



# SB 1552: Forest Sector Workforce Study

BUILDING OREGON'S FOREST WORKFORCE  
OF THE FUTURE THROUGH DATA  
DRIVEN APPROACHES

## ISSUE

Oregon's economy relies heavily on the forest sector, requiring a strong workforce to meet state goals in carbon and climate management, wildfire risk mitigation, affordable housing, and economic development. Bolstering the forest workforce in rural areas promotes economic stability and allows residents to stay in their communities.

The entire supply chain, including the forest workforce, must prosper for sustained forest sector stability. Although skilled trades workers and professionals in forestry are in high demand, there are notable challenges in recruiting and retaining the forest workforce.

## OBJECTIVES

Direct the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to complete a comprehensive study to collect the data necessary to assess the status, benefits, challenges, and future needs of the forest sector workforce. This will allow for education, training and career pathways solutions based on thorough workforce information.

## BENEFITS

1. Create a more accurate methodology of assessing the forest sector workforce and economic benefits.
2. Provide collaboration opportunities between education, employment, business and natural resource agencies in Oregon.
3. Allow for a better and more complete understanding of how the forest sector at large impacts Oregon's communities and economies.
4. Ensure Oregon has the data necessary to be highly competitive for federal and private training and education funding.

## AT A GLANCE

### HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING COMMISSION



FOREST SECTOR  
WORKFORCE STUDY  
TO ASSES:



CAREER PATHWAYS  
AND PROGRAMS



CURRENT CAPACITY



DEMOGRAPHICS



FUTURE  
WORKFORCE NEEDS



RECRUITMENT AND  
RETENTION CHALLENGES  
AND SOLUTIONS



COMMUNITY  
BENEFITS

REQUESTED STUDY  
COMPLETION DATE  
JUNE 30, 2025

### For More Information:

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