Legislative Summary Report

Natural Resources



This Legislative Summary Report highlights Natural Resources policy measures that received a public hearing in a policy committee during the **2025** regular legislative session. The report is organized by subtopics and includes the measure number; the measure status: enacted $[\checkmark]$ or not enacted $[\chi]$; and a brief description of the measure.

Natural Resources Subtopics:

- Agriculture
- Fish & Wildlife
- Forests
- Geology & Mining Industries
- Invasive Species
- Land Use

- Natural Resources Planning & Operations
- Outdoor Recreation
- State & Local Lands
- Water Quantity
- Wildfire

Agriculture

- SB 208 The measure would have directed the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA), in partnership with Oregon State University (OSU), to study the potential for reducing methane emissions by developing livestock feed through commercial seaweed production.
- SB 360 The measure exempts employees using a battery-powered device to apply pesticides from certain pesticide licensing requirements and requires the Department of Agriculture to develop standards and training materials to safely apply pesticides using machine-powered devices.
- SB 733 The measure revises the definition of the term 'potentially dangerous dog' to include a dog that injures or kills livestock, defined as ratites, horses, mules, hinnies, donkeys, cattle, llamas, alpacas, sheep, goats, swine, domesticated fowl, and any fur-bearing animal bred and maintained commercially or otherwise within pens, cages, or hutches.

SB 747	×	The measure would have required the Department of Agriculture (ODA) to establish a reporting system for fertilizer application to irrigated agricultural land. It would have required owners of at least 200 acres of irrigated land to submit annual reports to ODA and would have authorized ODA to use the data to prevent overapplication. It would have authorized the Department of Environmental Quality to access annual report information and required ODA to report annually on fertilizer application and related prevention and education efforts.
SB 809	~	The measure includes poultry in in the State Meat Inspection Program and requires the Oregon Department of Agriculture to impose inspection requirements that are at least equal to federal requirements under the Poultry Products Inspection Act.
SB 833	~	The measure modifies labeling requirements for certain soil-enhancing products and changes reporting requirements for filing a semiannual tonnage report with the Oregon Department of Agriculture.
SB 887 A	×	The measure would have directed the Director of the Department of Agriculture (ODA) to hire an Organic Policy Special Assistant to monitor national organic trends and regulations, support state and federal advocacy, promote organic trade, address data gaps and import substitution, strengthen infrastructure for organic processing, and integrate organic practices into ODA programs.
SB 976	~	The measure would have authorized trained individuals without a veterinary medicine license to perform cattle pregnancy checks, authorized the Oregon Department of Agriculture to set conditions for practice, and created a Task Force on Equine Dentistry.
		Note : Vetoed by Governor Tina Kotek – see the veto letter for SB 976.
SB 986	×	The measure would have appropriated \$1,200,000 to the Department of



SB 1019

HB 2063 A

Agriculture for the brand inspection program.

Report on Energy and Environment.

inspection program.

The measure revises Oregon's livestock brand registration and

Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development.

The measure would have established the Agrivoltaics Task Force staffed by the

Note: This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary

HB 2164	×	The measure would have appropriated money from the General Fund to the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) to hire up to two full-time staff members for Oregon's inspection program for the processing and sale of meat products. It would have required ODA to ensure that new staff members prioritize slaughter-specific facilities, facilities in rural and underserved communities, and new state-sponsored facilities in an equitable manner across Oregon.
HB 2166	×	The measure would have directed the Oregon Department of Agriculture to submit a report on the economic competitiveness of Oregon's agricultural sector to an agriculture-related interim committee of the Legislative Assembly.
HB 2408 A	×	The measure would have appropriated a total of \$23.5 million from the General Fund to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to be allocated to Oregon State University (OSU) for the agricultural experiment station and its branch stations, the OSU Extension Service, and the Forest Research Laboratory.
HB 2679	×	The measure would have required the Oregon Department of Agriculture to classify as a restricted-use pesticide any pesticide that contains a chemical belonging to the neonicotinoid class of chemicals. It would have prohibited people from applying a restricted neonicotinoid pesticide to a residential landscape, with some exceptions.
HB 2730 A	X	The measure would have established a beginning farmer and rancher incentive

program in the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

to three percent.

