

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

SB 5539 Watershed Enhancement Board

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Natural Resources Subcommittee
Carrier: Senator Anderson

SB 5539 is a budget bill for the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board.

The measure includes expenditure authority for agency operations and grants, excluding grants supported by dedicated lottery funds, which are provided six-year expenditure limitation in SB 5540.

The budget includes a \$24.1 million General Fund appropriation for committed emergency response grants that were authorized in the prior biennium, but for which funding will not be fully expended before the end of the 2021-23 biennium.

Additional expenditure authority includes \$14 million in Other Funds for the Oregon Agricultural Heritage and Water Acquisition grant programs that were capitalized with General Fund in the prior biennium, \$22.2 million Federal Funds for expanded federal grant funding, and \$7 million Other Funds for water quality grants associated with hydroelectric dam operators.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends SB 5539 be amended by the –2 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.