

Washington State Department of Natural Resources

LogiXML Helps Protect the Environment

“Using both Logi Ad Hoc and Logi Info, we have given our customers the ability to freely access and understand their own data.”

The Customer



The Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is a State agency that protects and manages 5.6 million acres of state-owned land

for the people of Washington. Three million acres is state trust land that provides revenue to help pay for construction of public schools, universities and other state institutions, and funds services in many counties.

“We generate income from these lands by selling products like timber or leasing it to private agriculture businesses. Since 1970, these lands have generated \$6 billion for trust beneficiaries, counties, and the state general fund,” says Jonathan Ferris, senior developer at DNR. “We also manage these lands to provide fish and wildlife habitat, clean water, and public access for you. We help protect public resources by regulating forest practices like timber harvests and preventing and suppressing wildfires on more than 12.7 million acres of state, private and tribal land.”

A powerful business intelligence (BI) system for effective reporting and timely analysis is essential to the DNR mission. The LogiXML Platform proved to be the right solution for the department. DNR works towards a future in which the environment provides abundant and diverse social, ecological, and economic benefits for all the people of Washington, with a vision towards sustainability. Tracking complex data, visualizing the impact of the data and creating reports that lead to direct action are core functions of the department supported by their LogiXML implementation.

The Issue

To ensure coordination of their efforts, DNR generates and relies on a high volume of data, which is reported on and analyzed across the agency’s various departments. Initially, DNR employed an inadequate traditional reporting product; however, as the needs of the agency grew

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The Issue

DNR manages and reports on high volumes of data across multiple users and divisions within the agency. When their needs began to outgrow the capabilities of Oracle Discover, DNR sought a more flexible, secure and user-friendly solution that would ensure optimal ROI.

The Solution

Logi Info and Logi Ad Hoc provide flexibility, security, ease of use, and great value.

The Result

All divisions of DNR are successfully using BI.

1400 ad-hoc reports over 10 schemas in 5 databases as part of the project to convert Oracle Discoverer, and close to 800 Logi Info reports spread over 83 Logi Info applications.

Using both Logi Ad Hoc and Logi Info, DNR customers now have the ability to freely access and understand their own data.

more complex, DNR looked for and tested products that would deliver more capabilities.

DNR had a long list of requirements for their prospective solution. After several years' experience with another product, they had a clear vision of what to look for in their next solution, from a technical, usability and an affordability standpoint.

Technical requirements included flexibility and access issues such as:

- Web-based for universal access
- Support of J2EE for maximum flexibility
- Support for tiered users, based on security and complexity
- Access to multiple tables across multiple databases

Also critical were security features like:

- Is the product able to publish public as well as private reports?
- Does the product have the ability to publish reports without a log in?
- Does it have column level as well as record level security?

Ensuring ease of use for non-technical staff drove requirements such as, does the product:

- Feature intuitive, user friendly report generation and intuitive, user friendly documentation?
- Require little training for both developers and users?
- Offer a high level of support?
- Have zero impact to user's system?

Determined to deliver a strong return on taxpayer investment, affordability issues were also important. Particularly:

- Is the product inexpensive to license?
- Is there no charge for user seats?

The Solution

The agency's search led them to LogiXML which offered a positive answer to all of these defined requirements.

Ferris notes that, "Initially we bought the Logi Info product to replace a legacy product that was our agency-wide reporting software. We sought a replacement due to the fact that it no longer met our needs and we were interested in replacing it with something that would provide more functionality."

"After the development of several Logi Info Applications for various divisions, we decided that Logi Ad Hoc which was a component of our Logi Platform, was well suited to the user community, as well. With this in mind, we proceeded with Logi Ad Hoc as the 'ad-hoc' Discoverer replacement and Logi Info as the managed Reporting Application software."

The Result

“Currently we have over 1,400 ad-hoc reports over 10 schemas in 5 databases as part of the project to convert Oracle Discoverer, and close to 800 Logi Info reports spread over 83 Logi Info applications. The latter have arisen purely out of a business need and draw from virtually all of our schemas and databases.

“Using both Logi Ad Hoc and Logi Info, we have given our customers the ability to freely access and understand their own data. With this available to them, they are free to acquire relevant knowledge as it pertains to their organization and as a result gain all of the necessary information needed to make sound decisions based upon accurate analysis. That said, while we have laid the foundation, I believe that the full potential for an enterprise BI solution has yet to be realized.

“All of our divisions are successfully using BI. At the very least they run financial reports to monitor their expenditures versus allotments while most are deeply incorporating Logi reports into their core activities,” concludes Ferris.

Among the DNR’s divisions using one or more Logi Info Applications and several Logi Ad Hoc Reports with multiple active users are: Information Technology, Financial Management, Forest Practices, Engineering and General Services, Land Management, Office of Budget and Economics, Product Sales and Leasing, and Resource Protection. Executive Management, Aquatics, Geology Asset Management and Protection all work with several Logi Ad Hoc Reports with multiple active users, while Environmental Review and Analysis, Aviation, Communications and Outreach are using the products for financial reporting.