HB 2806

HB 2805

LID 0464

The measure authorizes the Oregon Department of Agriculture to increase license fees charged for a commercial weighing or measuring instrument by up to seven percent on July 1 in each year in 2026 and 2027, and up to three percent annually thereafter, up to a newly established limit.

The measure removes the current cap on license fee increases charged by the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) to food establishments and instead authorizes ODA to annually increase license fees for food establishments by up

The measure increases the upper limit on pesticide registration fees charged by the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) from \$400 to \$550 and authorizes ODA to take any action necessary for implementation before January 1, 2026.



The measure appropriates \$800,000 from the General Fund for distribution to Oregon State University (OSU) and requires the OSU Extension Service and the OSU College of Agricultural Sciences (CAS) in collaboration with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and Oregon wastewater service providers to study the occurrence and distribution of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances found in biosolids applied to agricultural fields that do not produce crops intended for human consumption. The measure also requires the OSU Extension Service and CAS to submit a progress report and a final report to agriculture-related interim committees of the Legislative Assembly.

Note: This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Energy and Environment.

HB 3010 A

The measure would have appropriated funding to complete the development of the Spanish language version of the online precertification training program offered by the Oregon State University (OSU) Pesticide Safety Education Program. It would have appropriated funding for OSU to, in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Agriculture, develop and implement a statewide program of culturally appropriate Spanish language pesticide education.

HB 3131

The measure would have appropriated \$17.3 million from the General Fund to X the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) for deposit in the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Fund (OAHF) and established OWEB's maximum limit for expense payment from the OAHF as \$17.3 million.

HB 3141

The measure designates the third Tuesday of March of each year as Oregon Farmer and Rancher Day.

HB 3193 A

X

The measure would have appropriated \$10,000,000 to the Oregon Health Authority to establish a permanent fund to provide financial support for farmworkers who lose income or wages due to a qualifying disaster.

Note: This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Labor and Employment.

HB 3487

The measure allows counties receiving grasshopper suppression funds from the Department of Agriculture to use up to eight percent of those funds for administrative expenses.

HB 3871 A

X

The measure would have established the Animal Welfare Trust to provide grants to entities that provide veterinary support services in low-income households or underserved communities.



Fish & Wildlife

- SB 221 The measure directs the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to encourage one or more entities participating in the salmon and trout enhancement program to establish and fund projects under a fall Chinook fish incubation nursery program. It sunsets the nursery program and associated reporting requirements on January 2, 2040.
- SB 222 A The measure would have appropriated \$1 million to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to establish a program to monitor and support programs to eradicate smallmouth bass within rivers other than the Columbia River that drain into the Pacific Ocean.
- SB 354 The measure would have directed the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to include in a program for the voluntary relocation of beavers, the voluntary relocation of beavers from western Oregon to areas in central and eastern Oregon in which beavers are native, to provide watershed enhancements.
- SB 511 The measure would have directed the Department of State Lands (DSL) to collaborate with the Department of Fish and Wildlife to develop a Salmon Credit Pilot Program that would encourage and create a financial incentive for landowners to engage in voluntary salmonoid habitat restoration projects within the Coquille or Coos watershed basins. It would have established a Salmon Credit Trust Fund, provided reimbursement options for credit purchasers, and required federal collaboration for necessary permits, with a six-year limit on project approval after the establishment of the federal permit.
- SB 512 A The measure would have appropriated \$1.4 million dollars from the General Fund to the State Fish and Wildlife Commission for the Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to study the effects of water temperature and predation by nonnative fish on hatchery releases of coho, winter steelhead, and chinook salmon from the Rock Creek Hatchery, and to identify alternative release strategies to reduce predation.
- The measure would have allowed a county to be exempt from the current statute banning the use of dogs to hunt cougars if approved by county voters. It would have required an exempt county to notify the Department of Fish and Wildlife if the county had been determined to be exempt.
- The measure modifies the Wolf Depredation Compensation Program by specifying that compensation is provided to individuals who suffer probable or confirmed losses or injury of livestock or working dogs, capping compensation at \$25,000 per animal, and authorizing counties to establish compensation rates capped at specified multipliers applied to fair market value.



