

Requested by Representative HELM

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
HOUSE BILL 3142**

1 On page 1 of the printed bill, delete lines 4 through 30.

2 On page 2, delete lines 1 through 3 and insert:

3 **“SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section, ‘local workforce develop-**
4 **ment board’ and ‘workforce program’ have the meanings given those**
5 **terms in ORS 660.300.**

6 **“(2) The Oregon Department of Administrative Services shall pro-**
7 **vide grants to soil and water conservation districts organized under**
8 **ORS 568.210 to 568.808 and 568.900 to 568.933 and to counties for the**
9 **treatment of western juniper to minimize the negative impacts of**
10 **western juniper on water resources and ecological health.**

11 **“(3) Grant recipients shall use grant funds only to:**

12 **“(a) Consistent with the requirements of this section, treat western**
13 **juniper in areas where treatment will provide the greatest benefit to**
14 **water resources and ecological health;**

15 **“(b) Consistent with the requirements of this section, remove**
16 **western juniper at times, and using methods, that will reduce the risk**
17 **of repropagation after removal; and**

18 **“(c) Cover the administrative expenses of the grant recipient related**
19 **to the grant program, except that no more than eight percent of grant**
20 **funds may be used to cover administrative expenses.**

21 **“(4) In determining areas to conduct western juniper treatment,**

1 grant recipients shall incorporate criteria from the western juniper
2 management field guide developed by the Oregon Watershed En-
3 hancement Board, including:

4 “(a) Conifer encroachment prioritization;

5 “(b) Hydrological prioritization, including a consideration of the
6 location of the proposed project site in relation to surface waters;

7 “(c) Biological prioritization, including resilience to disturbance and
8 resistance to exotic annual grasses; and

9 “(d) Canopy interspaces, including bunchgrass age classes and ex-
10 otic annual grasses or noxious weeds present at intermediate levels in
11 interspaces.

12 “(5) In selecting treatment project sites and conducting treatment,
13 grant recipients shall seek to retain old growth juniper trees, as de-
14 termined by tree characteristics that include:

15 “(a) Flattened, rounded or uneven tops;

16 “(b) A spreading crown;

17 “(c) Large branches near the base of the tree;

18 “(d) Large, dead branches, missing bark and abundant light green
19 lichen;

20 “(e) Thick fibrous bark with well-developed vertical furrows; and

21 “(f) Leader growth in the upper quarter of the tree that is less than
22 one inch per year.

23 “(6) Treatment sites must be no less than 100 acres.

24 “(7) Pretreatment analysis of treatment sites must include:

25 “(a) Risk assessments for annual grass weeds; and

26 “(b) An analysis of existing perennial understory to determine if
27 reseeding is required.

28 “(8) Fuel loads associated with western juniper treatment shall be
29 removed from the treatment site.

30 “(9) Any grazing plan for a treatment site must be developed in

1 cooperation with the landowner and the applicable soil and water
2 conservation district.

3 “(10) A grant recipient shall develop a post-treatment maintenance
4 plan for the treatment site prior to beginning treatment.

5 “(11) Grant applicants may consult with Oregon State University,
6 local governments, as defined in ORS 174.116, conservation organiza-
7 tions or other organizations or experts to identify areas that meet the
8 criteria described in subsection (3)(a) of this section.

9 “(12) A grant recipient shall:

10 “(a) Work with Oregon State University to track and monitor the
11 effects of the program on water resources, ecological health and eco-
12 nomic and workforce development and to provide quarterly and annual
13 reports to the department;

14 “(b) Work with a local workforce development board or other or-
15 ganizations to create or expand an existing workforce program that
16 provides services to individuals performing western juniper treatment
17 or to allow individuals performing western juniper treatment to par-
18 ticipate in an existing workforce program; and

19 “(c)(A) Prepare reports describing any proposed, ongoing or com-
20 pleted western juniper treatment project including:

21 “(i) Site conditions before treatment;

22 “(ii) Project methodologies and implementation;

23 “(iii) Site conditions and maintenance efforts after treatment; and

24 “(iv) An assessment of the effectiveness of the treatment.

25 “(B) A grant recipient shall submit the reports required under this
26 paragraph to Oregon State University no later than two and five years,
27 respectively, after receiving a grant under this section and shall make
28 the reports publicly available.

29 **“SECTION 2. (1) Oregon State University shall work with recipients**
30 **of grants under section 1 of this 2023 Act to establish monitoring areas**

1 in central Oregon, Harney County and Klamath County.

2 “(2) Monitoring must be conducted for a period of at least five years
3 and must include:

4 “(a) Overstory and understory vegetation surveys to assess soil,
5 water and vegetation relationships; and

6 “(b) Monitoring of soil moisture, springflow, streamflow and
7 weather.

8 “(3) Monitoring may include technological platforms or other sys-
9 tems to monitor vegetative cover, perennial grass cover, annual grass
10 cover or tree and shrub cover.

11 **“SECTION 3. (1) The Oregon Department of Administrative Services**
12 **shall provide a grant to an organization formed pursuant to an inter-**
13 **governmental agreement under ORS chapter 190 that operates in at**
14 **least three of the following counties:**

15 “(a) Crook County;

16 “(b) Jefferson County;

17 “(c) Klamath County;

18 “(d) Deschutes County;

19 “(e) Harney County; or

20 “(f) Lake County.

21 “(2) The organization shall:

22 “(a) In rural areas of this state, coordinate efforts to identify and
23 apply for sources of funding for western juniper treatment, or other
24 water conservation projects, among cities, counties or other organ-
25 izations; and

26 “(b) Coordinate activities among grant recipients described in sec-
27 tion 1 of this 2023 Act.”.

28 In line 4, delete “2” and insert “4”.

29 After line 20, insert:

30 **“SECTION 5. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropri-**

1 **ation, there is appropriated to the Oregon Department of Administra-**
2 **tive Services, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the**
3 **General Fund, the amount of \$350,000, which may be expended for the**
4 **purpose of carrying out section 3 of this 2023 Act.”.**

5 In line 21, delete “3” and insert “6”.

6 In line 23, after “Fund,” insert “the amount of”.

7 In line 25, delete “4” and insert “7”.

8 In line 26, delete “2” and insert “4”.

9 In line 28, delete “5” and insert “8”.

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