

# Independent Science Review Refresher as per the 2016 SB 202 Task Force Report

## Independent Science Review (ISR)

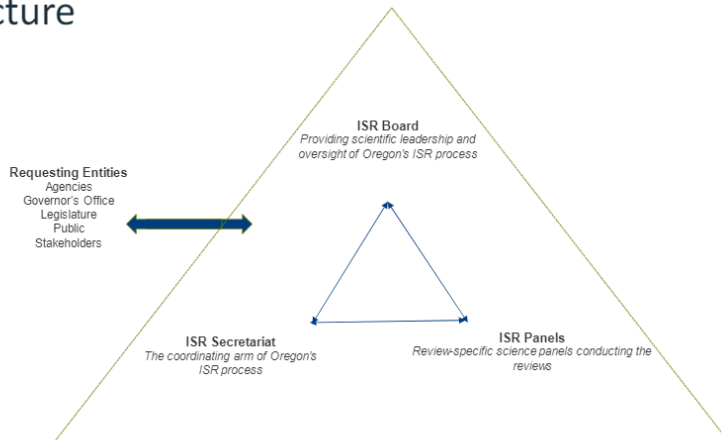
**Independent Science Review**, as defined by the SB202 Task Force, is an external assessment of a stated scientific question or issue that

- produces unbiased conclusions regarding the current understanding of relevant information, methodology and assumptions relating to that scientific question or issue;
- includes, as applicable, an assessment of the risks, costs and benefits of potential alternative decisions or policies; and,
- is conducted by reviewers who:
  - have little personal stake in the nature of the outcome of decisions or policies, in terms of financial gain or loss, career advancement, or personal or professional relationships;
  - can perform the review tasks free of undue influence by others associated with the decision process;
  - have demonstrable competence in the subject as evidenced by formal training and/or experience; and,
  - should be required to disclose any potential personal stake or conflict of interest with respect to the stated question/issue.

## Key Points

- **Rigor in question selection.** Transdisciplinary issues, likelihood of “high impact”, regional or state-wide relevance, future-oriented
- **Transparent process**
- **Sufficient funds are available to conduct review.** Not a “pay-to-play” system

## Structure



## Roles

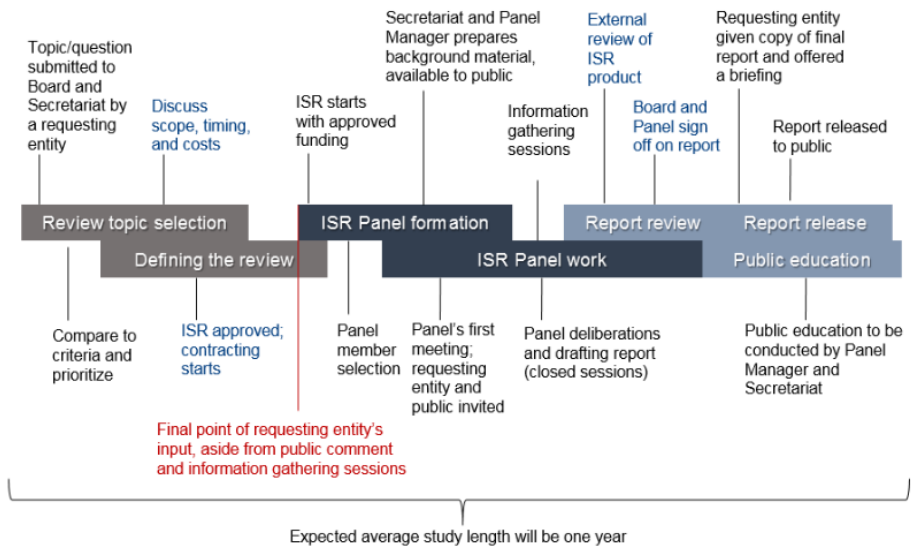
- **Requesting Entities.** Selection, representation, support
- **Independent Science Reviews Board.** Provides scientific leadership and oversight, including but not limited to selecting which reviews are undertaken, negotiating the science review questions, and selecting the review-specific ISR panels. The Board shall not independently propose science issues to review.
- **Secretariat.** Is the coordinating arm and backbone of Oregon's ISR process, advising ISR requestors and providing research, technical and administrative support to the Board and the review-specific panels.
- **Review Panels.** Review-specific panels are formed once an ISR question has been selected for review by a meeting of the Board, after the Board is satisfied that sufficient resources (staff and financial) are available to complete the review in a timely manner to the standard expected of the ISR.

## Products

Deploying ISRs at different stages of the policy development or rule-making process could necessitate using different ISR products or services at different points.

- Informal or formal consultations or roundtable discussions
- Formally researched and written reviews or consensus reports
- Workshops, conferences, or symposia
- White papers or knowledge syntheses
- Develop best practices for scientific review in natural resource management in conjunction with agencies

# Process



## ISR Principles

- Cost effectiveness
- Integrity
- Usefulness
- Flexibility
- Inclusiveness and transparency