SB 812	~	The measure makes provisions related to the issuance of landowner preference tags for hunting deer, elk, or antelope on one's property permanent.
SB 985	X	The measure would have appropriated \$2,000,000 of General Fund moneys to the Wolf Management Compensation and Proactive Trust Fund.
SB 1131	×	The measure would have directed the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to provide a grant of \$1,500,000 to the Chintimini Wildlife Center for building or upgrading wildlife enclosures, accessible pathways, and related facilities to enhance education, outreach, and visitor experiences. It also would have made available an additional \$500,000 if the center secured matching funds of the same amount from other sources. A total of \$2,000,000 from the General Fund would have been appropriated to DAS.
HB 2167 A	×	The measure would have appropriated \$3.5 million from the General Fund to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission for distribution to Oregon State University's Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory to support faculty and personnel working on chronic wasting disease and zoonotic diseases.
HB 2342	~	The measure incrementally raises fees for specific wildlife licenses, tags, and permits, along with certain fishing and vessel permit fees over a six-year period. It establishes the Marine Fisheries Enhancement Fund Subaccount and authorizes the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to impose ocean endorsement fees, which will be deposited into the Subaccount.
HB 2343	~	The measure extends the sunset on the Columbia River Fisheries Enhancement Fund and extends authorization for the Fish and Wildlife Commission to collect a recreational fishing endorsement fee to fish for salmon, steelhead, and sturgeon in the Columbia Basin until 2032.
HB 2345	~	The measure renames the Oregon Hatchery Research Center Fund the Oregon Hatchery Monitoring and Maintenance Fund. It modifies authorized expenditures of the Fund, removes certain reporting requirements, and extends the current sunset on the Fund from January 2, 2027, to January 2, 2039.
HB 2403	×	The measure would have allowed the establishment of one or more predator damage control districts within a county to have funded county services to prevent, reduce, and mitigate property damage from predatory animals.
HB 2557	×	The measure would have prohibited a person from raising or selling octopus for the purpose of human consumption while specifically exempting octopus raised for the purpose of facilitating the keeping of octopus as pets, or laboratory



Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission, up to \$6,500.

research. Violations would have been subject to civil penalties as set by the

HB 2773 A	×	The measure would have directed the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to use dedicated lottery bond funds to establish a grant program for building and improving public facilities that improve fishing access and that are located inside an urban growth boundary.
HB 2965	×	The measure would have established requirements for aquaculture facilities, and it would have created the Aquatic Animals Fund.
HB 2977 A	×	The measure would have increased the state transient lodging tax from 1.5 percent to 2.75 percent. It would have specified the net revenue from one percentage point of the increase have been distributed to the Recovering Wildlife Fund Subaccount, and the net revenue from 0.25 percentage point increase to have been distributed to the Department of State Police, the Oregon Department of Agriculture, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Department of Justice.
HB 2978	~	The measure modifies the Department of Transportation's (ODOT) Wildlife-Vehicle Collision Program. It directs ODOT and the Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to establish an advisory group and modifies ODOT's reporting requirements.
HB 2980	×	The measure would have directed the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to establish the Wildlife Stewardship Program with certain duties. It would have required the program to administer a grant program to support licensed wildlife rehabilitation centers that hold and treat injured and orphaned wildlife, and it would have appropriated \$200,000 to ODFW for the grant program.
HB 2984	×	The measure would have appropriated \$1.5 million from the General Fund to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife for deposit into the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund to carry out activities related to water that serve to protect, maintain, or enhance fish and wildlife resources in Oregon.
HB 3143	×	The measure would have established the Landowners Living with Beavers Grant Program Subaccount in the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund and appropriated \$1.5 million for deposit into the subaccount.
HB 3596	×	The measure would have directed the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to study mule deer in the Steens Mountain herd range area.
HB 3657 A	×	The measure would have appropriated \$600,000 from the General Fund to the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) and directed ODA to establish and implement a wildlife damage prevention and compensation pilot program.



