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 2023 regular legislative session. The report is organized by sub-topics and includes the measure number; the measure status: enacted [\checkmark] or not enacted [\times]; and a brief description of the measure.

Natural Resources sub-topics:

- Agriculture
- Fish and Wildlife
- Forests
- Geology and Mineral Industries
- Land Use
- Natural Resources Planning and Operations

- Outdoor Recreation
- State and Local Lands
- Water Quantity
- Wildfire

Agriculture

SB 57	/	Allows the sale, offer for sale, importation, or breeding of female beef or dairy cattle that have not been vaccinated against brucellosis.
SB 85	~	Modifies existing laws for confined animal feeding operation permits with provisions related to water quality permits, nutrient application permits, water supply plans, stockwater exemption limits, air quality, and land use compatibility statements. Appropriates money to the Oregon Department of Agriculture and Department of Environmental Quality for purposes related to permitting and reporting.
SB 132	×	Would have extended the agriculture workforce housing tax credit from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2030. (Bill is also included in Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Housing, Development, and Homelessness)
SB 466	×	Would have allowed a person who kills a nuisance game mammal to offer the meat to a charitable organization, retain the meat for private noncommercial use, or dispose of the meat in a manner permitted by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife rule.
SB 471	×	Would have appropriated \$800,000 to the Oregon Department of Agriculture for deposit in the Wolf Management Compensation and Proactive Trust Fund. Note: Provisions enacted as part of HB 5506 (2023).
SB 479	✓	Directs the Oregon Department of Agriculture to adopt rules allowing donation of meat to charitable organizations and other organizations that offer food for

		noncommercial purposes, provided that the meat has been processed under federal or state meat inspection programs or at a custom establishment.
SB 507	✓	Expands agricultural products allowed for farm-direct and consignment sales, raises the annual sales limit for certain fruit-based products and fruit and vegetable juices, and allows for internet sales and third-party contracting for sales support.
SB 643	~	Expands the types of foods allowed under the state food safety program's residential exemptions and modifies allowed revenue totals, sales methods, pet management, and labeling requirements.
SB 789	~	Continues the 500-acre limit and other restrictions on canola production within the Willamette Valley Protected District until July 1, 2024, and directs the Oregon Department of Agriculture to convene stakeholders and produce a report of recommendations on future geographic or acreage limitations, field identification, and mapping for Brassica seed crop production.
SB 882	X	Would have allowed farm-direct and consignment sales of maple syrup.
		Note: Provisions enacted as part of SB 507 (2023).
SB 1058	X	Would have directed the Oregon Department of Agriculture to study the expansion of organic agricultural sectors.
HB 2193	X	Would have required the Oregon Department of Agriculture to study uses for animal processing waste products.
HB 2194	X	Would have appropriated \$4 million from the General Fund to the Oregon Department of Agriculture to develop a grant program to fund the construction of meat rendering plants.
HB 2253	×	Would have disqualified land from farm use special assessments upon a final civil penalty or judgment of conviction for illegal crop production against a landowner or person in possession and control of the land.
HB 2411	/	Dissolves the Oregon Alfalfa Seed Commission.
HB 2610	X	Would have appropriated \$1 million to Oregon State University to study reduced-risk pest management tools for Oregon's specialty crops.
HB 2616	X	Would have repealed the prohibition on the sale of unpasteurized milk from cows and authorized the sale under certain conditions.
HB 2687	✓	Authorizes the Oregon Department of Agriculture to issue public pesticide applicator licenses and public trainee certificates to employees of federally recognized Indian tribes.
HB 2689	~	Extends licensing exemptions for small-scale slaughtering operations to include rabbits intended for use as human food.



establishments that process and sell meat products under the state meat inspection program. HB 2971 Provides that irrigated farmland may not be disqualified from a special property tax assessment if the property owner has an active in-stream water right lease under certain conditions. HB 2998 A Would have created the Oregon Soil Health Initiative and appropriated \$2.74 X million from the General Fund to the Oregon Department of Agriculture, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, and the Higher Education Coordinating Commission. HB 3098 A Would have required the Oregon Department of Agriculture, in consultation X with the Pesticide Analytical and Response Center, to establish an outreach program for the distribution of safe pesticide use educational materials to farmworkers and coordination among public bodies to improve the effectiveness of farmworker pesticide incident reporting, tracking, and responses. HB 3103 A Would have directed the Oregon State University Extension Service and Oregon State University Agricultural Experiment Station to establish a voluntary, nonregulatory, and incentive-based agricultural water management

Would have appropriated \$10 million to fund a grant program related to

Note: Provisions enacted as part of HB 2010 (2023).

technical assistance program.

