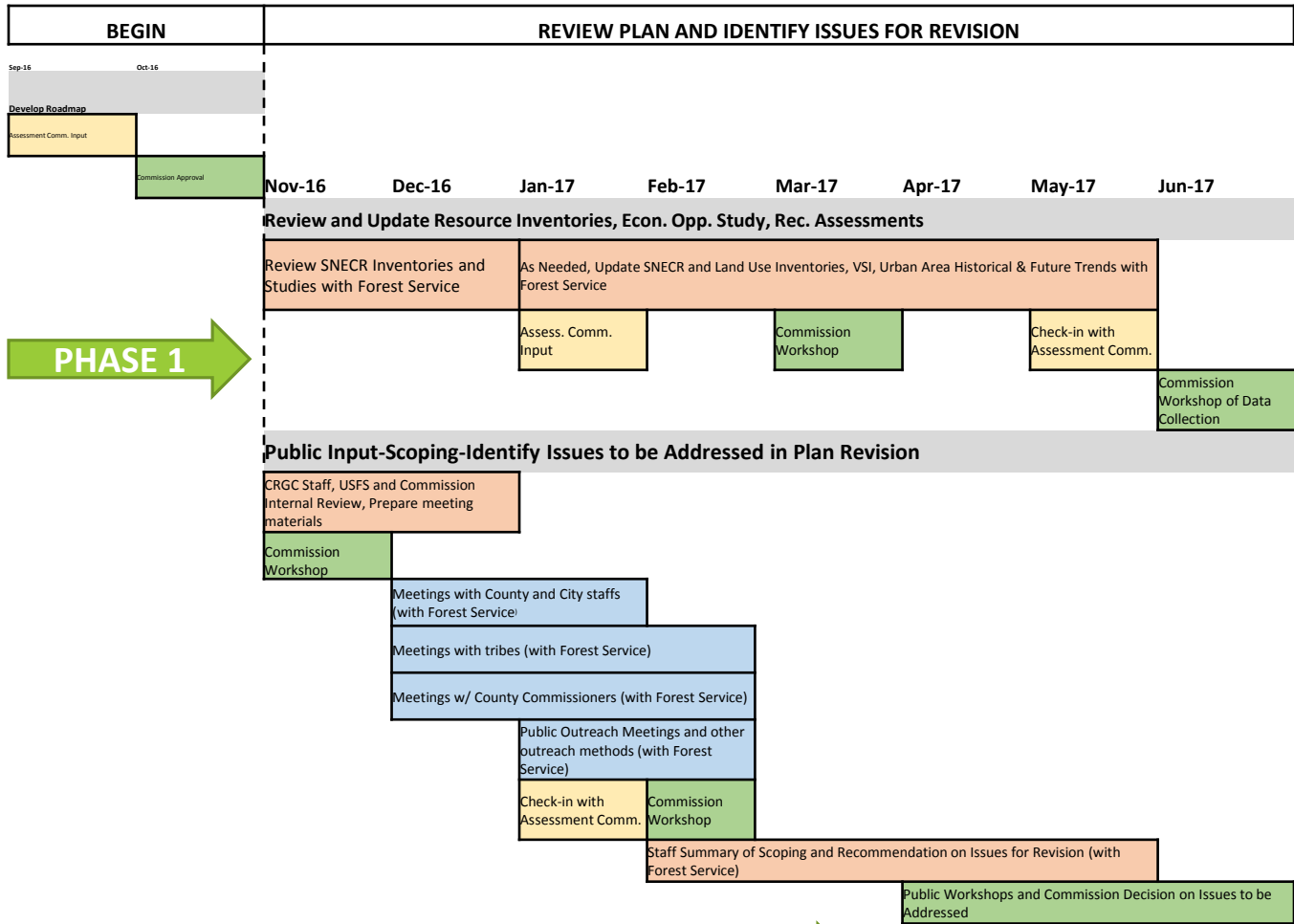




Keeping the Management Plan Current and Relevant



Review and Revision Timeline



PHASE 1 →

PHASE 2 →

LEGEND of COLORS and TERMS

Primarily Staff Activity
Assessment Committee Work (with public input)
Major Point of Public Input Outside Committee or Commission Mtgs
Commission Action (With Public Input)
Assessment Comm. Input - Purpose is to Give Direction to Staff
"Check-in" - Purpose is for Staff to Give Info. to Assessment Comm.
Commission Workshop - Purpose is for Commission to Discuss Progress

Management Plan Review and Revision Timeline

PHASE 3

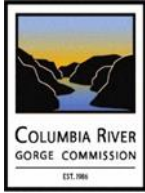
Revise Goals and Objectives: *February 2018*