X

The measure would have established a new personal income tax of 0.13 percent

and transferred tax revenue to the State Wildlife Fund for specified purposes.

The measure prohibits, with specified exceptions, the taking of beavers in designated areas and requires the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to publish a map identifying these areas.

Note: Governor Tina Kotek issued a signing letter – see the signing letter for HB 3932.

Forests

SB 147	/	The measure renames the Elliott State Forest to the Elliott State Research
	Ť	Forest and transfers management responsibilities from the State Board of
		Forestry to the State Land Board.

- SB 355 The measure would have appropriated \$1 million General Fund moneys to the Oregon Department of Forestry for a pilot grant program that promotes air curtain use for biochar production.

Note: This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Energy and Environment.

- The measure directs the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to study classification and compensation of forestry and wildland fire positions in state government, addressing wage and management compression, identifying deficiencies in the span of control of the Department of State Forestry, and providing recommendations.
- The measure requires the Director of the Oregon State University Extension Service to establish a lumber grading training pilot program and directs the Oregon Department of Consumer and Business services to establish a process by which lumber graded under the pilot program may be obtained and used.
- The measure would have directed the State Forester under the authority and direction of the Oregon Board of Forestry to adopt by rule a sustainable timber harvest level (STHL) and to the degree consistent with other legal requirements, manage available state lands to produce the STHL.
- The measure would have appropriated money from the General Fund to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services for the grant program for treatment of western juniper, program administration, and associated monitoring.



X

The measure would have authorized the Oregon Department of Forestry to enter into a lease agreement with the United States Forest Service or other relevant federal agency to assume management authority and responsibility for the Ochoco National Forest for no less than 15 years.

Geology & Mining Industries

SB 836



The measure increases various fees charged by the Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) for the Mineral Land Regulation and Reclamation Program.

Invasive Species

HB 2170



The measure authorizes the Department of Fish and Wildlife, the State Marine Board, or the Department of Agriculture to form agreements with Tribal governments, local governments, or local service districts to allow those partners to assist in operating aquatic invasive species check stations, inspection of recreational or commercial watercraft, and decontamination of any watercraft found with aquatic invasive species. It requires agreements formed to specify functions and activities of the partner and include provisions for monitoring and performance review. The measure requires that check stations operated under these agreements must comply with current check station laws.

HB 2981 A



The measure would have appropriated moneys to various entities for work related to aquatic invasive species.

HB 2982



The measure increases boating fees for the issuance and renewal of an aquatic invasive species permit, the biennial fee for the original or renewal certificate of number or registration, and fees for waterway access permits. The measure removes the provision that limits waterway access permit fees for boats over 10 feet in length. Instead, it establishes that the fee will be charged to any nonmotorized boats and sailboats, regardless of size, with the exception of nonmotorized boats under 10 feet in length that are used for whitewater recreation activities on designated waters.



Land Use

X

SB 77

parking conditions on exclusive farm use, forest use, or mixed farm and forest use land. **SB 78** X The measure would have added size limitations to replacement dwellings located on lands zoned for farm or forest use, establishing a maximum size of no more than 2,500 square feet or not more than 10 percent of the floor area being replaced. **SB 788** The measure would have added weddings and event venues as authorized uses X on lands zoned for farm use east of the summit of the Cascade Range in counties with a population fewer than 90,000 if the events were conducted outdoors or in farm buildings. SB 817 The measure increases Land Use Board of Appeals fees for motion to intervene and notice of intent to appeal filings. HB 2135 The measure would have modified the applicability of current restrictions on local X governments to, except as required by state building code, (1) prohibit the installation or use of battery-charged fences, (2) impose certain installation or operational requirements; or (3) require additional permits for certain nonresidential alarm systems and battery-charged fences to apply to properties zoned to allow for commercial or industrial use and not used for residential use. HB 2256 The measure specifies that a government entity, charitable organization, or federally recognized Indian Tribe that purchases unlawfully established land is not entitled to damages or equitable relief against the seller if the deed indicates

that the purchaser uses the property for conservation purposes.

