

**Enrolled**  
**Senate Bill 5539**

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 23 (2023) (at the request of Oregon Department of Administrative Services)

CHAPTER .....

AN ACT

Relating to the financial administration of the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board; and declaring an emergency.

**Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

**SECTION 1.** There are appropriated to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$1,000,000 for operations.

**SECTION 1a.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$15,466,689, for the distribution of grants specified in section 69, chapter 669, Oregon Laws 2021.

**SECTION 1b.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$4,240,706, for the distribution of grants described in section 303, chapter 110, Oregon Laws 2022, for natural resource recovery actions in areas affected by 2021 fires.

**SECTION 1c.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$3,452,949, for the distribution of grants described in sections 19 to 23, chapter 4, Oregon Laws 2021 (second special session).

**SECTION 2.** Of the moneys deposited into the Watershed Conservation Operating Fund established under ORS 541.945, the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board shall allocate \$9,000,385 to the Department of State Police for fish and wildlife activities to implement Article XV, section 4b, of the Oregon Constitution.

**SECTION 3.** Of the moneys deposited into the Watershed Conservation Operating Fund established under ORS 541.945, the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board shall allocate \$6,818,367 to the State Department of Fish and Wildlife for activities and projects to implement Article XV, section 4b, of the Oregon Constitution.

**SECTION 4.** Of the moneys deposited into the Watershed Conservation Operating Fund established under ORS 541.945, the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board shall allocate \$8,859,764 to the State Department of Agriculture for activities and projects to implement Article XV, section 4b, of the Oregon Constitution.

**SECTION 5.** Of the moneys deposited into the Watershed Conservation Operating Fund established under ORS 541.945, the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board shall allocate

\$4,908,369 to the Department of Environmental Quality for activities and projects to implement Article XV, section 4b, of the Oregon Constitution.

**SECTION 6.** Notwithstanding any other law limiting expenditures, the amount of \$9,228,766 is established for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, as the maximum limit for payment of expenses by the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board from lottery moneys deposited into the Watershed Conservation Operating Fund established under ORS 541.945, for operating expenses, activities and projects to implement Article XV, section 4b, of the Oregon Constitution.

**SECTION 7.** Notwithstanding any other law limiting expenditures, the following amounts are established for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, as the maximum limits for payment of expenses from fees, moneys or other revenues, including Miscellaneous Receipts, but excluding lottery funds and federal funds, collected or received by the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, for the following purposes:

- (1) Operations..... \$ 971,210
- (2) Grants..... \$ 23,190,935

**SECTION 8.** Notwithstanding any other law limiting expenditures, the following amounts are established for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, as the maximum limits for payment of expenses from federal funds collected or received by the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, for the following purposes:

- (1) Operations..... \$ 4,377,048
- (2) Grants..... \$ 52,659,999

**SECTION 9.** (1) The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board shall establish by rule a process for allocating on a quarterly basis available moneys in the Natural Resources Sub-account of the Parks and Natural Resources Fund, established under ORS 541.942, to fulfill the biennial allocations made in this 2023 Act. Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, all quarterly allocations shall be set at one-eighth of the biennial allocations.

(2) If, in any quarter, the moneys transferred from the Oregon State Lottery Fund to the Parks and Natural Resources Fund are insufficient to pay for the quarterly allocations established under subsection (1) of this section, the allocations shall be reduced proportionately by amounts sufficient to accommodate the revenue shortfall.

**SECTION 10.** This 2023 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2023 Act takes effect July 1, 2023.

**Passed by Senate June 16, 2023**

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Lori L. Brocker, Secretary of Senate

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Rob Wagner, President of Senate

**Passed by House June 21, 2023**

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Dan Rayfield, Speaker of House

**Received by Governor:**

.....M,....., 2023

**Approved:**

.....M,....., 2023

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Tina Kotek, Governor

**Filed in Office of Secretary of State:**

.....M,....., 2023

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Secretary of State