

2009 Regular Legislative Session
FISCAL ANALYSIS OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION
Prepared by the Oregon Legislative Fiscal Office

MEASURE NUMBER: HB 2628 **STATUS:** Original
SUBJECT: Access and Habitat Easements
GOVERNMENT UNIT AFFECTED: Department of Fish and Wildlife
PREPARED BY: Dawn Farr
REVIEWED BY: Paul Siebert
DATE: April 8, 2009

| | <u>2009-2011</u> | <u>2011-2013</u> |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| EXPENDITURES: See Comments. | | |

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2010.

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 expenditure of funds from the Access and Habitat Program for acquisition of land and easements.

The Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) indicates that the bill will have an indeterminate fiscal impact. ODFW currently owns approximately 300,000 acres of land across the state which consists of wildlife areas, boat ramps, access points and administrative offices, to mention a few. The Department also is able to use easements for habitat improvement projects, but not for access projects. Typically, ODFW establishes contracts with landowners to allow public hunting access or to improve habitat which can range in cost from \$2,000 to \$50,000 Other Funds. As the utilization and timing of land and/or easements purchases is not known, the resulting fiscal impact is indeterminate.

ODFW anticipates that the staff time to prepare land purchases or easements will be more than that of a contract; however, the number of such projects the Department will pursue is unknown; therefore, the associated fiscal impact is indeterminate.