

**2007 Regular Legislative Session**  
**FISCAL ANALYSIS OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION**  
**Prepared by the Oregon Legislative Fiscal Office**

---

**MEASURE NUMBER:** HB 2564                      **STATUS:** A-Engrossed  
**SUBJECT:** Water measurement and related grants program  
**GOVERNMENT UNIT AFFECTED:** Water Resources Department and Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
**PREPARED BY:** Dawn Farr  
**REVIEWED BY:** Paul Siebert  
**DATE:** May 8, 2008

---

**2007-2009**

**EXPENDITURES:** See Comments.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** On Passage.

**GOVERNOR'S BUDGET:** This bill is not anticipated by the Governor's recommended budget.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT MANDATE:** This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

**COMMENTS:** The bill authorizes the Water Resources Department (WRD) to implement the Strategic Water Measurement Plan adopted by the Water Resources Commission (Commission) in 2000, amends current law to authorize the Commission to require a water right owner or the owner or manager of a reservoir to report the amount of water diverted, and directs WRD to report to 75<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly on plan implementation. The bill also establishes a grant program operated by the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) to provide funds for water measuring devices and stream gauging stations. The grant program sunsets on January 2, 2010.

WRD indicates that the bill has no fiscal impact on the agency. The existing Strategic Water Measure Plan contains reference to the implementation strategies identified in the bill, rulemaking activities can be absorbed with existing resources, and the agency already has a water use reporting program should the agency begin to require water diversion reporting.

OWEB anticipates dedicating \$250,000 of Ballot Measure 66 Capital Lottery Funds to create the water measurement devices and stream gauge stations grants program. To create and implement the program, OWEB will need approximately 70 percent of an FTE to develop rules, design the program, develop forms and processes, conduct outreach, evaluate requests, and oversee implementation of grants. Since the program sunsets in 2010, the Board anticipates costs will be contained to the 2007-09 biennium. Staffed at the Natural Resources 4 level, costs for Personal Services are estimated to be \$98,180, and related Services and Supplies costs are expected to be \$10,000 for travel and office expenses. The Board indicates that the implementation is best accomplished by distributing the work between grants administration staff and regional staff who implement the program on the ground. The Board indicates they will be able to absorb this additional workload assuming a related policy option package in the Governor's Recommended Budget is fully funded.