

HB 2377 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Natural Resources

Action Date: 04/09/19

Action: Do pass with amendments and be referred to Ways and Means by prior reference.
(Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 6-1-0-0

Yeas: 6 - Barreto, Gorsek, McKeown, Smith DB, Sprenger, Witt

Nays: 1 - Reardon

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Kailey Kornhauser, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/28, 4/2, 4/9

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Appropriates \$452,390 from General Fund to Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to solicit bids and contract for implementation, at a management cost of no more than six percent of expenditures, for first phase of sediment study of lower Rogue River. Appropriates \$1,000,000 from General Fund to DAS to be distributed to Umatilla County for purpose of reimbursement of water right holders for increased pumping cost of surface water used in lieu of ground water. Declares emergency, effective July 1, 2019.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Impact of wildlife and dams on river sediment
- U.S. Geological Survey work
- Collaborative effort in Umatilla Basin
- Ground water savings advisory committee
- Columbia River surface water

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Appropriates of \$452,390 from General Fund to be distributed to DAS for purpose of contracting for implementation, at a management cost of no more than six percent of expenditures, for the first phase of a sediment study of the lower Rogue River. Appropriates \$1,000,000 from General Fund to DAS to be distributed to Umatilla County for reimbursement of water right holders for increased pumping costs of surface water used in lieu of ground water.

BACKGROUND:

The Rogue River is located in southwestern Oregon and flows 215 miles. The United States Geological Survey and the Department of Environmental Quality collect sediment and water quality data in Oregon.

The Umatilla River Basin is located in north central Oregon. Over time, demand for ground water in the Basin has exceeded the supply. In December 2018, a group of stakeholders delivered recommendations to the Governor, including a five-year pilot project allowing water right holders to use surface water in lieu of ground water.

House Bill 2377 A would appropriate \$452,390 from the General Fund to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to solicit bids and contract for implementation of the first phase of a sediment study on the lower Rogue River and appropriate \$1,000,000 to DAS for distribution to Umatilla County to reimburse water right holders for increased pumping cost of surface water used in lieu of ground water.