



Legislative Fiscal Office  
 83<sup>rd</sup> Oregon Legislative Assembly  
 2025 Regular Session

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 Reviewed by: April McDonald  
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**Bill Title:** Relating to water right retirement under the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program; declaring an emergency.

**Government Unit(s) Affected:** Water Resources Department

**Summary of Fiscal Impact**

2025-27 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Water Resources Department	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500,000	-	-
<b>Total Fiscal Impact</b>	<b>\$ 500,000</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 500,000</b>	-	-

2027-29 Biennium	General Fund	Lottery Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	Positions	FTE
Water Resources Department	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	-
<b>Total Fiscal Impact</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	-	-

- Increases Water Resources Department’s Other Funds expenditure limit by \$500,000 for expenditure of funds deposited in the Groundwater Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Match Fund.

**Measure Description**

The measure establishes the Groundwater Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Match Fund as a separate and distinct fund from the General Fund. Interest earned by the Groundwater Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Match Fund shall be credited to the fund. All moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the Water Resources Department (WRD) to provide the state’s contribution for water users who cancel groundwater rights as part of enrollment in the federal Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). This program applies only to water users in areas in which WRD is not allowing new rights to use groundwater for irrigation.

The measure decreases WRD’s General Fund appropriation for technical services by \$500,000 for the 2025-27 biennium. The measure appropriates to WRD \$500,000 General Fund in the 2025-27 biennium for deposit into the Groundwater Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Match Fund. The measure increases WRD’s Other Funds expenditure limitation by \$500,000 for technical services, authorizing the department to spend funds deposited in the Groundwater Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Match Fund.

**Fiscal Analysis**

The measure decreases the Water Resources Department’s General Fund appropriation for technical services by \$500,000 for the 2025-27 biennium and separately appropriates \$500,000 General Fund to WRD for deposit into the Groundwater Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Match Fund. WRD is authorized to spend from

this fund to provide the state's contribution for water users canceling groundwater rights under the federal Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program. Additionally, the measure increases WRD's Other Funds expenditure limitation by \$500,000, allowing the department to utilize the deposited funds. The fiscal impact is expected to be minimal for WRD to administer the fund and implement the state's contribution for water users canceling groundwater rights under the federal Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program.

**Relevant Dates**

The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.