- Would have required the Oregon State University Extension Service and the Oregon State University College of Agricultural Sciences, in collaboration with the Department of Environmental Quality and Oregon wastewater service providers, to study the fate and transport of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl found in biosolids applied to agricultural fields.
- HB 3244 A Would have directed the Oregon Department of Agriculture to analyze the economic competitiveness of Oregon's agricultural sector.
- Would have appropriated \$10.8 million from the General Fund to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board for deposit in the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Fund.

Fish and Wildlife

SB 65 Would have directed the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to establish a program to purchase aquaculture products from private aquaculture facilities and to annually audit and assess the cost of department fish-raising programs.



HB 2907

X

SB 69	X	Would have directed the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to develop an invasive grass pilot program in the Phillip W. Schneider Wildlife Area.
SB 89	×	Would have directed the Oregon Department of Agriculture to study aquaculture.
SB 130	×	Would have extended the tax credit for installing a fish screening device, bypass device, or fishway from January 1, 2024, to January 1, 2030.
SB 199	X	Would have authorized the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to establish by rule requirements or prohibitions concerning the angling, taking, hunting, trapping, or possessing of wildlife defined as a predatory animal.
SB 830	X	Would have directed the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to allow for the relocation of beavers from western Oregon to areas of central and eastern Oregon.
SB 886	~	Removes the requirement that the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) obtain a confidentiality agreement when disclosing certain fish or wildlife data to certain parties; provides that ODFW refusal to disclose certain data is not subject to a contested case order review; extends the sunset related to the department's ability to refuse disclosure of certain fish and wildlife data to January 2, 2029; and requires the department to submit a report on wolf-livestock conflict and options for wolf location data-sharing with livestock producers.
SB 887	✓	Requires the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to establish the fair market value of food fish by rule and provides that in a suit for recovery of damages for unlawful taking or possession of food fish, damages must be twice the fair market value of the food fish.
SB 899	X	Would have appropriated \$480,000 from the General Fund to the Invasive Species Council for emergency purposes, outreach and education, and operations.
SB 1006 A	X	Would have appropriated \$1.4 million from the General Fund to the Umpqua Fishery Enhancement Derby to facilitate restoration projects to mitigate the impacts of sediment and salmonid habitat loss on the lower Rogue River.
HB 2184	×	Would have established an award program directed at killing smallmouth bass in the Coquille River.
HB 2206 A	×	Would have required the Oregon Department of State Lands, in consultation with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, to, by rule, develop and staff a salmon credit pilot program to improve the health of wild coho and chinook salmon in the Coquille and Coos watershed basins.



HB 2219	×	Would have established a system for regulating participation in the sea urchin commercial fishery.
HB 2248	×	Would have directed the Oregon Water Resources Department and Department of Environmental Quality to jointly study the impacts of wildfire on the quality of streams and tributaries with special focus on impacts to salmonid habitat pools.
HB 2527	✓	Modifies several provisions of the wildlife habitat special assessment program related to conservation and management plan approval, monitoring, and compliance.
HB 2532 A	×	Would have appropriated \$1.2 million from the General Fund to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to increase sample collection and testing capacity related to chronic wasting disease, and \$970,000 to Oregon State University for the development and implementation of a chronic wasting disease program at the Oregon Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory.
HB 2631	×	Would have based compensation for probable or confirmed loss or injury to livestock or working dogs under the wolf depredation compensation and financial assistance grant program on a multiplier of not more than seven times the fair market value of the livestock or working dog.
HB 2633 A	×	Would have allowed applicants for compensation under the wolf depredation compensation and financial assistance grant program to amend their application, and would have modified the compensation rate for probable or confirmed loss or injury of livestock or working dogs.
HB 2799 A	×	Would have directed the Oregon Department of Transportation to establish a grant program to erect and maintain livestock safety fencing along state highways.
HB 2835 A	×	Would have appropriated \$200,000 from the General Fund to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and directed the department, in consultation with the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Advisory Committee, to award grants for projects that establish or improve public recreational fishing facilities within an urban growth boundary.
HB 2903 A	×	Would have appropriated \$800,000 in General Fund money to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to develop an adaptive management plan for Oregon's marine reserves.
HB 2966	~	Authorizes the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to waive certain requirements for smallmouth bass and walleye angling competitions and permit any person to remove and dispose of a nonindigenous aquatic species from



