

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: HB 2572

81st Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2021 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official*

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Date: 03/15/2021

Measure Description:

Provides that spread of fire in forestland across ownership boundary does not constitute prima facie evidence of fire burning uncontrolled if owners or operators of forestland on both sides of ownership boundary agree in advance to conduct prescribed fire.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Forestry (ODF)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure may require budgetary action - See analysis.

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

	2021-23 Biennium	2023-25 Biennium
Other Funds	\$1,328,840	\$1,178,423
Total Funds	\$1,328,840	\$1,178,423
Positions	6	6
FTE	6.00	6.00

Analysis: The measure changes the determination criteria of an uncontrolled fire; prohibits state forester of ordering landowner to extinguish prescribed burn as uncontrolled if it remains on owner’s forestland; requires the Board of Forestry to establish Certified Burn Manager program; and requires the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) to report to the legislature. In addition, the measure directs ODF to establish the Certified Burn Manager Program and allows ODF to impose fees for the program.

ODF anticipates needing one Natural Resource Specialist 4 (1.00 FTE) for program oversight, development and implementation, five Natural Resource Specialist 1 (NRS1) (5.00 FTE) for program implementation, forest law administration, landowner assistance and education. ODF will also need to purchase vehicles for the NRS1 positions.

The General Fund appropriation in the bill is currently blank. The measure indicates that the General Fund appropriation would be for the initial establishment and implementation of the program, but the permissive language around the establishment of fees indicates that ongoing program costs would be supported by fee revenues.

This measure warrants a subsequent referral to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means for consideration of its budgetary impact on the State’s General Fund.