

HB 3343 -4 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

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Meeting Dates: 4/2, 4/7

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure directs the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to study natural resources and submit a report to a natural resource related interim committee of the Legislature by September 15, 2026. Sunsets the reporting requirement on January 2, 2027.

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

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

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-4 The amendment replaces the measure, directs the Oregon Water Resources Department to establish a Water Measurement Cost Share Program and makes changes to water use measurement and reporting requirements associated with the approval of time extensions for construction of irrigation or other work or certain groundwater right transfers.

Detailed Summary

Replaces the measure.

Establishment of a **Water Measurement Cost Share Program**

- Directs OWRD to establish a water measurement cost share program and broadens authorized expenditures for moneys in the Water Measurement Cost Share Program Revolving Fund to include (1) the installation, replacement, or substantial repair of streamflow gauges, measuring devices, headgates with measuring devices or other water measurement infrastructure that measures the diversion, appropriation, storage, release, redirection, or water use, that protects in-stream flow or existing water rights and (2) program administration and implementation.
- Authorizes OWRD to establish funding priorities to accomplish water management and data objectives, require grant recipients to measure and report water use, receive funds from, and may into agreements or contracts with any person, including any public body, federally recognized Indian tribe, or non-profit organization, and adopt rules as necessary for implementation.

Changes to **water use measurement and reporting requirements**

- Authorizes OWRD to require water use measurement and reporting prior to approving time extensions for construction of irrigation or other work or certain groundwater right transfers.
- Grants enforcement authority to the Oregon Water Resources Department for noncompliance with specified measurement and reporting requirements.

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

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

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is a state agency whose mission is to protect and enhance Oregon's fish and wildlife and their habitats for use and enjoyment by present and future generations.

PRELIMINARY