HB 3282 -1, -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 4/1, 4/13

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs State Forestry Department (ODF) to study and make recommendations concerning wildfire prevention. Requires ODF to provide study results in a report to an interim committee on the Legislative Assembly related to natural resources no later than September 15, 2022. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1

Replaces measure. Authorizes State Forester, subject to restrictions, to order the use of wildfire suppression personnel, equipment, and services to control wildfire on any federal lands in Oregon. Provides that this authority does not affect any obligation otherwise imposed on State Forest for provision of such personnel, equipment, or services. Prohibits State Forester from using wildfire suppression personnel, equipment, or service on: federal land that is military land withdrawn from public access without obtaining permission from appropriate military authority or lands held by an Indian tribe without obtaining permission from tribal government. Directs State Forestry Department (ODF) to establish by rule a pilot grant program to manage wildfire risk by promoting the use of air curtains by people who make biochar. Requires ODF to develop criteria for receiving a grant and a process for grant application. Appropriates unspecified dollar amount of General Fund to ODF to fund the grant program. Repeals pilot program on June 30, 2023. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

-2 Replaces the measure. Directs Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) to establish by rule a pilot grant program for the purpose of managing wildfire risk by: 1) encouraging methods that include, but are not limited to, clearing ladder fuels, creating slash piles, removing underbrush and using other forest management practices; 2) promoting the use of air curtains by persons that make biochar. Directs ODF, in administering the program, to develop criteria for receiving a grant and a process for applying for a grant and require a recipient of a grant to report to ODF on the use of the grant funds. Appropriates \$1,000,000 General Fund moneys to ODF for the biennium beginning on July 1, 2021, for the purpose of funding the grant program. Repeals pilot program on June 30, 2023. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Department of Forestry's (ODF) Fire Protection program protects 16 million acres of forest, consisting of privately owned forests as well as some public lands, including state-owned forests and U.S. Bureau of Land Management forests in western Oregon. The acreage protected includes 3.5 million acres of wildland-urban interface areas, which are forestlands with residences and other structures within the reach of wildfire.

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House Bill 3282 would direct the State Forestry Department (ODF) to study and make recommendations
concerning wildfire prevention.