

STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS

March 18, 2025

Consent Agenda

Subject

Timber License Plate Fund Projects

Question Presented

Shall the Land Board direct the Department to proceed with the recommended educational projects developed with the Idaho Forest Products Commission?

Background

Idaho's timber license plate is established in Idaho Code § 49-417A and has been available since 1997. Twenty-five dollars of each initial fee and fifteen dollars of each renewal fee are deposited in the Idaho Department of Lands fund for reforestation activities or for education. Educational efforts must help build public understanding of reforestation or the management and conservation of forest resources on public and private lands in Idaho. Such funds are to be expended as agreed by the State Board of Land Commissioners (Land Board) upon recommendations developed jointly by the Idaho Department of Lands (Department) and the Idaho Forest Products Commission (IFPC).

Discussion

In calendar year 2024, there were 4,477 timber plates sold, transferred, or renewed, an increase of 11% over the prior year. As of February 13, 2025, there is \$117,268.15 of unobligated funds in this account. The Department and IFPC have jointly agreed on a plan to expend \$100,500 on educational efforts for calendar year 2025 (Attachments 1 and 2). Fees from new and renewal license plates continue to accrue monthly in the fund. The Department and Idaho Forest Products Commission will only expend money from the fund if available.

Recommendation

Direct the Department to proceed with the recommended educational projects developed jointly with the Idaho Forest Products Commission.

Board Action

Attachments

1. Arbor Day Funding Request
2. IFPC Project Recommendations



Coeur d'Alene Staff Headquarters
3284 W. Industrial Loop, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815
Telephone: Matthew Perkins- (208) 626-1779
Fax No. (208) 334-3698

Memorandum

TO: Dustin T. Miller, Director, IDL
Jennifer Okerlund, Director, IFPC

FROM: Matthew Perkins, Urban & Community Forestry Program Manager

SUBJECT: Arbor Day Funding Request

DATE: January 30, 2025

CC: Julia Lauch, State Forester/Forestry & Fire Division Administrator and Archie Gray,
Chief, Forestry Assistance Bureau

I am writing to request \$2,000 from the Idaho Timber Special License Plates program to assist Idaho Department of Lands area offices in promoting tree planting on public and private lands in and around Idaho communities. This funding request is for FY 2025, as Timber license plate funds are available.

The Department of Lands will use the \$2,000 to encourage IDL area field offices to help communities plan and conduct local Arbor Day celebrations. Similar projects conducted in past years received outstanding support from IDL field offices and the communities they assisted. Funds were used to purchase trees, Arbor Day T-shirts, and other educational materials for communities throughout Idaho.

The Arbor Day project provides many opportunities for partnerships between urban and rural forestry interests. IDL foresters work with local governments, schools, service clubs, businesses, USFS offices, and forest products companies to plan and conduct local celebrations.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. I will be glad to provide additional information as needed, and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Matthew Perkins
Urban & Community Forestry Program Manager
208-626-1779
mperkins@idl.idaho.gov



**IDAHO FOREST
PRODUCTS
COMMISSION**

Post office Box 855
Boise, Idaho 83701
Tel: (208) 863-1514
Edu. (208) 863-1512
Fax (208) 334-3449
email: ifpc@idahoforests.org
plt@idahoforests.org
www.idahoforests.org

David Gabrielsen
District 1 - (208) 660-3701

Bob Danielson
District 2 - (208) 245-5818

Jesse D. Short
District 3 - (208) 848-2301

Erika Sussi
District 4 - (208) 271-6591

Trevor Stone
At-Large - (208) 748-2038

Jennifer Okerlund Frederickson
Director

Haven Davis - Martinez
Education Coordinator

TO: State Board of Land Commissioners

FROM: Jennifer Okerlund Frederickson—Director, Idaho Forest
Products Commission
Dustin Miller—Director, Idaho Department of Lands

RE: Timber License Plate Fee Recommendations

Idaho's Timber License Plate has been available since 1997. In the year 2024, a total of 4,477 timber plates were sold, transferred, or renewed. Twenty-five dollars of each initial fee and fifteen dollars of each renewal fee are available for educational efforts or reforestation activities. As of February 13, 2025, **\$117,268.15** remained unobligated within this account.

