

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

Fiscal: No Fiscal Impact

Revenue: Revenue impact issued

Action Date: 04/16/15

Action: Without Recommendation As To Passage And Be Referred To Rules.

Meeting Dates: 04/16

Vote:

Yeas: 9 - Barreto, Esquivel, Frederick, Gorsek, Krieger, McKeown, McLain, Whitsett, Witt

Prepared By: Chuck Gallagher, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Allows for sale of specified state forest land if provided by resolution of State Land Board. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Existing regulations on timber harvests
- Frequency of legal action taken regarding timber harvests
- Current process for the sale of state forest lands

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The State Land Board (Board), composed of the Governor, Secretary of State and State Treasurer, is established under the Oregon Constitution to manage specified state lands and serve as the trustee of the Common School Fund. Over the years, many of the original school land sections were sold or traded to private individuals and other agencies. Today, the Board's land base includes nearly 1.6 million acres of state land and resource assets, including agricultural and range land in eastern Oregon, forest land in western Oregon, numerous small tracts, and the submerged and submersible lands beneath the state's tidally influenced and navigable waterways.

House Bill 3533 would allow for the sale of state forest land if a resolution is passed by the State Land Board.