

From: john
To: [JWMNR Exhibits](#)
Subject: Testimony on SB 5542, OWRD Budget
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Water is an essential economic resource of the state and therefore deserves a top status in regards to management. Other states have suffered from overpumping of groundwater, and over withdrawal of surface water. The Ogallala aquifer of the plains states is acknowledged to be in a severe decline, with the result of decreased agricultural output and diminished wildlife, and even impacted residential supply.

I support SB5422 Package 101 to provide for groundwater studies for future fish, wildlife, and agricultural supply protection. I support Package 105 to fund watermasters necessary for water rights management, both instream and out of stream. Funding should be maintained, not reduced, for observation wells, gauging stations, and groundwater studies.

Thank you.
John Hamburg
Eugene