

Legislative Fiscal Office 82nd Oregon Legislative Assembly 2024 Regular Session

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Date: February 19, 2024

Bill Title: Relating to fostering coexistence with beavers; prescribing an effective date.

Government Unit(s) Affected: Department of Fish and Wildlife

Summary of Fiscal Impact

2023-25 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000	-	-
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000	-	-

2025-27 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Department of Fish and Wildlife	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	-
Total Fiscal Impact	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	-

Measure Description

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and State Fish and Wildlife Commission is authorized to implement a Landowners Living with Beavers Grant Program. The Oregon Conservation and Recreation Advisory Committee will make recommendations to the Department and Commission on the awarding of grants up to \$50,000 to eligible applicants to mitigate the effects of beavers on private land. The measure includes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$1.5 million to ODFW for the 2023-25 biennium, to be deposited in the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund for the Landowners Living with Beavers Grant Program.

The measure amends ORS 496.252 to make the Landowners Living with Beavers Grant Program one of the eligible expenses from the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund. On June 30, 2029, the grant program sunsets and all unexpended and unobligated funding remains in the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund for the purposes outlined in ORS 496.252.

Fiscal Analysis

The measure includes a one-time General Fund appropriation of \$1.5 million to ODFW for the 2023-25 biennium, to be deposited in the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund for the Landowners Living with Beavers Grant Program. The Department may utilize up to \$40,000 of the funding for grant administration. On June 30, 2029, the grant program sunsets and all unexpended and unobligated funding remains in the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund for the purposes outlined in ORS 496.252.

To expend the moneys from the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund, the agency's budget would require a commensurate increase in Other Funds expenditure limitation.

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FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Relevant Dates

ODFW and the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Advisory Committee are required to jointly submit a report to the committees or interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to the environment by September 15, 2026.

The amendments to ORS 496.252, permitting the allocation of funds from the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund for activities related to the Landowners Living with Beavers Grant Program, will sunset on June 30, 2029.

The amendments to ORS 496.254, enabling the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Advisory Committee to provide recommendations regarding the Landowners Living with Beavers Grant Program, will sunset on June 30, 2029.

The measure takes effect on the 91st day after sine die.

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