

**SB 354 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire**

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**Prepared By:** Alexa Piscanio, LPRO Analyst

**Sub-Referral To:** Joint Committee On Ways and Means

**Meeting Dates:** 2/20

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

The measure directs the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to include in a program for the voluntary relocation of beavers, the voluntary relocation of beavers from western Oregon to areas in central and eastern Oregon in which beavers are native, to provide watershed enhancements.

Fiscal impact: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

Revenue impact: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

The program for the voluntary relocation of beavers began in 2022. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Beaver Relocation Requirements have been in place since 2017 and outline a process for obtaining permits to capture, transfer, and release beavers onto both public and private lands. Beaver relocation is allowed, but the procedure requires that sites must ideally be within the same sub-basin, and for relocations across sub-basins or basins, approval from ODFW watershed or regional managers is required. Relocation on private lands requires signatures from landowners within a four-mile radius to ensure there is no objection to the relocation.