



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Transportation

Director's Office

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DATE: February 25, 2020

TO: House Committee on Rules

FROM: Lindsay Baker, Assistant Director
Oregon Department of Transportation

SUBJECT: Senate Bill 1511A – Environmental Restoration Weirs

INTRODUCTION

Senate Bill 1511A requires the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to adopt rules and administer a program for the voluntary installation of environmental restoration weirs east of the Cascade Mountains. The measure discusses the interaction of environmental restoration weirs and fish passage requirements, and the circumstances in which ODFW (in coordination with the Water Resources Department) will require modification to weirs. The criteria for evaluating environmental restoration weirs will be determined by ODFW by rule.

DISCUSSION

The Oregon Department of Transportation manages a statewide network of roads, bridges, culverts, and other transportation infrastructure. As the purpose of environmental restoration weir installation is to change the streamflow of existing waterways, they have the ability to adversely impact existing transportation infrastructure. Senate Bill 1511A includes a requirement that ODFW coordinate with ODOT to consider any potential impacts on existing or planned transportation infrastructure prior to authorizing an environmental restoration weir. The measure also allows for ODFW, in coordination with ODOT, to require the party responsible for the restoration project to modify the project if it adversely impacts existing or planned transportation infrastructure.

While ODOT does not anticipate the impact from Senate Bill 1511A will be significant as the streams covered under this measure are expected to be few, ODOT appreciates the ability to meaningfully engage in this process through coordination with ODFW.

SUMMARY

ODOT appreciates the specificity provided in the A-engrossed version of Senate Bill 1511. Upon passage, ODOT looks forward to continued partnership with ODFW and the proponents during the rulemaking process.

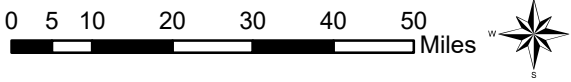
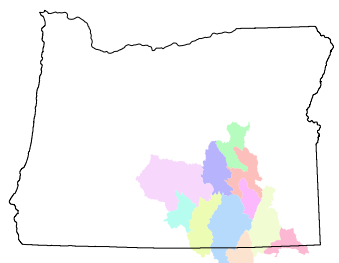
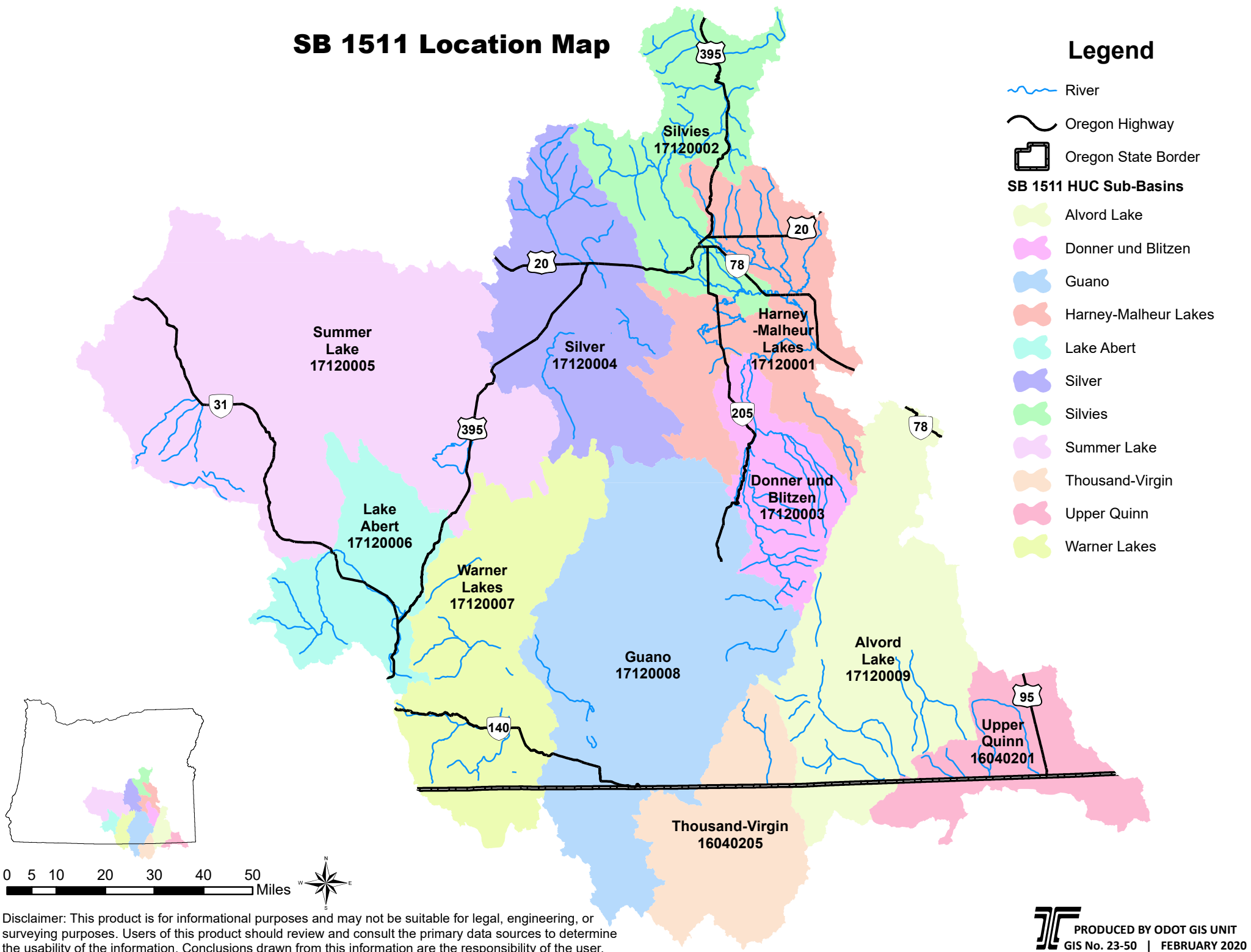
Please feel free to reach out to me with any additional questions.

Enclosed: Attachment A

SB 1511 Location Map

Legend

- River
- Oregon Highway
- Oregon State Border
- SB 1511 HUC Sub-Basins**
 - Alvord Lake
 - Donner und Blitzen
 - Guano
 - Harney-Malheur Lakes
 - Lake Abert
 - Silver
 - Silvies
 - Summer Lake
 - Thousand-Virgin
 - Upper Quinn
 - Warner Lakes



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