

## FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

81st Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2021 Regular Session  
Legislative Fiscal Office

Measure: HB 2171 - A4

*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed  
Versions are Considered Official*

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Prepared by: Haylee Morse-Miller  
Reviewed by: Matt Stayner, Tim Walker, Michelle Deister, John Terpening  
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### Measure Description:

Appropriates \$1.0 million General Fund to the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund.

### Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Business Development Department (OBDD), Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD), Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB)

### Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure may require budgetary action - See analysis.

### Analysis:

HB 2171 - A4 relates to outdoor recreation. This measure appropriates \$1.0 million General Fund to the Emergency Board to be allocated to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) for the purposes of the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund. The Emergency Board may only release the appropriation in amounts equivalent to other deposits made to the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund from July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2023, from sources other than state government. The measure repeals Sections 4 - 6, chapter 531, Oregon Laws 2019, which otherwise would abolish the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund and transfer all remaining funds to the General Fund on July 1, 2021, and would sunset the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Advisory Committee on January 2, 2022.

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) is directed to establish statewide recommended standards for design of recreation projects such as trails, docks, and recreation access points, to ensure that these areas are accessible for people of all mobility levels. Standards must be developed by September 15, 2022.

This measure develops the Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee to advise the Office of Outdoor Recreation and make recommendations on statewide outdoor recreation policy. The Office of Outdoor Recreation is directed to make four reports to the Legislature:

- Recommendations for legislation necessary to create a single online storefront for outdoor recreation passes, with recommendations submitted to the appropriate committee of the Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2021;
- An inventory and gap analysis of outdoor recreation infrastructure in Oregon every five years, with the first report due no later than September 15, 2026;
- Recommendations for legislation regarding options to increase public access to outdoor recreation, with recommendations submitted to the appropriate committee of the Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2022; and,
- In collaboration with the Oregon Business Development Department (OBDD), proposed legislation to implement a grant program to support outdoor recreation products organizations and accelerators, with recommendations submitted to the appropriate committee of the Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2022.

This measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.

### **Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife**

If this measure passes, ODFW would retain any funding currently in the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund. This amount is projected to be \$440,000 from donations by the end of the 2019-21 biennium.

Additionally, ODFW could receive up to \$1.0 million General Fund in 2021-23 if they receive an equivalent amount of matching funds from other sources in the 2019-21 and 2021-23 biennia. In the most recent full month of contributions, ODFW received \$26,000 in donations; extrapolating this number, ODFW could expect to receive \$624,000 in donations in 2021-23, plus a General Fund match of any funds received since the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund was created in 2019. Any funds received are used for conservation and recreation projects in Oregon.

The Legislative Fiscal Office notes that by appropriating money to the Emergency Board for allocation to ODFW, there will be a limited opportunity for ODFW to access these funds. The Emergency Board generally meets starting after the Legislative Session in even-numbered years, and stops meeting prior to odd-year Sessions, so matching funds will not be available for close to a year following the 2021 Legislative Session. ODFW is also not able to carry any General Fund appropriation across biennia. All General Fund match dollars allocated to ODFW by the Emergency Board will need to be expended in the 2021-23 biennium, or these monies will revert to the General Fund.

### **Oregon Parks and Recreation Department**

OPRD anticipates costs of \$364,480 General Fund in the 2021-23 biennium, and \$50,447 General Fund in the 2023-25 biennium as a result of this measure.

These costs include hiring one limited duration, part-time Operations and Policy Analyst 3 (0.88 FTE), as well as costs of hiring a consultant, to establish and communicate statewide recommended standards for design of recreation projects. Total costs of this aspect of the measure are estimated at \$314,033 General Fund, including \$184,307 for Personal Services and \$129,726 for consultant costs and position-related Services and Supplies.

Additional costs are related to reimbursement of members of the Outdoor Recreation Advisory Committee for travel and other expenses. Although these costs will likely not be substantial, depending on the size of the Committee, OPRD is concerned that these expenses fall outside their authorized use of Lottery Funds. Assuming 15 committee members, OPRD estimates biennial costs of \$50,447 General Fund.

There is no fiscal impact anticipated from the requirement that a statewide gap analysis be completed every five years, assuming that this process can be coordinated with ongoing analyses.

OPRD notes that there are numerous bills concerning the Office of Outdoor Recreation that have been considered during this Legislative session. Because the Office consists of one person, the Office may require additional staffing or resources if multiple bills regarding the work of this Office are to be passed.

### **Other state agencies**

There is no fiscal impact for OBDD or the Oregon State Marine Board, and minimal impact for the Oregon Department of Transportation.