PHASE 4

Revise Policies and Implementation Measures: *Oct 2018*

PHASE 5

Prepare and Adopt Final Plan: *June 2019*



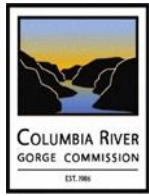
2017-2019 Oregon Budget Request

COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE COMMISSION

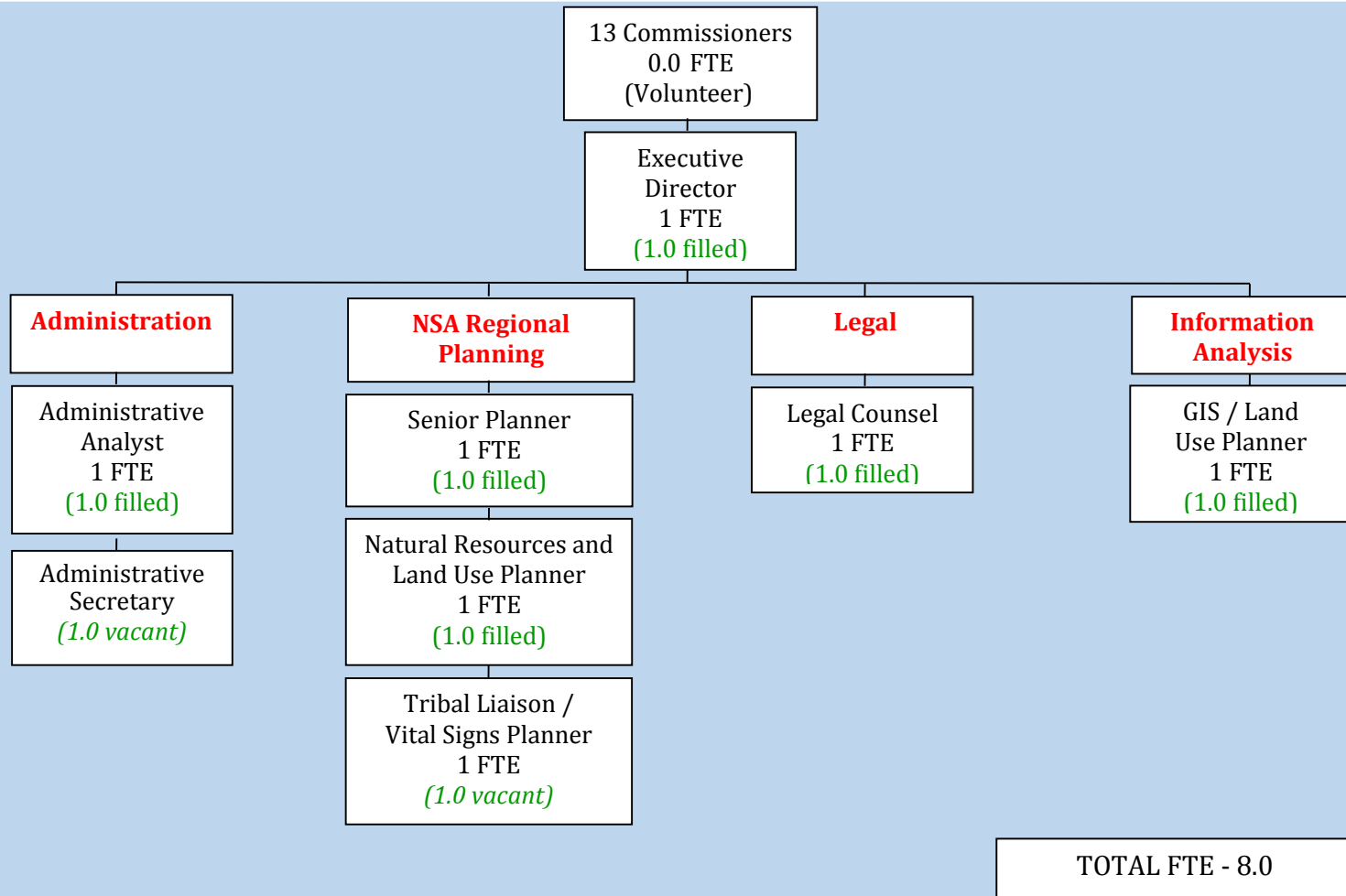
2017-2019 Governor's Recommended Budget including Option Package

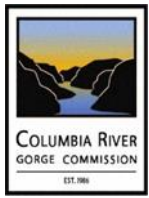
FTE and Program Costs - General Fund

Program	OR FTE	Personnel	Travel/Transportation	Contracts	Goods/Services	Total
Joint Account - Oregon share	0.00	669,075	18,700	25,291	232,248	945,314
DAS Adjustment 091					-154	-154
Option Package 103 - Oregon Share	0.00	79,300	2,550	37,500	5,650	125,000
<i>Joint Account with option packages</i>	0.00	748,375	21,250	62,791	237,744	1,070,160
Oregon Commissioner Account	0.00	13,851	4,816	0	3,938	22,605
DAS Adjustment 091					4	4
Oregon Commissioner Option Package 101	0.00	3,015	9,344		1,350	13,709
<i>Oregon Commissioner with option package</i>	0.00	16,866	14,160	0	5,292	36,318
<i>Total Oregon Share</i>		765,241	35,410	62,791	243,036	1,106,478



