

Environmental Quality Commission

Commissioner Biographies

Carol Whipple is a rancher and the proprietor of Rocking C Ranch, located in Elkton, Oregon. She was appointed to the Commission in 1990 and became Chair in 1998.

Whipple has also served on the Douglas County Planning Commission, is a past Director of the E.R. Jackson Foundation at Oregon State University (OSU), and was a member of the Board of Directors of the Portland branch of the Federal Reserve Bank. Whipple received the 1990 Woman of Achievement award from OSU's Women's Center. She is currently is a member of the Willamette University Board of Trustees.

Whipple is a 1970 graduate of Oregon State University and received her master's degree in 1972 from Colorado State University.

Melinda Eden is an attorney, and works with her family-owned agricultural business in Milton-Freewater. She was appointed to the Commission in 1996 and became Vice-Chair in 1999.

Eden has been interested in the process of making policy concerning environmental issues since covering the 1977 Oregon legislative session for the Associated Press.

Eden edited an Oregon environmental law handbook published in 1991 by the Oregon Law Institute, and wrote the chapter on Oregon environmental law for a national legal treatise.

Eden received a B.A. degree from the University of Maryland and a J.D. from the University of Oregon Law School.

Linda McMahan is the Executive Director of The Berry Botanic Garden in Portland. She was appointed to the Commission in 1992.

Previously, McMahan was Director of botanic garden programs at the Center for Plant Conservation in Massachusetts from 1985 to 1989, and a botanist with the World Wildlife Fund and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Toxic Substances.

McMahan holds B.A. and Ph.D. degrees in botany from the University of Texas and a J.D. degree from Washington College of Law at American University in Washington, D.C.

Mark Reeve is an attorney with Reeve & Reeve in Portland, Oregon. He was appointed to the Commission in 1998.

Reeve earned his A.B. at Harvard University in 1982 and his J.D. at the University of Washington in 1985.

Tony Van Vliet was appointed to the EQC in 1995. He served 20 years as a State Representative in the Oregon Legislature (1975 to 95), including 17 on the Joint Ways and Means Committee and Emergency Board. He also served on several Governors' assignments-- Oregon Public Lands Advisory Committee, Workforce Quality Council, and over 12 special Legislative Task Forces and interim committees. He co-chaired the Joint Ways and Means Committee for the '91-'93 Session. Van Vliet received the "Mosser and Aufderheide Awards for Teaching" during his 35 years in the College of Forestry at Oregon State University.

Van Vliet received his B.S. and M.S. in Forest Products at Oregon State University (OSU). In 1970 he graduated from Michigan State University with a Ph.D. in Wood Industry Management. He currently resides in Corvallis.



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