UD 2240

affecting native fish within that body of water.

specified areas if the department determines that the species is adversely

- HB 2999 A Would have modified the Oregon Department of Transportation wildlife-vehicle collision program and reporting requirements, and would have appropriated \$5 million from the General Fund to the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund for priority Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife mobility and habitat connectivity projects.
- HB 3052 A Would have established the Task Force on Elk and Deer Damage Compensation Funding.
- Changes the makeup of the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to consist of two members from the Upper Northwest River Basin Management Region (Region), one member from the Southwest Region, two members from the West Central Region, one member from the North Central Region, and one member from the Eastern Region, and adds certain knowledge requirements for Commission members.
- Would have increased the state transient lodging tax to three percent and transferred money attributable to this increase to the Recovering Oregon's Wildlife Fund Subaccount.
- Would have prohibited the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission from placing limits on chinook or coho salmon commercial fisheries using alternative fishing gear.
- Would have appropriated \$3.73 million from the General Fund to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission for distribution to the Oregon State University Veterinary Diagnostics Laboratory to monitor, prevent, and respond to zoonotic diseases.
- Removes beaver from the statutory definition of "predatory animal"; allows for killing beaver by permit with certain exceptions for threats to infrastructure or crops, and for certain small forestland owners; and requires the adoption of rules and publishing of an annual report related to the killing of beaver in Oregon.

Forests

SB 161 Changes the date by which certain tasks to establish the Elliott State Research Forest must be accomplished from July 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023; changes requirements related to federal and state responsibilities for a final habitat conservation plan and final environmental impact statement; and changes the State Land Board reporting date from September 15, 2023 to February 15, 2024.



- Would have appropriated \$3,060,951 to the Oregon Department of Forestry to combat Sudden Oak Death, including \$50,000 to support county integrated pest management programs to combat Sudden Oak Death.
 Would have allowed the State Board of Forestry to convey forest lands to counties when conveyance secured the greatest permanent value of the forest lands or if the board of county commissioners requested it.
 Makes the small forestland owner tax credit larger if the owner meets income limits and is impacted by Oregon Department of Forestry rules.
 Would have reinstated a reforestation tax credit against personal income and
- Would have reinstated a reforestation tax credit against personal income and corporate income and excise taxes by allowing preliminary certificates to be issued from December 31, 2023, to December 31, 2029.
- HB 2685 A Would have reinstated a tax credit for processing or collecting biomass and changed the definition of eligible biomass and credit rate for the tax credit.
- Would have directed the Board of Forestry to annually set the privilege tax rate and redistribute revenues to the Oregon Forest Resources Institute (OFRI) Fund, Oregon Forest and Protection Fund, and Oregon State University Extension Service to implement the Oregon Environmental Literacy Plan, and would have modified the OFRI board composition and expenditure limitations and required additional reporting and oversight.
- Would have appropriated \$10.15 million from the General Fund to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services and the Higher Education Coordinating Commission to provide and support grants to soil and water conservation districts, certain organizations, and counties related to removing western juniper.

Note: Provisions enacted as part of HB 2010 (2023).

Geology and Mineral Industries

- SB 220 Would have established an Electronic Permitting System Development Subaccount for the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries to develop a modern, online electronic permitting system, funded by a 25 percent surcharge on certain assessments.
- SB 221 Stablishes an Electronic Permitting System Subaccount for the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) to maintain the department's electronic permitting system and authorizes DOGAMI to impose and collect a 10.7 percent surcharge for each invoice generated by the system to credit to the subaccount.



