

HB 2010 -6 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Prepared By: Matt Stayner, Budget Analyst

Meeting Dates: 6/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The introduced measure requires the State Department of Agriculture to study water and to submit a report on its findings to the Legislature no later than September 15, 2024

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-6 The amendment combines certain provisions of fourteen other introduced policy bills, replacing the original bill language. The amendment has included provisions for: a source drinking water protection grant program; expansion of eligible funding from the Water Well Abandonment, Repair and Replacement Fund; low-income rate payer assistance program research; implementation of the 1998 Stewardship and Supply Initiative; initiation of collaborative process for water management in the Chewaucan River watershed; modifying the process, content, and timeline for updates to the Integrated Water Resources Strategy; establishment of an agricultural water management technical assistance program; coordination and implementation of place-based water planning, including grant funding the support of place-based planning; changes to water examiner certification eligibility; addressing barriers to development of water reuse or recycled water programs and projects; funding a study of the needs and vulnerabilities of small and very small community water systems; providing authority to the Water Resources Department to require water use reporting when water use is required to be measured; allowing for grants from the Water Supply Development Fund to be provided more often than once annually; establishment of an aquifer recharge due diligence and testing grant program; grants to soil and water conservation districts for wester juniper removal and the monitoring of the effectiveness of those activities by Oregon State University; grant funding to the High Desert Partnership for design and maintenance of wet meadow, wetland, and lake conditions on the Silvies and Donner and Blitzen Rivers floodplains, at Malheur Lake and in the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge; support for the creation of voluntary groundwater agreements in the Greater Harney Valley Groundwater Area of Concern.

Fiscal provisions in the amendment include a total of \$17.1 million General Fund appropriations for these items and \$6 million in Other Funds expenditure limitation for General Fund monies that are used to capitalize funds created under the measure.

BACKGROUND: