Oregon agriculture is an important contributor and driver of the state’s economy. As of 2015, Oregon’s agriculture, food and fiber industry was economically linked to 13.2% of all Oregon sales, 10.6% of Oregon’s net state product, and 13.8% of full- and part-time jobs in Oregon. This program will examine key legal issues affecting Oregon agriculture including issues related to the environment, water, land use, employment, and bankruptcy. The program will include a timely recap of the 2018 legislative session, and a look ahead to the 2019 legislative session. Attendees will also benefit from a special presentation from representatives of the Oregon Department of Agriculture and Oregon Farm Bureau Federation, who will provide an industry update.

The program is designed for producers and consultants, attorneys, and other professionals who serve agriculture industry clients. Come join a lively program featuring speakers who know Oregon agriculture!
8:15  Introduction and Overview
Mary Anne Cooper, Public Policy Counsel, Program Co-Chair
Oregon Farm Bureau
Kirk B. Maag, Program Co-Chair
Stoel Rives LLP

8:30  Legislative Update
- A Recap of the 2018 Legislative Session
- A Look Ahead at Important Issues for the Ag Industry in 2019
Rocky Dallum
Tonkon Torp LLP

9:00  Special Presentation - Industry Update
State of the Ag Industry
Challenges and Opportunities
Economic Trends
Alexis Taylor, Director, Special Presenter
Oregon Department of Agriculture
Dave Dillon, Exec. Vice Pres., Special Presenter
Oregon Farm Bureau Federation

10:00  Break

10:15  Environmental Law Update
- Endangered Species Act
  Kirk B. Maag
  Stoel Rives LLP
- Water Quality
  Elizabeth E. Howard
  Schwabe Williamson & Wyatt PC
- Food Safety
  David A. Ernst
  Davis Wright Tremaine LLP

11:15  Water Law Update
- Statutory and Regulatory Changes
- Current Litigation
- Conjunctive Management of Groundwater and Surface Water
- Groundwater Policy
- Trends Related to Transfers and Mitigation
- Cannabis Irrigation
Kirk B. Maag, Moderator
Stoel Rives LLP
Natasha Bellis, Program Mgr.
Deschutes River Conservancy
Craig Horrell, General Mgr.
Central Oregon Irrigation District
Steven L. Shropshire
Jordan Ramis PC

12:15  Midday Break

1:30  Non-Traditional Uses of Farmland
- Agri-Tourism
- Outdoor Mass Gatherings
- Renewable Energy Facility Siting
  Elaine R. Albrich, Moderator
  Davis Wright Tremaine LLP
  Holly L. Kerns, Director, Planning Dept.
  Baker City and County
  Dylan Kruse, Policy Director
  Sustainable Northwest

2:30  Employment Law Updates
- Wage and Hour Updates
- Seasonal Labor
- Employee vs. Independent Contractors
- FMLA, Disability and Leave Laws
- Affordable Care Act
  Alisha L. Kormondy
  Stoel Rives LLP
  Jenna L. Mooney
  Davis Wright Tremaine LLP

3:15  Break

3:30  Getting Paid
- PACA
- Bankruptcy
- Lender Claims and Food Security Act
- State Lien Law
  Brandy A. Sargent
  K&L Gates LLP

4:00  Right-to-Farm Update
- Summary of the Law
- Recent Litigation
- GMOs, Pesticides, Preemption
  Mary Anne Cooper, Public Policy Counsel
  Oregon Farm Bureau
  Scott Dahlman, Policy Director
  Oregonians for Food & Shelter

5:00  Adjourn and Reception at McMenamins ~
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Mary Anne Cooper, Program Co-Chair, is the Public Policy Counsel and Director of Regulatory Affairs with the Oregon Farm Bureau Federation. She represents the Bureau on legal issues and works with state and federal agencies on water quality and supply, land use, acquisition, and other natural resources issues.

Kirk B. Maag, Program Co-Chair, a partner with Stoel Rives LLP, leads the firm’s Food & Agribusiness Team and has deep roots in Oregon agriculture. His practice involves advising clients in natural resource industries, including farmers, ranchers, other agribusinesses, water suppliers, and forest products companies.

Natasha Bellis, Program Manager with the Deschutes River Conservancy, joined the DRC in 2016. She provides strategic oversight of the organization’s stream flow restoration programs, including negotiating stream flow restoration agreements and convening and facilitating stakeholder processes in priority reaches.

