

**Joint Committee on
Ways and Means**

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Salem, OR 97301
503-986-1828



**Subcommittee on
Natural Resources**

Sen. Chris Edwards, Co-Chair
Rep. Ben Unger, Co-Chair
Sen. Jackie Dingfelder
Sen. Chuck Thomsen
Rep. Jules Bailey
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MEMORANDUM

To: Natural Resource Subcommittee
From: Ken Rocco, Legislative Fiscal Office; 503-986-1844
Date: March 13, 2013
Re: SB 5511 – Columbia River Gorge Commission, Monday March 18th in HR-170 at 1:00 PM.

The Columbia River Gorge Commission (CRGC) functions as the permanent regional land use body for the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. The Commission was established through an interstate compact between Oregon and Washington to implement the National Scenic Area Act's purposes of protecting and enhancing the scenic, cultural, recreational, and natural resources of the Columbia River Gorge while encouraging compatible growth within existing urban areas of the Gorge region and allowing for future economic growth.

The Commission's total budget is determined jointly by the states of Oregon and Washington. Commission staff are employees of the State of Washington with Oregon paying for half of the costs through the professional services budget line.

Budget Notes: There were no budget notes included in the 2011-13 budget for CRGC.

Secretary of State Audits: The most recent CRGC audit was released in January 2013 by the Secretary of State. This was a financial statements audit report conducted by the State of Washington Secretary of State through an interstate cooperative agreement with Oregon for the July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 audit period. The audit found "no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards.*"

This audit, and previous financial statement audits, can be reviewed at the following web link:
http://www.sos.state.or.us/audits/pages/state_audits/agency/columbia.html

LFO agency budget review: (separate document on OLIS)

Additional Materials: On OLIS you will also find the agency PowerPoint presentation, presentation appendices, the 2013-15 Governor's Budget document, and the DAS PowerPoint presentation.