

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Department of Agriculture Invasive Grass Management

To:	Ways and Means Full Committee
From:	Natural Resources Subcommittee
Carrier:	Senator Frederick

On February 5th the Natural Resources Subcommittee recommended retroactive approval of the submission of a federal grant application from the Oregon Department of Agriculture to the U.S. Department of Agriculture of \$1.8 million for the identification of invasive grass management projects for ecological resilience in rangelands.

This grant is in alignment with several state and federal efforts to protect forest and rangelands. The Department will use the funding to conduct outreach efforts to identify and prioritize invasive grass management treatment areas and high-value partnerships.

This is a non-competitive grant with a 20% cash or in-kind match requirement, which ODA intends to meet through existing staff time. The grant application deadline was December 31, 2023. If awarded, ODA will return to the Legislature to seek additional Federal Funds expenditure limitation to expend the grant, which would become available in April 2024.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends approval.