Proposed Organizational Chart: 2017-2019



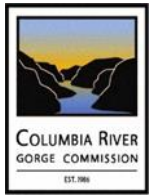


GORGE 2020

Columbia River Gorge Commission

Goals for 2017-2019 Biennium

- ❖ Increase Investments in Planning for the Future of the National Scenic Area
- ❖ Increase Agency Coordination in OR and WA
- ❖ Increase Involvement in Supporting Economic Opportunities
- ❖ Reduce Permit Backlog in Klickitat County
- ❖ Engage Proactively with Columbia River Treaty Tribes
- ❖ Support More Coordinated Bi-State Transportation Plan
- ❖ Improve and Streamline Commission Functions
- ❖ Create a More Interactive and Clear Management Plan
- ❖ Implement the “Vital Sign Indicators” Program to Monitor the Health of the Gorge for the Next Decade



POLICY OPTION PACKAGE 103

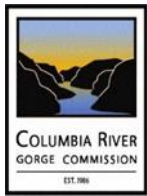
Title: Vital Signs Indicators and Treaty Tribe Engagement

Governor's Recommended Budget: \$125,000

GORGE COMMISSION REQUEST: Additional resources to more pro-actively engage with the four Treaty Tribes in the Management Plan Review Process and further develop the Vital Sign Indicators Monitoring and Evaluation Program.

This will enable the Commission to:

- ❖ Improve communications and collaboration with the public, agencies, and treaty tribes in a Government to Government consultation process.
- ❖ Improve administrative efficiencies and improve customer service
- ❖ Contract with experts needed for further developing the revisions to the Management Plan



POLICY OPTION PACKAGE 101

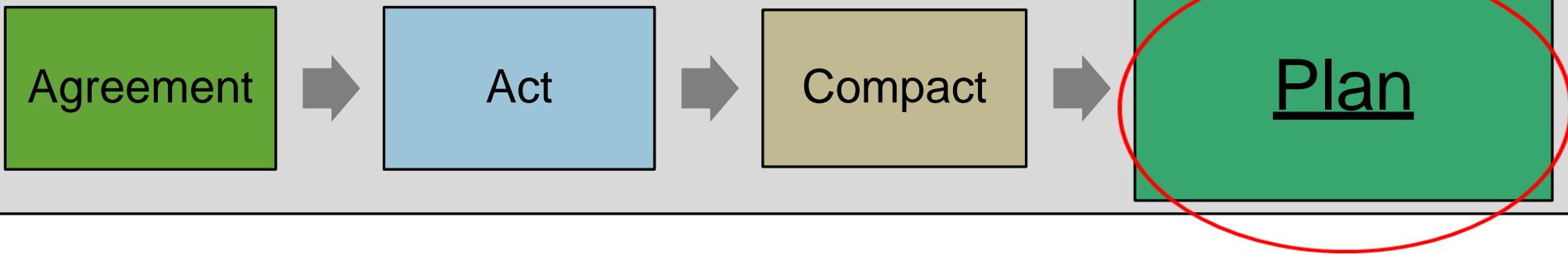
Title: Oregon Commissioner Expenses

Governor's Recommended Budget: \$13,709

GORGE COMMISSION REQUEST: Additional resources to increase support of Oregon Commissioner expenses. The Oregon Commissioner funding at the current service level has been inadequate to meet the Commission's engagement level.

The additional funding will:

- ❖ Allow Oregon Commissioners to engage in Commission business at the same level as their Washington colleagues
- ❖ Enable the Commission to cover actual costs of Commissioner engagement in Commission business. The 13-member Commission meets every month and the 6-member Executive Committee meets every month as well, with both meetings requiring travel and compensation.



Looking ahead: **GORGE 2020**

Regional Planning

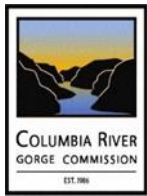
- Regional Recreation and Congestion Management
- Clarify Potential Urban Areas Expansion Process
- Monitoring & Evaluation Framework—Is it working?
- Improve development permit review systems

Tribal Relations

Regional & Interstate Coordination

Agency Effectiveness and Responsiveness

Other Emerging Issues: Fossil Fuel Transport in NSA

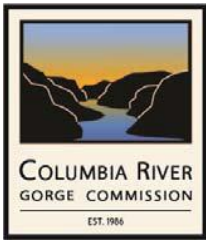


Proposed Reductions from Current Levels

5% : Reduce travel, IT support and security, equipment services and maintenance, eliminate legal services

10%: Plus eliminate all non-essential travel (public meetings and compliance monitoring) and substitute phone calls for in-person meetings, reduce # of Commissioners meetings and travel

15%: Plus reduce 3 senior positions to .85 FTE and halt all work on the Gorge 2020 management plan update



Columbia River Gorge Commission

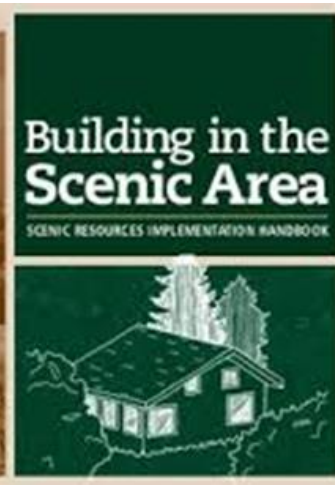
Questions?



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509-713-9623



Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area: stewards of the future since 1986