FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Seventy-Sixth Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2011 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

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Date: 4-18-2011

Measure Description:

Expands state policy relating to ecosystems.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, Office of the Governor, Oregon University System, Department of State Lands, Department of Environmental Quality, Department of Fish and Wildlife

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

	2011-13 Biennium	2013-15 Biennium
Watershed Enhancement Board – Lottery Funds	\$72,000	\$0

Positions/FTE:

Watershed Enhancement Board 1/0.30 -/

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.

Analysis:

The measure expands the state policy regarding ecosystem services. The measure directs the Governor's office and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) to review local, state, regional and federal conservation plans that could impact ecosystem services. The measure directs the Institute for Natural Resources within the Oregon University System to provide information to assist with integrated ecosystem services methodologies. The measure allows state agencies to purchase or receive credits for ecosystem services.

OWEB anticipates the need for a limited duration Ecosystem Services Coordinator position, classified as a Natural Resource Specialist 4, totaling \$72,000 Lottery Funds, to conduct the review of conservation plans and coordinate with state agencies on the state's ecosystem services policy. The positions and expenditures for OWEB are assumed in a policy package in the Governor's budget for OWEB.

There is a minimal fiscal impact to the Department of State Lands, Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Office of the Governor and any additional workload will be absorbed within existing resources.

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the Institute for Natural Resources within the Oregon University System. OUS assumes that the Institute will only share the information and data that has been developed by other sources using the Institute's existing web portal system and not be required to develop metrics related to integrated ecosystem service methodologies.

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