SB 222

Would have authorized the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries to accept payments by credit card, and to add a reasonable fee to the amount of a credit card payment to offset the impact of financial institution fees related to credit card transactions

Land Use

- Allows the Governor, on or before December 31, 2024, to issue an Executive Order to bring designated lands into the existing urban growth boundary for industrial uses that relate to the semiconductor industry, advanced manufacturing, or the supply chain for semiconductors or advanced manufacturing. Permits the Governor to designate up to eight sites: two that exceed 500 acres and six that do not exceed 500 acres.
- Amends the statutory reference for the definition of "high-value farmland" for residential rezoning of lands within Eastern Oregon Border Economic Development Region, and requires that the rezoned lands be located within a rural fire protection district, comply with applicable fire prevention code requirements, and not be located within a designated 100-year floodplain.
- SB 644 Provides that, for a county to approve accessory dwelling unit (ADU) development on lands zoned for rural residential use, the ADU must comply with the construction provisions of section R327 of the Oregon Residential Specialty Code if no statewide map of wildfire risk has been adopted, or if the lot or parcel is in an area identified as extreme or high wildfire risk on the statewide wildfire risk map. (Bill is also included in the Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Housing, Development, and Homelessness)
- SB 812 Authorizes a local government to prohibit or regulate the takeoff and landing of unmanned aircraft systems in parks owned by the local government, with certain exceptions.
- SB 873 A Would have directed the Land Conservation and Development Commission to adopt rules to allow soil bioengineering systems to be used for shoreline stabilization in and along estuaries, coastal shorelands, and the ocean shore.
- SB 1087 Would have established farm cafés and set standards for their establishment on lands in Lane County zoned for exclusive farm use.
- HB 2127 Removes the time limit for the City of Pendleton to apply for an affordable housing program. (**Bill also included** in Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Housing, Development, and Homelessness)
- Would have appropriated \$1.7 million from the General Fund to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services for distribution to the Charleston Merchants Association to purchase two properties for community development.



HB 2192	✓	Changes rules for a lawfully established house in a forest to be changed, rebuilt, or replaced based on the prior status of the house. (Bill is also included in Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Housing, Development, and Homelessness)
HB 2203	×	Would have allowed recreational vehicles for use by individuals providing security for the protection of farm equipment to be sited on farmland.
HB 2487	×	Would have allowed lands zoned for exclusive farm use to be used for weddings or events east of the summit of the Cascade Range and in counties below an 85,000-population threshold.
HB 2989	×	Would have required the Oregon Department of Energy and Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development to convene a workgroup to examine renewable energy and transmission project siting. (Bill is also included in Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Energy and Environment)
HB 3179	~	Affects new solar power plants by changing how big they can be. Prevents certain institutions in Oregon from discriminating when such a plant is built near, or on, certain roads. (Bill is also included in Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Energy and Environment)
HB 3180	×	Would have required the Department of Land Conservation and Development to study land use siting of solar photovoltaic power generating facilities. (Bill is also included in Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Energy and Environment)
HB 3181 A	×	Would have established the Finding Opportunities and Reducing Conflict in Energy Siting Advisory Committee and directed the Oregon Department of Energy and the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development to establish the Finding Opportunities and Reducing Conflict in Energy Siting process and associated grant program to support participation. (Bill is also included in Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Energy and Environment)
		Note: Provisions enacted as part of HB 3409 (2023).
HB 3362	~	Allows a county to approve an application to validate a unit of land acquired by an innocent purchaser under specified circumstances, and allows any person to file a notice of intent to appeal a related land-use decision that meets certain requirements with the Land Use Board of Appeals.
HB 3382	✓	Allows the governing board of Coos County to adopt an exception to land use goals related to the area of the tidal mouth of the Coos River where the tide meets the stream. Limits the scope of the land use exception to projects that would maintain and improve facilities at the Port of Coos Bay. (Bill is also



included in Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Transportation and Infrastructure)

HB 3458

Prohibits a party from raising certain new issues with the Land Use Board of Appeals (LUBA) on appeal and allows LUBA to partially affirm certain decisions.