The measure would have directed the Department of Land Conservation and

the advisory committee, would have been directed to study and develop recommendations for the public participation processes used by LCDC to

Development to appoint an advisory committee to recommend draft amendments to the Statewide Land Use Planning Goal on Citizen Involvement (Goal 1) and would have required the Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) to then amend the goal by rule. The department, with the assistance of

The measure would have added provisions for allowable home occupations and



HB 2950 A

X

amend, implement, and review land use goals.

X

X

The measure would have established that if a permit or zone change is based on a comprehensive plan or land use regulation that fails to gain acknowledgement, the change is void and without further effect and any improvements or use based on the change must be halted and removed. A person who participated in an appeal of, or submitted testimony in opposition to, the unacknowledged change would have been allowed to bring a claim in circuit court seeking specified actions whether they appealed or sought a stay of the change or if the approval of the change was a land use decision.

HB 3346 A

The measure would have required the Department of Land Conservation and Development, in consultation with the Departments of Revenue, Energy, and Water Resources, to study and submit a report to an interim legislative committee on issues regarding small-scale renewable energy facilities sited in areas classified as critical groundwater areas east of the Cascade Mountains.

HB 3422

The measure would have allowed the Energy Facility Siting Council (EFSC) to allow an exception to a one or more statewide planning goals for siting an energy facility if EFSC found that the following standards were met: 1) reasons justify why the state policy embodied in the applicable goal should not apply; and 2) areas that do not require a new exception cannot reasonably accommodate the proposed facility.

Note: This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Energy and Environment.

HB 3587 A

The measure would have directed the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development to coordinate development and implementation of site management plans for rocky habitat management sites as designated in the Territorial Sea Plan (TSP). The measure would have appropriated funding and directed the Oregon Ocean Science Trust to establish and execute a competitive grant program to implement nonregulatory management programs for rocky habitat management sites in the TSP.

HB 3858 A

The measure would have clarified that the remainder parcel after dividing off a portion of land from a lawfully established unit of land is still considered a lawfully established unit of land even if the remainder is not separately described in a deed or land sales contract, provided (1) the subtracted unit of land was created in compliance with all applicable planning, zoning, and subdivision or partition ordinance and regulations, or (2) the subtracted unit of land was created by deed or land sales contract, if there were no applicable planning, zoning, or subdivision or partitions ordinances or regulations.



Natural Resources Planning & Operations

- SB 504 The measure directs the Land Conservation and Development Commission to adopt rules to guide the use of nonstructural, nature-based solutions used for shoreline stabilization in estuaries, coastal shorelands, and the ocean shore.
- SB 565 A

 The measure would have directed the State Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) to explore sustainable funding options to address revenue shortfalls in state park operations. It also would have granted control of State Capitol State Park to OPRD, limiting the Department of Administrative Services' authority to the Capitol Area.
- SB 579 The measure would have appropriated \$950,000 from the General Fund to the State Fire Marshal for distribution to Central Douglas Fire and Rescue to add living quarters to the Umpqua fire station.
- SB 713 The measure would have authorized the State Treasurer, at the request of the Department of Administrative Services, to issue \$15 million in lottery bonds by June 30, 2026, to fund levee projects. The net proceeds would have been required to be transferred to the Oregon Business Development Department for deposit into the Levee Project Grant Fund to provide grants for inspecting, certifying, and repairing levees.
- The measure establishes authority for the Department of State Lands to adopt by rule application and renewal fees, as well as compensation rates, for easements on state land within the territorial sea to construct, maintain and decommission water, gas, electric, communication or telecommunication service lines, fixtures, or other facilities.
- SB 1076 A The measure would have authorized the Department of Agriculture (ODA) to charge fees for animal rescue entity licenses and to establish an animal breeder licensing program. It would have authorized ODA to investigate animal breeders to ensure compliance and would have appropriated General Fund moneys to ODA for the animal breeder licensing program.
- The measure would have appropriated a total of \$8 million from the General Fund to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services for distribution to the Oregon Community Food System Network and the Oregon Farmers Market Association.



