



[http://theworldlink.com/news/state-land-board-inches-forward-with-sale-of-the-elliott/article\\_3c67a5de-d434-583c-8947-f4d577fd488f.html](http://theworldlink.com/news/state-land-board-inches-forward-with-sale-of-the-elliott/article_3c67a5de-d434-583c-8947-f4d577fd488f.html)

FEATURED

# State Land Board inches forward with sale of the Elliott State Forest

SAPHARA HARRELL The World Feb 15, 2017 Updated 21 hrs ago



Amanda Loman, The World  
Silver Grove in the Elliott State Forest.

Buy Now

SALEM — The sale of the 82,500-acre Elliott State Forest became more of a reality after Tuesday's State Land Board meeting.

In a 2-1 decision, recently-elected state Treasurer Tobias Read and Secretary of State Dennis Richardson voted against Gov. Kate Brown to move forward with the sale of the state forestland to Roseburg-based Lone Rock Timber Company and the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians.

However, the decision won't be finalized until the board's April meeting.

While the Elliott was initially an "informational item" on the agenda, Read made a motion to amend the protocol to allow the state to repurchase up \$25 million in acreage for conservation. He suggested that land should be turned into a state park or wildlife management area.

"I don't make this motion with any particular sense of celebration. I'm not happy that these are the constraints under which we operate but it's my best attempt to try to balance what I view to be my obligation as a fiduciary and to live up to our undivided loyalty requirements to schoolkids in Oregon," Read said.

Last week, Brown released a proposal to keep the property in public hands. Part of the proposal includes \$100 million in bond payments to the Common School Fund in an effort to buy back some of the old-growth and riparian area in the forest.

"However, having heard from many of you over the last couple of years and after a lot of deliberation it is clear to me that it is in the best interest of Oregonians to ensure public ownership of the Elliott state forest for future generations," Brown said.

"The appraised value of the forest was surprisingly low at \$220 million. We don't know what the future holds and I think that retaining the Elliott as a state asset is the proper exercise of the fiduciary responsibility of the state."

According to her plan, the forest would average 20 million board feet a year in timber harvests.

At the end of Tuesday's meeting Brown asked Department of State Lands Director Jim Paul to investigate public ownership options and present them at the board's next meeting.

This has been another episode of kicking the can down the road. In its December meeting, the land board decided to push the decision of the sale to this Tuesday's meeting.

Public outcry has emerged on both sides of the conflict: conservationist who want the land to be protected and school advocates who want more money for the school fund.

Last year the Land Board decided to sell off the Elliott in an effort to recoup money lost to the Common School Fund after lawsuits halted logging sales on the land.

The \$220.8 million asking price has been criticized for not adequately reflecting the real value of the forestland.

The land board meets again on April 11.

Reach Saphara Harrell at (541) 269-1222 ext. 239 or by email at [saphara.harrell@theworldlink.com](mailto:saphara.harrell@theworldlink.com)

**Saphara Harrell**

<p><b>CIA Insider Drops Bombshell</b>  Rickards: The Elites' Secret Plan, That May End Trump, Will Work.  Details Here. Go to <a href="http://pro1.rickards-reports.com">pro1.rickards-reports.com</a></p>	▶
Man Who Predicted Trump Win	▼
Best Sunless Tanners	▼
These Penny Stocks May Explode	▼

### Currents



Predicting this year's Grammy Award winners



Through the years: Immigration in America in 25 photos



Don't hang your own drywall



Summer's a great time to dive into a foreign language

Today's top pics: Protests continue against Fillon and more

Your daily 6: 'Love Actually,' SnapChat and a 'Day Without Immigrants'

Today In History, Feb. 16: King Tut

Today's Birthdays, Feb. 16: Ice-T

Pirates' Tony Watson loses in arbitration, gets \$5.6 million

Scan offers window on heart attack risks

11 free agents for the Pittsburgh Steelers to decide whether or not to re-sign

Mike Napoli Career Batting

#### TODAY'S TOP VIDEO



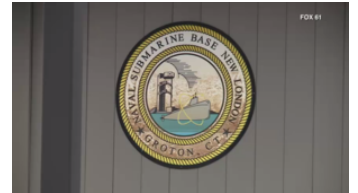
Intelligence officials may be keeping sensitive info from Donald Trump



Trump: Leakers will 'pay a big price'



Diary from inside North Korea



Russian ship off US East Coast, defense official says

Vicki McClintock 1959 - 2017  
*She enjoyed her children.*

*Coos Bay Chapel*