

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 2452

Seventy-Eighth Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2015 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

***Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official***

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Measure Description:

Abolishes Fish and Wildlife Deferred Maintenance Subaccount.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

See Analysis.

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: This bill would abolish the Fish and Wildlife Deferred Maintenance Subaccount and to transfer the unobligated funds remaining in the subaccount to the State Wildlife Fund. Interest generated by the subaccount is credited to the account and any short term loans that may be authorized to help with short term cash flow issues are charged interest and the interest is likewise credited to the account. Currently, the balance of the subaccount is approximately \$1.5 million Other Funds (OF).

The subaccount was originally established in response to a financial management audit conducted by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee in 2000. The audit found that cash advances were taken from the Fish Endowment Account to cover cash flow issues in response to lower than expected revenues from licenses and fees. The Fish Endowment Account was intended to cover maintenance of ODFW fish hatcheries and it was found that the account was used as a float to cover cash flow issues for the operation of the agency. The Fish and Wildlife Deferred Maintenance Subaccount was established with tighter requirements on the use of the funds, and specifically, required interest to be paid to the subaccount if funds were borrowed for uses outside of those specified. Because this bill will affect the budget structure of the agency, it will need to be worked along with the agency's budget in the Joint Ways and Means Committee.