

From: Will Johnson
To: [JWMNR Exhibits](#)
Subject: Testimony on HB 5542, OWRD Budget
Date: Thursday, April 13, 2017 8:52:12 AM

1. **I support Package 101 in HB 5422**, in which the Governor recommends \$1.8 million to support groundwater studies. The legislature should increase funding for studies to rapidly increase our understanding of the current condition and future resiliency of our state's groundwater supplies. The state should commit to completing comprehensive studies for key watersheds in the near future. These studies are not only needed as soon as possible to protect fish and wildlife from the impacts of groundwater depletion on surface flows, but also existing water users.
2. **I support Package 105 in HB 5422**, which would enhance water management in the field by adding three assistant regional managers and bolstering the hydrotech team. Watermasters are critical for on the ground management of water rights — both instream and out-of-stream.
3. **Please do not CUT funding for critical management functions** including, specifically, funding for: A) groundwater studies, B) observation wells, and C) gauging stations. Programs that benefit all Oregonians, as opposed to private interests, should not be at the top of the cut list!

As a small outdoor recreation business owner I rely on these protections for the future of my business but also as an Oregon resident these issues are very important to me personally.
Thank you.

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