SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

HB 2018 Relating to assessment of groundwater resources

To: Ways and Means Full Committee From: Natural Resources Subcommittee

Carrier: Senator Taylor

HB 2018 directs the Water Resources Department to enter into a cost-matching agreement with the United States Geological Survey to develop and publish ground water budgets for all major hydrologic basins in Oregon. The Department is also directed to expand the ground water level monitoring network; to produce reports that quantify ground water recharge for all major hydrologic basins in Oregon; produce maps and datasets that quantify open water evaporation from all major reservoirs in Oregon; collect and process data regarding baseline ground water levels and use; and assess the time and cost to conduct ground water basin studies.

The recommended amendment provides a General Fund appropriation of \$2,386,808 to enable the agency to complete this work.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends HB 2018 be amended by the –A2 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.