

HOUSE INTERIM COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, LAND USE, & WATER

September 21, 2022
02:30 PM

Hearing Room A

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Ken Helm, Chair
Rep. Susan McLain, Vice-Chair
Rep. Mark Owens, Vice-Chair
Rep. Jami Cate
Rep. Lori Kuechler
Rep. Pam Marsh
Rep. Jeff Reardon
Rep. Anna Scharf
Rep. David Brock Smith
Rep. Brad Witt

STAFF PRESENT: Laura Kentnesse, LPRO Analyst
Shelley Raszka, Senior Committee Assistant

EXHIBITS: Exhibits from this meeting are available [here](#)

MEASURES/ISSUES: Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Protection and the Port of
Morrow
Regulatory Environment and Actions
Drinking Water Update
Community Efforts to Address Nitrate Pollution
Managing Per- and Poly-Fluorinated Alkyl Substances (PFAS)
in Oregon
Federal Funding Opportunities for Oregon
Highlights of Recent Legislative Drought Investments
Domestic Dry Well Assistance
Soil Protection and Irrigation Assistance
Fish Passage Assistance

This meeting was held virtually with remote participation only

00:00:30 Meeting Called to Order
00:00:31 Chair Helm
00:01:11 ROLL CALL
00:02:18 Rep. Lori Kuechler, House District 52
00:04:26 Vice-Chair Owens
00:08:21 Laura Kentnesse, LPRO Analyst

- 00:08:23** **Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Protection and the Port of Morrow: Regulatory Environment and Actions**
- 00:08:24** Chair Helm
- 00:09:18** Leah Feldon, Deputy Director, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
- 00:16:56** Lisa Mittelsdorf, Executive Director, Port of Morrow
- 00:19:46** Miff Devin, Water Quality and IT Supervisor, Port of Morrow
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- 00:20:27** **Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Protection and the Port of Morrow: Drinking Water Update - Informational Meeting**
- 00:20:28** Chair Helm
- 00:20:53** Rachael Banks, Director, Public Health Division, Oregon Health Authority
- 00:27:02** Jim Doherty, Commissioner, Morrow County
- 00:32:58** Ana Pineyro, Communicable Disease Coordinator, Morrow County
- 00:33:32** Brian Maag, President and CEO, Boardman Foods
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- 00:37:55** **Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Protection and the Port of Morrow: Community Efforts to Address Nitrate Pollution - Informational Meeting**
- 00:37:56** Chair Helm
- 00:38:17** Salini Sasidharan, Chair, Lower Umatilla Basin Groundwater Management Committee; Assistant Professor, Oregon State University
- 00:43:48** Kristin Anderson Ostrom, Executive Director, Oregon Rural Action
- 00:49:16** Vice-Chair McLain
- 00:54:27** Leah Feldon, Deputy Director, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
- 00:54:45** Rep. Reardon
- 00:55:44** Lisa Mittelsdorf, Executive Director, Port of Morrow
- 00:58:18** Rep. Brock Smith
- 00:59:38** Rep. Scharf
- 01:00:41** Jim Doherty, Commissioner, Morrow County
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- 01:01:31** **Managing Per- and Poly-Fluorinated Alkyl Substances (PFAS) in Oregon - Informational Meeting**
- 01:01:32** Chair Helm
- 01:02:16** Jennifer Wigal, Water Quality Division Administrator, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
- 01:14:27** Andre Ourso, Public Health Division Administrator, Oregon Health Authority
- 01:25:13** Susie Smith, Executive Director, Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies
- 01:31:19** Rep. Witt
- 01:32:27** Rep. Marsh
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- 01:34:05** **Oregon Invasive Species Council Update - Informational Meeting**
- 01:34:06** Chair Helm

- 01:34:39 Christine Moffitt, Council Vice-Chair, Friends of South Slough Reserve
01:42:24 Alex Staunch, Council Member, Mosaic Ecology
01:45:24 Peter Kenagy, Council Public Member and Legislative Committee Co-Chair, Kenagy Family Farm
01:48:30 Rep. Brock Smith
- 01:49:17 **Federal Funding Opportunities for Oregon - Informational Meeting**
01:49:18 Chair Helm
01:50:21 Margaret Hoffmann, State Director, Rural Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture
01:53:43 Ron Alvarado, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture
01:56:01 Gail Greenman, State Executive Director, Farm Service Agency, U.S. Department of Agriculture
02:03:25 Vice-Chair Owens
02:10:09 Rep. Marsh
- 02:10:57 **Highlights of Recent Legislative Drought Investments: Domestic Dry Well Assistance - Informational Meeting**
02:10:58 Chair Helm
02:12:48 Kelley Minty, Commissioner, Klamath County
02:16:35 Misty Buckley, Klamath Basin Research and Extension Center, Oregon State University
- 02:19:02 **Highlights of Recent Legislative Drought Investments: Soil Protection and Irrigation Assistance - Informational Meeting**
02:19:03 Chair Helm
02:19:27 Staci Merkt, District Manager, Jefferson County Soil and Water Conservation District
02:22:21 Kevin Richards, Partner, Fox Hollow Ranch
02:29:34 Vice-Chair McLain
- 02:31:32 **Highlights of Recent Legislative Drought Investments: Fish Passage Assistance - Informational Meeting**
02:31:33 Chair Helm
02:31:49 Alan Ritchey, Fish and Passage Screening Program Manager, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
02:34:23 Jim McCarthy, Southern Oregon Program Director, WaterWatch
02:38:32 Haley Lutz, Executive Director, Coos Watershed Association
02:42:14 Meeting Adjourned