

# Memorandum

PREPARED FOR: Senate Committee on Rules  
DATE: February 2, 2026  
BY: Leslie Porter, Legislative Analyst  
RE: Legislative Review of Executive Appointments



**LPRO**  
LEGISLATIVE POLICY  
AND RESEARCH OFFICE

## STATE FORESTER

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The Governor has appointed the following individual to serve as the State Forester, subject to Senate confirmation.<sup>1</sup>

### New Appointment

Kacey KC of Salem

### Term

March 1, 2026 – February 28, 2030

### Appointment/Confirmation Authority

[ORS 526.031 \(2025\)](#).

### Statement of Economic Interest<sup>2</sup>

Required.

### Duties

#### State Forestry Department (Department).<sup>3</sup>

The Department consists of the State Forester, Deputy State Forester, assistants and employees of the State Forester, and acts under the direction of the State Board of Forestry.

#### State Board of Forestry (Board).<sup>4</sup>

The board supervises all matter of forest policy and management under the jurisdiction of this state, and approves claims for expended incurred under the statutes administered by the board.

#### State Forester.

The State Forester is appointed by the governor, is the chief executive officer of the department, and acts as the secretary of the board. The State Forester serves a term of four years, is eligible for reappointment, and serves at the pleasure of the governor. With approval of the board, the State Forester may appoint a deputy, assistant state

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<sup>1</sup> [Or. Const. art. III sect. 4](#), [ORS 171.562 \(2025\)](#), [ORS 171.565 \(2025\)](#).

<sup>2</sup> [ORS 244.050 \(2025\)](#).

<sup>3</sup> [ORS 526.008 \(2025\)](#)

<sup>4</sup> [ORS 526.016 \(2025\)](#)

foresters, and other employees. The State Forester must have organizational management experience and either executive experience and expertise overseeing forest and wildfire management on western forestland, or operational experience and expertise overseeing forest and wildfire management on western forestland.<sup>5</sup>

The State Forester must:<sup>6</sup>

- promulgate specific rules;
- appoint and instruct fire wardens;
- direct the improvement and protection of forestland owned by the state;
- collect data relative to forest conditions;
- take action authorized by law to prevent and extinguish forest, brush, and grass fires;
- enforce all laws pertaining to forestland and prosecute violations;
- cooperate with landowners, political subdivisions, private associations, and agencies;
- advise and encourage reforestation;
- publish information about forestry, and deemed to be in the public interest;
- sell, exchange or otherwise dispose of real property acquired by the board for administrative purposes and no longer needed;
- coordinate department activities related to a watershed enhancement project;
- prescribe uniform state standards for certification of wildland fire training courses and educational programs;
- and serve as the governor's authorized representative for initiating the fire management assistance declaration process with the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

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<sup>5</sup> [ORS 526.031 \(2025\)](#).

<sup>6</sup> [ORS 526.041 \(2025\)](#).



## State Forester

Agency: **Forestry, Oregon Department**

Policy Area: **Natural Resources**

Authorization: **SB 1051 (2025)**

Board Admin: **None**

Min Members: **0** Max Members: **1**

Address:

Term Length: **4** Term Limit: **Unknown**

Senate Confirmation Required?: **Yes**

## Current Appointments

### **Skinner, Kate**

Term(s): -

Interim State Forester

Appointed By: Other

Position Number: **1**

### **KC, Kacey**

Term(s): **3/1/2026 - 2/28/2030**

State Forester

Appointed By: Governor

Position Number: **1**

## Vacant Positions