

**PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Joint Committee On Ways and Means**

**Fiscal:** Has minimal fiscal impact

**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact

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**Action Date:**

**Action:**

**Meeting Dates:**

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

The measure defines place-based integrated water resources for purposes of Act and provides the statutory authority for the Water Resources Department to issue grants to facilitate preparation of place-based integrated water resources strategies consistent with state laws, water resource policy and WRD requirements. The measure authorizes the department to enter into contracts or agreements, provide technical assistance and information for development of strategies and requires those strategies be developed in collaboration with balanced representation of interests; balance current and future in and out of stream needs; include development of actions consistent with existing laws and policies; facilitate implementation of local solutions; be developed in open process; and be developed in consultation with Department. The bill also authorizes the Water Resources Commission to adopt rules. Sunsets Act July 1, 2019.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

In August, 2012 the Water Resources Commission adopted the Integrated Water Resources Strategy (IWRS) which created a statewide framework and path for meeting Oregon's instream and out-of-stream water needs.

Recommended Action 9A of the IWRS calls for the voluntary undertaking of a placed-based approach to water resources planning to help communities understand and meet their instream and out-of-stream water resources needs. The Water Resources Department has requested lottery bond proceeds to fund the grants authorized by the bill, but that funding authorization is contemplated in separate legislation.