Natural Resources Planning and Operations

SB 530 A

Would have established a state policy to advance natural climate solutions on natural and working lands and would have charged the Oregon Global Warming Commission and certain state agencies with implementing various strategies. (**Bill is also included in** Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Energy and Environment)

Note: Provisions enacted as part of HB 3409 (2023).

SB 775

Creates two categories of soil and water conservation district zone directors based on county population.

HB 3017

Would have directed Oregon Solutions to award a grant to the High Desert Partnership in Harney County for the establishment of a center to support place-based collaborative approaches to addressing public issues.

Outdoor Recreation

X

SB 679 A

Would have appropriated \$250,000 from the General Fund to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department for planning and coordination to continue to develop, maintain, or work toward completion of the Oregon Coast Trail.

SB 812

Authorizes a local government to prohibit or regulate the takeoff and landing of unmanned aircraft systems in parks owned by the local government, with certain exceptions.

SB 890

Modifies the composition of the Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission membership while retaining the seven-member total.

State and Local Lands

HB 2238

/

Allows the Department of State Lands (DSL) to deal with property left on state lands without authorization. Allows DSL to move, store, and destroy these items. Tasks DSL's Director to set charges for certain services performed by DSL.



HB 2737	/	Authorizes state agencies to sell, lease, or donate state real property or
	·	interest in real property to eligible Indian tribes, and permits agencies to convey
		mineral and geothermal resource rights to Indian tribes when real property or
		interest in real property is transferred.

Allows counties with a population between 200,000 and 650,000 to elect to distribute receipts from sales of certain mineral rights or lands acquired by foreclosure for housing-related purposes. (Bill is also included in Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Housing, Development, and Homelessness)

Water Quantity

- **SB 58** Would have required the Oregon Water Resources Department to adopt rules X authorizing cloud seeding programs and ensuring lawful water distribution. SB 455 A Would have directed the Oregon Business Development Department to X establish the Aquifer Recharge Due Diligence Grant Program and Aquifer Recharge Testing Forgivable Loan Program to offer grants and forgivable loans to public bodies. **Note:** Provisions enacted as part of HB 2010 (2023). SB 634 Authorizes the issuance of lottery bonds in an amount that nets \$15 million for deposit in the Levee Project Grant Fund, to be used for investigating the adequacy of levees and improving levees. SB 710 Would have established criteria for determining when ground water use impairs or interferes with a water right having an earlier priority date. SB 713 Would have allowed for the collection, storage, or use of diffuse surface water from falling rain, melting snow, or other precipitation without obtaining a water right permit or certificate. SB 718 Specifies that a year in which the Governor declares that drought exists or is likely to exist within a county does not count toward the five-year water right forfeiture time period.
- SB 835 Directs the Environmental Quality Commission to adopt rules setting forth conditions for approving a proposal to permanently connect an accessory dwelling unit to a single-family dwelling's sewage disposal system.
- SB 956 A Would have directed the Oregon Water Resources Department to collaborate with the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and the State



of Washington to implement and guide cooperative, bi-state water management in the Walla Walla Basin under the Walla Walla Water 2050 Strategic Plan.

HB 2647 A

Would have declared harmful algal blooms a threat to safe drinking water and directed the Oregon Health Authority and the Department of Environmental Quality to identify point sources and nonpoint sources of pollution that contribute to harmful algal blooms and to develop and maintain a monitoring and response strategy.

Note: Provisions enacted as part of HB 3409 (2023).

HB 2765

Would have allowed the South Suburban Sanitary District to use and sell treated wastewater discharged by the district under certain conditions.

HB 2813 A

Would have established the Community Drinking Water Enhancement and Protection Fund, deposited \$5 million from the General Fund into the fund, and directed the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board to use fund money to establish a grant program for water suppliers to protect, restore, or enhance drinking water.

Note: Provisions enacted as part of HB 2010 (2023).

HB 2929

Gives the Oregon Water Resources Department authority until January 2, 2030, to seek permanent or temporary injunctive relief if a person has engaged in certain water use violations.

