

**STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**House Committee On Rural Communities, Land Use and Water**

**Fiscal:** Fiscal impact issued

**Revenue:** Revenue impact issued

**Action Date:** 02/10/16

**Action:** Do Pass With Amendments And Be Referred To Ways And Means By Prior Reference. (Printed A-Eng.)

**Meeting Dates:** 02/03, 02/10

**Vote:**

Yeas: 6 - Clem, Gilliam, Gomberg, McLane, Post, Witt

Exc: 1 - Helm

**Prepared By:** Beth Reiley, Committee Administrator

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Authorizes issuance of lottery bonds in amount that produces \$\_\_\_to be deposited in Water Quality Monitoring Fund to conduct, fund or reimburse local governments for water quality monitoring and analysis related to dam removal. Establishes Water Quality Monitoring Fund. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Removal of Fielder Dam
- Need to reimburse local governments for cost of water quality monitoring associated with dam removal
- Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board's role in providing funding

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:**

Replaces measure.

**BACKGROUND:**

When a dam is removed, there is generally a discharge of material, or sediment, due to the material built up behind the dam. Dam removal projects typically require a Section 404 permit from the US Army Corps of Engineers and a Section 401 Water Quality Certification. Section 401 of the federal Clean Water Act requires that the Department of Environmental Quality certify that the proposed dam removal will not endanger Oregon's streams and wetlands and confirm that the permit application meets water quality laws and standards.

House Bill 4012A authorizes the issuance of lottery bonds in order to conduct, fund or reimburse local governments for water quality monitoring and analysis related to the removal of a dam.