

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 3 - 8

79th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2017 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

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

Prepared by: Nick Herrera
Reviewed by: Paul Siebert, John Terpening
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Measure Description:

Modifies area where moratorium on mining using motorized equipment applies.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI)

Summary of Revenue Impact		
	2017-19 Biennium	2019-21 Biennium
Department of Environmental Quality - Other Funds	19,600	27,450
Total Funds	\$19,600	\$27,450

Analysis:

SB 3-8 makes mandatory, the moratorium on motorized in-stream placer mining in any river in this state containing essential indigenous anadromous salmonid habitat. The bill increases the annual permitting fee from \$25 to \$250, and establishes a renewal fee of \$250 which is paid every 5 years.

The Department of Environmental Quality indicates that in 2016, there were 156 individuals who applied for and paid the annual permitting fee. Because of the significant fee increase, the DEQ anticipates a 70% drop in the number of individuals participating in suction dredge mining. As a result, the net revenue impact to DEQ for the 2017-19 biennium is estimated to be \$19,600, and \$27,450 for the 2019-21 biennium.

DEQ has also indicated that current resource levels only allow for 0.30 FTE to operate this permit. DEQ has indicated that to ensure proper permit oversight, an additional position (1.00 FTE) would be required. The new position would be classified as a Natural Resource Specialist 2, and is estimated to have an expenditure impact on the Department of \$238,150 per biennium. Given the small amount of Other Funds revenue generated by the \$250 fee, it is assumed most of the cost would have to be paid by the General Fund.

The bill is expected to have no fiscal impact on the Department of Geology and Mineral Industries.