

2009 Regular Legislative Session
FISCAL ANALYSIS OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION
Prepared by the Oregon Legislative Fiscal Office

MEASURE NUMBER: HB 3454 **STATUS:** A Engrossed
SUBJECT: Integrated state water resource strategy
GOVERNMENT UNIT AFFECTED: Water Resource Department, Department of Environmental Quality and Department of Fish and Wildlife
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REVIEWED BY: Ken Rocco and Paul Siebert
DATE: April 30, 2009

	<u>2009-2011</u>	<u>2011-2013</u>
EXPENDITURES:		
Water Resources Department		
Personal Services	\$ 202,908	
Services and Supplies	\$ 30,430	Unknown
Total General Fund Expenditures	\$ 233,338	
Department of Environmental Quality		
Personal Services – General Funds	\$ 113,574	\$ 151,432
Services and Supplies – General Funds	\$ 42,215	\$ 56,286
Total General Fund Expenditures	\$ 155,789	\$ 207,718
POSITIONS / FTE:		
Water Resources Department	2/1.50	Unknown
Department of Environmental Quality	1/0.75	1/1.00

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2010.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT MANDATE: This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

COMMENTS: The bill directs the Water Resource Department (WRD) to develop an integrated state water resources strategy in consultation with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW); requires that the strategy take effect when it is adopted by reference in rules promulgated by both WRD and the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC); requires that WRD and EQC review and update the strategy every five years; and, that the WRD, in consultation with DEQ and ODFW, provide a report to the Seventy-sixth Legislative Assembly by December 31, 2012.

WRD anticipates needing two Natural Resource Specialist (NRS) 3 positions (1.5 FTE) to implement the bill in the 2009-11 biennium. One NRS 3, a scientific coordinator, will oversee scientific work in the areas of basin yield, peak flow, water demand forecasts, and climate change adaptation. The other NRS 3, a public policy coordinator, will convene and manage the public process, develop the strategy, and oversee work products. Total General Fund expenditures associated with these positions are \$233,338 based on a January 1, 2010 effective date. WRD anticipates needing additional resources for the 2011-13 biennium to implement the strategy and coordinate further updates; however, these resource needs are not known at this

time as they are dependent on the outcome of the strategy that will be developed during the 2009-11 biennium.

DEQ indicates that they will need a permanent NRS 4 position to provide technical support to WRD in the development of the integrated state water resources strategy, conduct rulemaking, assist in the development of the report to the Legislature; monitor and implement actions to achieve the strategy's objectives; and to review and update the strategy every five years. Total General Fund expenditures associated with this position are \$155,789 for 2009-11 and \$207,718 for the 2011-13 biennia.

ODFW already works extensively with the WRD on water related issues; so, ODFW's participation in this process is expected to result in minimal additional work, which can be absorbed with existing resources.