Kirk B. Maag, Program Co-Chair, a partner with Stoel Rives LLP, leads the firm’s Food & Agribusiness Team and has deep roots in Oregon agriculture. His practice involves advising clients in natural resource industries, including farmers, ranchers, other agribusinesses, water suppliers, and forest products companies.

Scott Dahlman is the Policy Director of Oregonians for Food & Shelter, a grassroots coalition representing agriculture and forestry on issues of pesticides, fertilizer, and biotechnology. He previously worked for the Washington Farm Bureau, the Washington State Grange, and as staff in both the Oregon and Washington legislatures.

Dave Dillon, Special Presenter, is Executive Vice President of the Oregon Farm Bureau Federation, Oregon’s largest farm and ranch membership organization. He started his Farm Bureau career as communications director in 1996 and was appointed EVP in July 2002. He previously worked for U.S. Senator Bob Packwood for six years.

Rocky Dallum is a partner with Tonkon Torp LLP in the firm’s Government Relations & Public Policy Practice Group. He works extensively with a variety of stakeholders on policy issues facing Oregon’s ag sector including animal health and welfare, water law, wildlife management, and environmental regulation.

Alexis Taylor, Special Presenter, was appointed Director of the Oregon Department of Agriculture by Governor Kate Brown in December 2016. She works with the Governor and Legislature, as well as agricultural, conservation, and consumer groups, to carry out the state’s agriculture policy. She previously oversaw the USDA’s Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services.

David A. Ernst, a partner with Davis Wright Tremaine LLP, represents restaurant chains, food manufacturers and distributors in claims and litigation throughout the country. Over the last 20 years, he has handled more than 2,000 matters arising from outbreak and contamination events including E. coli, Hepatitis A, and Salmonella claims.

Elaine R. Albrich, Counsel with Davis Wright Tremaine LLP, teams with clients to offer practical, strategic solutions for navigating and resolving complex situations involving use of land, impacts to natural resources, discretionary permits and licenses, and other government-imposed hurdles.

Craig Horrell, General Manager of the Central Oregon Irrigation District, has worked with COID for over four years and has brought a record of solid ethics, energy, creativity, and an intuitive and fair nature. He provides an unparalleled mastery of local, state and federal issues in areas with sensitive water, environmental and land use challenges.
Elizabeth E. Howard, an Industry Group Leader with Schwabe Williamson & Wyatt PC, helps agriculture, forest product and energy businesses navigate burdensome regulations, negotiate favorable resolutions with agencies, defend against injunctions and cancellations, resolve enforcement actions, and obtain permits.

Holly L. Kerns is Director of the Planning Department with Baker City and County. She has worked on a variety of rural and urban planning issues including implementation of the state’s “Sage-grouse rule”, mineral and aggregate mining, energy projects and code development. She began working for the County in 2006.

Alisha L. Kormondy, an attorney with Stoel Rives LLP, assists with the resolution of employment-related disputes. Prior to joining the firm in 2016, she was with Ogletree Deakins Nash Smoak & Stewart PC.

Dylan Kruse, Policy Director with Sustainable Northwest, is responsible for state and federal legislative activity and agency engagement. He represents the organization’s broad market and public policy priorities, is the organization’s bioenergy lead, and works on wood biomass utilization and energy projects across the Northwest.

Jenna L. Mooney, a partner with Davis Wright Tremaine LLP, defends employers in wage and hour, wrongful discharge, and discrimination matters, and litigates trade secret and noncompetition cases. She helps employers proactively develop and maintain best practices, and trains managers and employees regarding diversity, harassment, and other key topics.

Brandy A. Sargent, Counsel with K&L Gates LLP, provides legal services to agribusiness clients including producers, processors and handlers of agricultural products, agricultural cooperatives, and lenders. She is experienced in corporate reorganization, workouts and bankruptcy, and agricultural contracting and enforcement.

Steven L. Shropshire, a shareholder with Jordan Ramis PC, advises clients in contexts including transactions, administrative proceedings, and legislation. He is a seasoned litigator who effectively represents clients before state agencies, and state and federal courts, having served as counsel on cases involving water rights issues.
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Location

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Phone: 541-382-8436

The seminar is located in the Lava Room. Please call the venue for directions/questions.

Reception to follow on the patio at McMenamins at The Old St. Francis School.