HB 3486 A

X

The measure would have required at least one member of the Research Vessel Council to be a trained scientist from the University of Oregon with at least five years of marine research experience. It would have appropriated \$306,000 from the General Fund to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) for distribution to the Oceangoing Research Vessel Program to be used for 30 days of research per year on two research vessels operated by the University of Oregon Institute of Marine Biology and \$110,000 from the General Fund to HECC to be expended for the purchase of a dive vessel and for the construction of a dock for a dive vessel and a dive platform.

HB 3786 A



The measure would have appropriated a total of \$3 million from the General Fund for deposit in the Oregon Ocean Science Fund to provide competitive grants for specified purposes.

Outdoor Recreation

SB 301



The measure would have required the State Marine Board to have studied issues related to the safe operation of boats and to submit a report to the Legislative Assembly.

Note: This measure was introduced as a placeholder.

SB 929 A



The measure would have appropriated \$100,000 to the State Parks and Recreation Department and designated \$1,000,000 of lottery revenues for the purpose of continuing to develop the Oregon Coast Trail.

HB 2163



The measure expands the Department of Fish and Wildlife's consideration of people with disabilities to include individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities that impair their ability to hold or operate standard angling or shellfish harvesting equipment such as rods, reels, clam guns, shovels, and similar tools.

HB 2558



The measure modifies the definition of "charter guide" and "crew member" in the context of outfitter and guide laws, modifies the current registration fee structure to increase fees for resident outfitters and guides, and creates a new registration fee for crew members. The modified registration fee structure and new registration fees are to be applied uniformly, regardless of state of residence. The measure also increases civil penalties for boating outfitters and guides that fail to comply with registration and safety requirements.

HB 2925



The measure modifies permitting procedures for ocean shore permitting and emergency permits for certain ocean shore alterations. The measure further authorizes Oregon Parks and Recreation Department to, through rule, establish a general authorization permit for ocean shore improvements under certain conditions.



State & Local Lands

- SB 74 The measure modifies the process used by the Department of State Lands to determine a waterway's navigability.
- SB 165 The measure clarifies ownership of historically filled lands, which were created by filling in publicly owned waterways prior to 1963.
- SB 795 The measure modifies laws regarding the cleanup of abandoned or derelict vessels.

Water Quantity

- The measure permits the Oregon Water Resources Department to, until January 2, 2030, approve an application by eligible districts in the Walla Walla basin to lease all or a portion of an existing water right for temporary conversion to an in-stream water right under certain conditions.
- SB 1153 The measure would have required that a water right transfer not result in a loss of in-stream habitat for sensitive, threatened, or endangered aquatic species in certain stream reaches nor contribute to water quality impairment in certain streams. The measure would also have allowed federally recognized Tribes to elect to review water right transfer applications in specific counties and provided information on the applications to the Water Resources Department.
- The measure would have appropriated \$830,415 from the General Fund to the Oregon Water Resources Department for costs related to well construction and compliance.



X

The measure would have required the Oregon State University Extension Service to establish a program to provide assistance to households that rely on wells for drinking water or on septic systems for wastewater treatment and appropriated \$2.5 million from the General Fund for implementation. The measure would have also appropriated from the General Fund \$5 million to the Oregon Water Resources Department for deposit into the Water Well Abandonment, Repair, and Replacement Fund and \$5 million to the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality for Oregon's low-interest loan programs for residential or small business on-site septic systems.

Note: This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Energy and Environment.

HB 2169



The measure requires the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality to establish an Interagency Water Reuse Development Team that includes the Oregon Water Resources Department, the Oregon Health Authority, the Oregon Department of Agriculture, and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to encourage and expand water reuse in Oregon.

Note: This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Energy and Environment.

HB 2801



The measure extends the period during which the Water Resources Department (OWRD) may approve leases or temporary transfers of a determined water right claim in the Upper Klamath Basin until the Klamath County Circuit Court issues a water rights decree that either affirms or modifies the Findings of Fact and Order of Determination issued as part of the Klamath River Basin Adjudication. It requires the Director of OWRD to notify the standing or interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to natural resources, and Legislative Counsel, of the Court's final determination, no later than 30 days after the court issues its decree.

HB 2803



The measure increases certain fees charged by the Oregon Department of Water Resources for water right transactions and dam safety.

Note: Governor Tina Kotek issued a signing letter – see the signing letter for HB 2803.

