

HB 3185 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Meeting Dates: 4/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Defines “farmed wetlands” as wetlands that are managed for commercial agricultural purposes and as further defined by the Oregon Department of State Lands (DSL) by rule. Defines “previously impacted wetlands” as wetlands that have been materially affected by human activity prior to maintenance activities under the agricultural channels maintenance program and as further defined by DSL by rule. Defines “undisturbed wetlands” as wetlands that have not been materially affected by human activity and as further defined by DSL by rule. Specifies that when conducting maintenance of a traditionally maintained channel, the prohibition on spreading of material in a wetland in a volume greater than 3,000 cubic yards per linear mile of traditionally maintained channel over a five year period applies to farmed wetland or previously impacted wetland. Prohibits spreading of material in an undisturbed wetland during agricultural channel maintenance.

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

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

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Replaces the measure. Creates definition of “undisturbed wetland” as wetland that has not been materially affected by human activity and as further defined by Oregon Department of State Lands by rule. Prohibits spreading of material in an undisturbed wetland during agricultural channel maintenance.

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

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

BACKGROUND:

In 2019, Oregon legislation passed House Bill 2437 that authorized limited maintenance activities without a Removal-Fill permit from the Oregon Department of State Lands (DSL) in dry, traditionally maintained, agricultural drainage channels under certain circumstances.

House Bill 3185 would create new definitions and prohibit the spreading of material in undisturbed wetlands during agricultural channel maintenance program.