

SB 1516

Relating to the Salmonberry Trail

Senate Bill 1516 requires the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) and the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) to work in cooperation with other stakeholders to develop a plan to construct the Salmonberry Trail. The bill requires OPRD and ODF to submit a plan to an appropriate interim committee of the Legislative Assembly no later than October 1, 2015 and establishes the Salmonberry Trust Fund which continuously appropriates moneys in the fund to the ODF for developing and implementing the plan.

Cycle Oregon has awarded a grant of \$100,000 to fund the development of the plan; 50% of the funds were distributed last biennium and the remaining 50% in the 2013-15 biennium. Both agencies are currently working with public and private organizations to raise funds for future work associated with the development, maintenance and operation of the trail.

The agencies plan to utilize existing models on how to transform a railroad into a public trail. This is anticipated to help minimize costs and well as provide a foundation for which partnerships with private partners may be leveraged in future planning and maintenance of the Salmonberry Trail.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends SB 1516 be reported out do pass.