

2021-22 Executive Seminar Program



ABOUT

The Executive Seminar in Natural Resources Leadership (ESP) is a case-study based professional program run by Portland State University's Hatfield School of Government that helps mid-career natural resource leaders explore and expand leadership competencies and establish pathways for career-long leadership learning and development.

Each year, the program visits communities throughout the west to connect with local leaders wrestling with their own natural resource challenges. Through presentation, conversation and guided study—and peer-to-peer sharing and teamwork—cohort members deepen their sense of leadership, build networks of support, and witness many different styles and approaches to solving complex leadership challenges.

Recurring themes include understanding the role of civic capacity, collaborative governance, empathy, engaging diversity, leadership self-awareness and situational awareness, operating in uncertainty and ambiguity, coping with risk.

ESP consists of four seminars: Three seminars, or cases, of one week each held on site, and a fourth two-day session held on campus to conclude the program with a review of leadership principles, techniques for policy resolution, and a summarization of insights gained by participants. Finally, two three-hour "ESP Connect" sessions will be held via Zoom to connect recent program material with future sessions, continue the leadership learning, and allow for ongoing cross-cohort interaction and support.

THE 2021-2022 PROGRAM YEAR

In 2021-2022 the program will be conducting its three cases within convenient driving distance of Portland, which will allow participants to overnight there. This allows us to respond to the uncertainties of the Covid-19 pandemic as needed without upending travel plans. The program will follow PSU's most updated Covid-19 guidance (www.pdx.edu/coronavirus-response).

This year, we'll explore topics in urban forestry and environmental justice, public involvement, complex risk-management decision making, and leadership in times of extraordinary change. Each session will include time in the field, from Portland's Forest Park to the high Cascades, plus sessions on campus. Cases will be announced soon via email and on our website.

DATES

Case 1: October 18-22
ESP Connect: November 17 (1-4pm, Zoom)
Case 2: February 21-25
ESP Connect: March 16 (1-4pm, Zoom)
Case 3: May 16-20
Capstone: June 16-17 (On campus)

CONTACT

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Learn more and register by September 17:
www.pdx.edu/cps/esp