HB 3097

Allows municipal corporations and people's utility districts to apply for water use certificates for hydroelectric power generation upon written authorization by the underlying water right holder.

HB 3099 A

X

Would have appropriated \$570,000 from the General Fund to the Higher Education Coordinating Commission for distribution to Oregon Consensus at Portland State University and Oregon State University to establish a collaborative process for developing a shared understanding of water management in the Chewaucan River watershed.

Note: Provisions enacted as part of HB 2010 (2023).

HB 3100 A

Would have added certain requirements to the Integrated Water Resources Strategy, and changed certain reviewing, updating, and reporting requirements.

Note: Provisions enacted as part of HB 2010 (2023).

HB 3125

Would have established the Public Drinking Water and Sewer Ratepayer Assistance Fund, appropriated \$15 million from the General Fund to the fund, and directed the Oregon Housing and Community Services Department to establish a grant program to fund qualified organizations to assist low-income residential households for water and sewer bill payment.



Would have appropriated General Fund money to the Oregon Water Resources Department to fund a staff position and to allocate money to an entity within Harney County, to advise and assist local communities on voluntary ground water agreements, and to assess the opportunities and limitations of using these agreements.

Note: Provisions enacted as part of HB 2010 (2023).

Would have established the Place-Based Water Planning Fund, specified criteria under which the Oregon Water Resources Department Director is directed to disburse grants related to place-based water planning, and required the Water Resources Commission to adopt rules regarding state recognition of a place-based integrated water resources plan.

Note: Provisions enacted as part of HB 2010 (2023).

HB 3164 Makes provisions that conditionally allow split-use water rights within the same year permanent, and removes the prohibition on leasing water rights for split use for more than 10 years total.

HB 3187 Changes who can apply to become a water right examiner. Allows people who have at least seven years of relevant experience to apply to get certified to do this.

Modifies the definition of "public agency" to expand eligibility for Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund financial assistance and modifies the "treatment works" definition and state policy to incorporate references to nonpoint source management activities.

HB 3211 Authorizes the holder of specific water right certificates for municipal water storage to change the authorized point of diversion and place of use without losing priority of the right under certain conditions.

Would have appropriated \$2 million from the General Fund for distribution to the High Desert Partnership for restoration projects in specific Harney County wetlands to benefit birds, farmers, and ranchers.

Note: Provisions enacted as part of HB 2010 (2023).

Would have appropriated \$340,000 and \$100,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD), respectively, and would have directed DEQ, in consultation with OWRD, to study barriers and opportunities for expanding water reuse or recycled water programs in Oregon.

Note: Provisions enacted as part of HB 2010 (2023).

Would have appropriated \$2.5 million from the General Fund for the Oregon Association of Water Utilities to study the needs and vulnerabilities of small and very small community water systems, in consultation with the Oregon Health Authority, the Department of Environmental Quality, Oregon Water Resources



Department, county environmental health departments, and county emergency managers.

Note: Provisions enacted as part of HB 2010 (2023).

HB 3343 Modifies training-related qualifications to receive a water well constructor's license only to require evidence that a person has completed certain kinds of professional welding training, if the evidence is required under rules adopted by the Oregon Water Resources Commission.

Would have required the Oregon Water Resources Department to work with the Oregon Department of Justice, the Office of Administrative Hearings, and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to reduce the backlog of protests relating to water rights and water right transfers.

Would have authorized certain Deschutes Basin irrigation districts under specified conditions to temporarily change the place of use or the point of diversion of a water right within the legal boundaries of the district or another Deschutes Basin irrigation district.

Would have directed the Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) to produce a state of water resources report and basin assessments for all of Oregon's water basins, the Legislative Policy and Research Office to report on water policy and management, and the Water Resources Commission to arrange for an independent audit of OWRD decision-making with water management. Would have further directed OWRD to develop and maintain water allocation and accounting tools and not to approve the transfer of a water right if the change would contravene a requirement established under a basin program rule.

Would have instructed the Oregon Water Resources Commission to make loan and grant funding decisions related to the Water Supply Development Account twice per year.