The following list of educational projects is recommended by the Idaho Forest Products Commission and the Idaho Department of Lands to be supported by Timber License Plate fees as authorized in Section 49-417A, Idaho Code:

1. Arbor Day Billboard Campaign

Background: Arbor Day is a special day set aside to appreciate and plant trees. This project would provide an educational statewide billboard campaign in conjunction with the state Arbor Day celebration. The billboards would target the general public with a positive message about Idaho forests and reforestation. This campaign would be part of a statewide Arbor Day 2025 project.

Amount Requested from Timber Plate Fees:	<u>\$ 17,000</u>
Total Project Estimated Costs:	\$ 25,000

2. Seedlings

Background:

This project would provide 20,000 seedlings for the Arbor Day 2025 celebration and events statewide. The seedlings are grown at the University of Idaho and packaged with information about reforestation. The seedlings would be available throughout the state at various points of distribution.

Amount Requested from Timber Plate Fees:	<u>\$ 8,000</u>
Total Project Estimated Costs:	\$ 18,500

3. Arbor Day 2025

Background: Each year, the last Friday in April is designated as Arbor Day, a special holiday celebrating trees. The Arbor Day 2025 project includes promotional materials, brochures and posters with information about Idaho's forests and reforestation, a seedling give-away, digital and radio public service announcements, social media postings, a special Arbor Day T-shirt and event at the state historic museum on Arbor Day. There will also be programs for Idaho educators focusing on the many things renewable trees bring to our lives and need for good forest stewardship, management and reforestation.

Amount Requested from Timber Plate Fees:	<u>\$ 3,000</u>
Total Project Estimated Costs:	\$ 12,000

4. Arbor Day Photo Contest

Background: In 2011, IFPC began a statewide photo contest providing an opportunity for Idaho students to engage in Arbor Day and consider the role trees as a renewable resource play in their daily lives. The project has been a true success with hundreds of 5th to 12th grade students participating each year. The contest was developed with input from the Idaho Department of Education and asks students to show what they see when they "Look to the Forest" through a photograph and to describe their work in an artist statement. Cash prizes are awarded to the winners of three age categories. One grand prize is honored at the state Arbor Day Celebration. Winning photos are used to promote Arbor Day and forest education in Idaho.

Amount Requested from Timber Plate Fees:	<u>\$ 500</u>
Total Project Estimated Costs:	\$ 1,000

5. Sustainable Forest Tour for Idaho Educators

Background: This project provides dozens of educators with an immersive opportunity to learn about sustainable forest management and the forest products industry during a forest tour. Its goal is to provide an opportunity for educators to talk directly with the people that grow, manage, harvest and process trees into useful wood products as well as the managers who care for the air, water, soil, fish and wildlife. The 2025 Sustainable Forest Tour is scheduled for the week of June 23-27 and will be held in Moscow, Idaho, in conjunction with the University of Idaho College of Natural Resources.

Amount Requested from Timber Plate Fees:	<u>\$ 15,000</u>
Total Project Estimated Costs:	\$ 40,000

6. Forest Tour for Thought Leaders

Background: This project provides an on-the-ground educational opportunity for Idaho thought leaders to learn about the forests of Idaho and gain a first-hand understanding of forest management. In the past, Miracle at Work Forest Tours have been conducted in central and north Idaho and feature private, state and federal forest managers and resource professionals.

Amount Requested from Timber Plate Fees:	<u>\$ 10,000</u>
Total Project Estimated Costs:	\$ 24,000

7. Project Learning Tree

Background: Project Learning Tree (PLT) is a nation-wide, award winning environmental education program. PLT is based on the principles of teaching youth how to think, not what to think, preparing students to make wise decisions about resource use and conservation. Since 1994, over 15,000 teachers have participated in PLT workshops and programs with the potential to reach thousands of Idaho students each year.

Amount Requested from Timber Plate Fees:	<u>\$ 25,000</u>
Total Project Estimated Costs:	\$ 165,000

8. Education and Workforce Outreach

Background: IFPC is working in partnership with the Associated Logging Contractors of Idaho (ALC) to create an organized approach to workforce outreach. This project includes the development and implementation of Forest Products curriculum for high schools and development and implementation of a Forest Products CTE program, with expanded student and educator outreach relating to careers within Idaho's Forest Products Industry.

Amount Requested from Timber Plate Fees:	<u>\$ 20,000</u>
Total Project Estimated Costs:	\$ 150,000

Total License Fee Appropriation Request	<u>\$ 98,500</u>
--	-------------------------