FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

80th Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2019 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

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Measure Description:

Prohibits State Fish and Wildlife Commission from approving operation of Cole M. Rivers Hatchery by State Department of Fish and Wildlife, unless United States Army Corps of Engineers agrees to fish return goals set by commission.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure are indeterminate at this time - See explanatory analysis.

Analysis:

This legislation finds that the US Army Corps of Engineers has failed in its mitigation requirements related to the construction of the Lost Creek and Applegate Dam projects based on the environmental impact statement dates May 8, 1972. Primary shortcomings are from the low number of returning spring chinook hatchery fish, which has been a trend for the Cole Rivers Hatchery.

The ramifications for this bill are indeterminate and therefore the fiscal impacts to the state cannot be determined at this time. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) is contracted to produce hatchery fish for the Corps of Engineers for the Lost Creek and Applegate projects. Because of this contracted relationship, any legal actions brought against the Army Corps of Engineers could have legal implications for ODFW. It is currently unknow if the agency will incur any additional costs associated with potential legal action against the Corps of Engineers.