HB 2808



The measure increases the fees charged by the Oregon Department of Water Resources for obtaining a start card for new well construction; acquiring, renewing, or reinstating a water well constructor's license; securing a permit for well construction, alteration, abandonment, or conversion without a licensed well constructor; and for certain continuing education courses. The measure applies retroactively for fees charged for services provided on or after July 1, 2025.



HB 2813 A

X

Enhancement Program.

The measure would have established the Groundwater Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Match Fund and would have directed all money from the Fund to be continuously appropriated to the Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) to provide the state contribution to water users who cancel groundwater rights as part of enrollment in the federal Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program in areas in which OWRD is not allowing new groundwater rights for irrigation. It further would have appropriated \$500,000 from the General Fund to OWRD for deposit in the Fund to provide the state contribution for water users who cancel groundwater rights as part of enrollment in the Harney Valley Groundwater Conservation Reserve

HB 2988 A

The measure would have required the Oregon Water Resources Department, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Quality, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Oregon Health Authority, as well as other state agencies and interested parties, to identify and reduce barriers to, as well as develop technical assistance resources for, expanding aquifer recharge and aquifer storage and recovery in Oregon.

HB 3106 A

The measure would have created the Integrated Water Data Team, the Integrated Water Data Portal, and the Integrated Water Data Account.

HB 3114 A

The measure would have directed the Oregon Consensus at Portland State University (Oregon Consensus) and Oregon State University (OSU) to continue a collaborative process for developing a shared understanding of water management in the Chewaucan River watershed and adopting an action plan. The measure would have appropriated \$305,000 General Fund moneys to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission for distribution to Oregon Consensus and \$150,000 General Fund moneys to OSU.

HB 3116 A

The measure would have appropriated money from the General Fund to the Oregon Water Resources Department for the implementation of the place-based water planning program, water basin assessments, the Water Resources Department Water Supply Fund, and for grants that support the advancements of specific state-recognized place-based integrated water resources plans.

HB 3121 A

X

The measure would have appropriated \$2.5 million from the General Fund to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS). It would have directed DAS to distribute the moneys to the Oregon Association of Water Utilities in order to provide technical assistance, develop a water utility training center, and hire three staff to support small and very small community water systems in Oregon.



The measure modifies the Water Resources Department's (OWRD) management of Oregon's water rights system by updating application processes, allowing electronic communication and payments, and revising deadlines. It updates public notice and comment rules and requires OWRD to maintain a list of restricted water sources. It also authorizes the Water Resources Commission (WRC) to withdraw water from appropriation by rule instead of order and changes timelines for protests and final orders.

The measure modifies the Water Conservation, Reuse, and Storage Program and the Water Supply Development Account.

The measure expands the types of exempt water uses from a domestic well to include watering a commercial garden not exceeding one-half acre in size and limits all types of exempt water uses for lawn and garden watering to up to 3,000 gallons of water per day. It also specifies that the existing limit for combined water usage for both industrial and commercial purposes does not include water for a lawn or commercial garden. The measure defines commercial garden and excludes locations where cannabis plants in the family Cannabaceae are grown, unless grown by a licensed person. Commercial gardens in the Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Area are not eligible for the measure's expanded water use exemptions; this restriction sunsets on January 2, 2028.

The measure would have required the Oregon Water Resources Department to study rules related to water and to submit a report to a water-related interim committee of the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2026.

The measure would have made changes to the application process for certain water right transfers and it would have prohibited the Oregon Water Resources Department from considering whether the proposed change would have impaired or been detrimental to the public when evaluating an application.

The measure would have established the Public Drinking Water, Stormwater, and Sewer Ratepayer Assistance Fund, directed the Oregon Housing and Community Services Department to provide grants from Fund moneys to qualified organizations to distribute water, sewer, and stormwater bill payment assistance to low-income residential households, and appropriated \$11 million in General Fund moneys to the assistance program.



The measure would have allocated \$3.2 million from the General Fund to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC) for distribution to the University of Oregon, intended for the Climate Solutions Center to research and address the water needs of environmental justice communities and to provide grant awards. Additionally, the measure would have allocated \$800,000 from the General Fund to HECC for distribution to Portland State University, intended for the Institute for Tribal Government, to study the water needs of tribal communities and offer grants.

