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

MEASURE NUMBER: SB 513 **STATUS:** B Engrossed
SUBJECT: Relating to ecosystems and ecosystem services markets working group
GOVERNMENT UNIT AFFECTED: Sustainability Board and Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
PREPARED BY: Dawn Farr
REVIEWED BY: Laurie Byerly and Paul Siebert
DATE: June 9, 2009

	2009-2011	2011-2013
EXPENDITURES:		
See Comments.		
REVENUES:		
See Comments.		

EFFECTIVE DATE: On passage.

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 establishes definitions and legislative findings related to ecosystems; directs the Sustainability Board to convene an ecosystem services markets working group consisting of representatives of local and state agencies and representatives of other parties to study and propose overarching goals related to ecosystem services markets, consider government's role, propose potential policies, and to report recommendations to the Legislative Assembly by January 1, 2011; and directs the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board to provide staffing to the work group.

HB 3244 (2007) created within the Oregon Department of Administrative Services a Sustainability Board consisting of the Governor or the Governor's representative and 10 additional members appointed by the Governor. The Sustainability Board has limited staff resources to implement the bill; however, the bill directs the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) to provide staffing.

OWEB indicates that on June 3, 2009, the Board approved funding for a grant from research non-capital funds (Measure 66 Lottery Funds) to support staffing and some administrative expenses of the work group formed by the bill. The grant, which is contingent upon passage of the bill, provides funding for a position within OWEB that would be dedicated to implementation of the bill (0.40 FTE) and efforts within OWEB's partnership investment program (0.60 FTE). Total Lottery Funds provided by the grant to implement the bill are $118,331. Personal Services costs are expected $60,573. The grant also includes funding for Services and Supplies totaling $57,758 which includes $15,000 for meeting expenses and $30,000 for professional contract services.

It is not known at this time which state agencies may be asked to participate in the ecosystem services markets working group; however, it is assumed that this additional work will be minimal and can be assumed within the existing resources of participating agencies.