

**STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY****House Committee On Rural Communities, Land Use, and Water****Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued**Revenue:** Revenue impact issued**Action Date:** 04/21/15**Action:** Do Pass And Be Referred To Ways And Means By Prior Reference**Meeting Dates:** 04/21**Vote:**

Yeas: 7 - Clem, Gilliam, Gomberg, Helm, McLane, Post, Witt

**Prepared By:** Ian Davidson, Committee Administrator

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Authorizes State Treasurer, at request of Oregon Department of Administrative Services and after consultation with Bend Parks and Recreation District, to issue lottery bonds in amount that produces \$5 million in net proceeds and interest earnings for purposes of providing grant to Bend Parks and Recreation Department to fund projects related to removal of Mirror Pond Dam, including (1) establishment of fish passage, removal of sediment, and improvement of ecosystem, (2) construction of one or more parks and recreational infrastructure, and (3) promotion of economic development in area.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Desire of PacifiCorp to divest of dam
- Importance of Mirror Pond to Bend's history and residents
- Sediment buildup in pond and cost to dredge pond

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Mirror Pond was created in 1910 by the construction of the Bend Water, Light & Power Company dam which provided the city with its initial source of electricity. The dam has been owned by PacifiCorp since 1926 and produces electricity for approximately 200 households. PacifiCorp, in a press release dated November 25, 2013, stated that the cost of repairs needed to keep the dam in operation made the dam no longer cost effective. Mirror Pond, which was created when the Deschutes River was dammed, acts as a settling basin for sediment flowing down the Deschutes River and from City of Bend storm water outfalls. Mirror Pond needs to be dredged every twenty to thirty years to maintain the pond in its historic form. The Bend City Council and Bend Park and Recreation District Board of Directors have been studying Mirror Pond and considering plans related to the removal of Mirror Pond Dam since 2009.

House Bill 3283 would authorize the State Treasurer to issue lottery bonds in the amount of \$5 million to the Bend Parks and Recreation Department to fund projects related to the removal of Mirror Pond Dam.