The measure establishes a standard process and timeline for handling all contested case processes on new water right and water right transfer applications.

The measure would have renamed the Greater Harney Valley Groundwater Area of Concern to Harney Basin Groundwater Management Area (HBGMA), and it would have established certain authorities and duties for the Oregon Water Resources Department related to the HBGMA.

The measure authorizes the Oregon Water Resources Commission to approve a Deschutes River water bank pilot program if the charter is approved by the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs and adheres to all requirements. It sunsets the pilot program on January 2, 2034.

Wildfire

SB 75 The measure removes references to the statewide wildfire hazard map and maprelated provisions in statutes authorizing a county to approve accessory dwelling units and replacement dwellings in high wildfire hazard zones.

SB 82 A The measure would have modified consultations required for a grant process that supports work conducted by the Oregon Conservation Corps Program (OCC Program) and would have appropriated funding for grant-supported projects related to the OCC Program.

The measure repeals the statewide wildfire map and its application to defensible space requirements, the wildland-urban interface, the Wildfire Programs Advisory Council, agency reporting requirements and administration, seller's property disclosure agreement, comprehensive planning, accessory dwelling units and replacement dwellings, building codes, and the small forestland grant program.



- The measure requires the Department of Consumer and Business Services and the Department of the State Fire Marshal, in collaboration with the Department of Forestry and insurance industry representatives, to evaluate and develop community-based wildfire risk mitigation strategies to reduce wildfire risks and improve insurance affordability in Oregon.
- The measure would have required certain foresters and forest protection agencies to participate in fire management response planning for fires that originate on lands owned or managed by the United States Forest Service (USFS) and if a fire originated on USFS lands, to implement the response planning.
- SB 863 The measure establishes a process for the Oregon State Fire Marshal to recover fire suppression costs from a person who is willful, malicious, or negligent in the origin or subsequent spread of a fire.
- The measure eliminates permit closure as an option for restricting access to forestland exposed to fire danger.
- The measure would have required the Oregon Department of the State Fire Marshal, in collaboration with the Department of Consumer and Business Services, to establish and implement the Wildfire Prepared Structure Program grant program to facilitate the retrofitting of certain dwellings and structures to be resistant and resilient to wildfire.
- The measure raises and moves money to pay for wildfire costs and makes certain changes to laws related to forests and fire protection. It imposes a tax on the distribution of oral nicotine products and directs the revenues to purposes related to wildfire. It directs a portion of the interest from the Rainy Day Fund to purposes related to wildfire. The measure removes the end date for completion of certain wildfire risk reduction projects. It makes certain changes related to the forest products harvest tax, forest protection districts, minimum assessments and surcharges, the Emergency Fire Cost Committee, forestland acreage assessments, zones for fire protection in certain areas and rural fire protection districts.
- The measure would have repealed provisions related to building code standards for wildfire hazard mitigation, defensible space requirements, fire protection for lands outside forest protection districts and the wildfire hazard map; made changes related to defensible space; and made changes related to the wildland-urban interface.
- The measure would have changed Oregon's surplus revenue "kicker" estimate to fund wildfire prevention and response.



HB 3984 A



The measure would have rendered an electric company liable for federal income taxes imposed on amounts received by a wildfire plaintiff in relation to a civil action for wildfires ignited between January 1, 2020, and January 1, 2025, and allowed a wildfire plaintiff to file a motion for supplemental judgment to recover the same. The measure would have created an associated exemption to the Oregon tax code. The measure would have set out legislative findings and intent to establish wildfire safety standards, and authorized the Public Utility Commission (PUC) to implement and enforce such standards. It would have required an electric company to apply with the PUC for a wildfire safety certification and set out associated standards and criteria. It would have required the PUC to have a third-party expert conduct a study and examine issues related to catastrophic wildfire risk and recovery, and developed a range of scenarios for a balanced solution that would have been reported to the Legislative Assembly in 2026.

Note: This measure is cross-listed in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Civil Law.

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