

BUDGET REPORT AND MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER: Rep. Gomberg

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Action: Do Pass.

Action Date: 06/16/15

Vote:

House

Yeas: 12 - Buckley, Gomberg, Huffman, Komp, McLane, Nathanson, Rayfield, Read, Smith, Whisnant, Whitsett, Williamson

Senate

Yeas: 10 - Burdick, Devlin, Hansell, Johnson, Monroe, Roblan, Shields, Steiner Hayward, Thomsen, Whitsett

Exc: 2 - Girod, Winters

Prepared By: Cathleen Connolly, Department of Administrative Services

Reviewed By: Paul Siebert, Legislative Fiscal Office

Agency: Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

Biennium: 2015-17

Budget Summary*

	2013-15 Legislatively Approved Budget⁽¹⁾	2015-17 Current Service Level	2015-17 Committee Recommendation	Committee Change from 2013-15 Leg. Approved	
				<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
Lottery Funds	\$ 51,890,927	\$ -	\$ 55,552,250	\$ 3,661,323	7.1%
Total	\$ 51,890,927	\$ -	\$ 55,552,250	\$ 3,661,323	7.1%

Revenue Summary

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) is funded primarily with Measure 76 Lottery Funds and federal Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Funds. The agency also receives revenue from the sales of salmon license plates. The agency's six-year limitation is funded solely with Measure 76 Lottery Funds.

Summary of Natural Resources Subcommittee Action

OWEB promotes and implements programs that restore, maintain, and enhance Oregon watersheds in order to protect the economic and social wellbeing of the state and its citizens. The Board provides grants to restore and preserve local streams, rivers, wetlands and natural habitat. Community members and landowners use scientific criteria to decide jointly what needs to be done to conserve and improve habitat where they live. The Subcommittee approved a total funds budget of \$102,958,545 for the agency, with \$47,407,295 total funds approved in Senate Bill 5540 and the remaining \$55,552,250 total funds approved in Senate Bill 5541. Senate Bill 5540 also provides 34.25 FTE for the Board.

Operations

See the budget report for Senate Bill 5540.

Grants

For grants without a six-year limitation, please see the budget report for Senate Bill 5540.

The Subcommittee approved Package 200: Capital Grants. The package adds \$55,552,250 six-year Lottery Funds expenditure limitation for grants to non-state or federal entities. This amount meets the constitutional requirement that 65 percent of dedicated Lottery Funds for watersheds go to grants to improve water quality, restore and maintain native fish and wildlife habitat, secure long-term protection for lands and waters, maintain ecosystem diversity, and involve people in local voluntary actions to protect, restore, and maintain watershed health.

The Subcommittee approved the following budget note to increase grants for water quality improvement projects associated with agricultural lands. The Subcommittee expressed concerns that long standing programs might be reduced to meet this commitment and expressed their expectation that programs like weed grants, local organization capacity grants, and other distributed funds be held harmless since the \$1,000,000 should correctly come from the projected increase of nearly \$2,000,000 in available funding projected in the May 2015 Lottery Forecast.

Budget Note:

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) shall coordinate with the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) to implement an initiative to direct conservation investments for water quality improvement and watershed restoration projects associated with working agricultural lands. To achieve this, the OWEB Board shall include a minimum of \$1,000,000 Lottery Funds in the Board's 2015-17 spending plan to work in collaboration with ODA to provide grants to Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Watershed Councils, and other local stewardship organizations, for technical assistance and projects to restore riparian function, improve watershed health and increase water quality in Strategic Implementation Initiatives Areas identified by the ODA Agriculture Water Quality program. ODA staff shall be primarily responsible for supporting this grant program.

DETAIL OF JOINT COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS ACTION

SB 5541-A

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
 Cathleen Connolly -- 503-373-0083

DESCRIPTION	GENERAL FUND	LOTTERY FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS		FEDERAL FUNDS		TOTAL ALL FUNDS	POS	FTE
			LIMITED	NONLIMITED	LIMITED	NONLIMITED			
2013-15 Legislatively Approved Budget at Dec 2014 *	\$ -	\$ 51,890,927	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 51,890,927	0	0.00
2015-17 Current Service Level (CSL)*	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0	0.00
<u>SUBCOMMITTEE ADJUSTMENTS (from CSL)</u>									
SCR 020 - Grants									
Package 200: Capital Construction Grants									
Special Payments	\$ -	\$ 55,552,250	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 55,552,250		
TOTAL ADJUSTMENTS	\$ -	\$ 55,552,250	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 55,552,250	0	0.00
SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION *	\$ -	\$ 55,552,250	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 55,552,250	0	0.00
% Change from 2013-15 Leg Approved Budget	0.0%	7.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	7.1%		
% Change from 2015-17 Current Service Level	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%		

*Excludes Capital Construction Expenditures