

# REAL OREGON

## Resource Education & Agricultural Leadership Program

*Growing Natural Resource Leaders who make a difference for Oregon*  
[www.realoregon.net](http://www.realoregon.net)

### NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**

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### Class 2 Slated to Start in November

*July 27 Application Deadline*

*Salem, OR* – Having successfully graduated its first class of natural resource leaders, REAL Oregon (Resource Education and Agricultural Leadership) is seeking applications from natural resource professionals from around the state for Class 2, which will start this November.

REAL Oregon is a collaboration of industry and other groups throughout the state that have recognized the importance of developing and grooming natural resource leaders now and in the future. In addition to networking opportunities and learning more about the state, the program will bring current and future leaders together from agriculture, fishing, and forestry sectors in a series of five statewide sessions starting this fall. The annual leadership development program will expose this cross-section of representatives to the diversity of Oregon's geography, economy, and cultures through training in board governance, communication skills, conflict resolution, government interaction, public policy work, critical thinking, media relations, professional presentations, public speaking, relationship building and other areas.

Greg Addington, REAL Oregon's Director expects a lot of interest in the program this year. "The application deadline for program consideration is July 27 and we expect it to be a fairly competitive process." Addington said it's important for interested parties not to wait until the last minute. "Applicants need to give themselves some time. A short essay is required as well as reference letters". Application packages and additional information can be found on the organizations website at [www.realoregon.net](http://www.realoregon.net).

Class 1 graduates are already making their presence felt around the state. REAL Oregon Alumni are serving on various boards and commissions and have been recruited for other industry and service related organizations. In addition, many from the pioneer class have volunteered to help with future classes and even serve on the organization's governing board. "I hope it's a testament to what we put together that people want to come back and help make this program even better", said Bill Buhrig, REAL Oregon Board Chair. Alumni are now serving on the organization's Board of Directors, its Curriculum and Fundraising Committees, and helping in other capacities.

The REAL Oregon Board will review application material in August and announce the members of Class 2 in September.

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