

Legislative Fiscal Office 83rd Oregon Legislative Assembly 2025 Regular Session

Prepared by:Twais BroadusReviewed by:April McDonald, John Terpening, Katie Bannikov, Paul Siebert, Amanda BeitelDate:March 25, 2025

Bill Title: Relating to eelgrass resources in state waters; declaring an emergency.

Government Unit(s) Affected: Burns Paiute Tribe, Department of Environmental Quality, Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians, Department of Land Conservation and Development, Cities, Department of Fish and Wildlife, Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation, Task Force/Committee/Workgroup, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Coquille Indian Tribe, Department of Agriculture, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, Department of State Lands, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Indians, Special Districts, Confederated Tribes of Siletz, Klamath Tribes, Counties

Summary of Fiscal Impact

This fiscal impact statement is for the purpose of transmitting the measure from the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water to the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.

The measure establishes the 19-member Task Force on Eelgrass Resources, appointed by the Director of the Department of Land Conservation and Development. The task force is directed to assess the current and historical extent of eelgrass in Oregon's estuaries, develop statewide targets for eelgrass protection and restoration by 2040, and recommend policy, regulatory, and funding strategies to achieve those goals. Responsibilities include evaluating regulatory frameworks, coordinating agency actions, identifying restoration barriers, improving monitoring, and mapping, and engaging with communities, tribal governments, and other stakeholders.

A more complete fiscal analysis on the measure will be prepared as the measure is considered in the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.