Note: Provisions enacted as part of HB 2010 (2023).

Would have authorized certain water right holders in the Upper Klamath Basin to relocate points of diversion to consolidated points of diversion under certain circumstances if the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife determined the relocation would facilitate the installation and proper operation of a fish screen.

Wildfire

HB 3575 A

SB 80 Modifies various wildfire provisions from SB 762 (2021), including making changes to the state wildfire map and process for its creation, allowing nonprofits and faith-based organizations to help create cleaner air spaces, speeding up Wildfire Programs Advisory Council appointments, creating and modifying state funds for landscape resiliency and community risk reduction



projects, and creating a prescribed fire liability pilot program. The measure also allocates millions of dollars to state agencies for wildfire programs.

Requires an insurer to send a notice to insured homeowners for policy cancellations, decisions not to renew, or premium increases, that contains information on property-specific characteristics and the impact of homeowner wildfire risk mitigation actions. Requires an insurer to make publicly available certain information related to underwriting and rates, and prohibits an insurer from using a state wildfire risk or exposure map as a basis for homeowner

insurance policy changes.

- SB 502 A Would have directed the Department of Revenue to pay \$1,000 to each taxpayer who has timely filed a full-year resident personal income tax return and to transfer the balance of the "kicker" to the Oregon Wildfire Mitigation and Adaptation Fund.
- SB 509 A Would have directed the State Fire Marshal to establish a \$10 million grant and incentive program, neighborhood protection cooperative program, user-friendly public website, 20-year strategic plan, and interagency data collection system.
- SB 644 Provides that for a county to approve accessory dwelling unit (ADU) development on lands zoned for rural residential use, the ADU must comply with the construction provisions of section R327 of the Oregon Residential Specialty Code if no statewide map of wildfire risk has been adopted, or if the lot or parcel is in an area identified as extreme or high wildfire risk on the statewide wildfire risk map. (Bill is also included Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Housing, Development, and Homelessness)
- Would have directed the Department of Environmental Quality to notify the Attorney General if air quality index readings have reached 250 or higher during seven consecutive days and the cause of the elevated readings is reasonably believed to be smoke from wildfire that originated on federal lands. It would have required the Attorney General to investigate the cause of the wildfire and to bring a civil action under certain circumstances.
- SB 839 Would have appropriated \$1 million from the General Fund to the Oregon Department of Forestry for a pilot grant program that would have promoted the use of an air curtain for biochar production.
- SB 872 Directs the Oregon Department of Forestry to endeavor to further shared stewardship of federal forests through partnership with federal agencies to expand certain Good Neighbor Authority activities, and to request that the federal agencies fund these activities.
- SB 928 A Would have instructed the State Forester and other specified entities to take certain actions to address fire originating on lands owned or managed by the United States Forest Service.



SB 1012 A
Would have authorized a county to allow a property owner who rebuilds a homestead destroyed by the September 2020 wildfires to have a specially assessed value for the purposes of property taxation. (Bill is also included in Summary of Legislation Summary Report on Housing, Development, and Homelessness)

Would have directed the Oregon Water Resources Department and Department of Environmental Quality to jointly study the impacts of wildfire on the quality of streams and tributaries with a special focus on impacts to salmonid habitat pools.

Would have directed the Oregon Department of Forestry to establish a Prescribed Fire Liability Pilot Program and a Prescribed Fire Claims Fund.

Note: Provisions enacted as part of SB 80 (2023).

HB 2986 A Would have directed the Oregon Department of Forestry to establish a Prescribed Fire Capacity Grant Program and a Prescribed Fire Capacity Fund.

Staff

Anna Glueder, Legislative Analyst Laura Kentnesse, Legislative Analyst

Legislative Policy and Research Office

Oregon State Capitol | (503) 986-1813 | www.oregonlegislature.gov/lpro

Please note that the Legislative Policy and Research Office provides centralized, nonpartisan research and issue analysis for Oregon's legislative branch. The Legislative Policy and Research Office does not provide legal advice. Legislative Summary Reports contain general information that is current as of the date of publication. Subsequent action by the legislative, executive, or judicial branches may affect accuracy.

