FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION



Legislative Fiscal Office 83rd Oregon Legislative Assembly 2025 Regular Session

Prepared by: Twais Broadus

Reviewed by: Katie Bannikov, Amanda Beitel

Date: February 11, 2025

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

Government Unit(s) Affected: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Agriculture, Special Districts

Summary of Fiscal Impact

| 2025-27 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 | | - |

| 2027-29 Biennium | Genera | al Fund | Lottery | / Funds | Other | Funds | Federa | l Funds | Total Fu | ınds | Positions | FTE |
|---------------------------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|-------|-------|--------|---------|----------|------|-----------|-----|
| Department of Fish and Wildlife | \$ | - | \$ | 1 | \$ | - | \$ | - | \$ | - | - | - |
| Total Fiscal Impact | \$ | _ | \$ | 1 | \$ | - | \$ | - | \$ | _ | - | - |

Measure Description

The measure amends ORS 496.252 and establishes the Landowners Living with Beavers Grant Program Subaccount within the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund and authorizes the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to administer program funds. The Oregon Conservation and Recreation Advisory Committee will provide recommendations to ODFW on awarding block grants of up to \$50,000 to eligible applicants, including watershed councils, soil and water conservation districts, and nonprofit organizations, to support beaver coexistence projects on private land. Grants may be used for mitigation strategies such as tree protection tools, flood prevention flow devices, culvert and infrastructure protection systems, crop protection strategies, landowner education and outreach, and training on beaver management. Additionally, ODFW is tasked with providing statewide technical assistance to expand and improve beaver coexistence strategies.

The measure appropriates \$1.5 million General Fund to ODFW for the 2025-27 biennium, to be deposited into the Landowners Living with Beavers Grant Program Subaccount. Up to \$95,000 of this funding may be used for administrative costs.

Fiscal Analysis

The measure appropriates \$1.5 million General Fund to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) for the 2025-27 biennium as one-time funding, to be deposited into the Landowners Living with Beavers Grant Program Subaccount within the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund. Of this amount, up to \$95,000 may be used for administrative costs associated with managing the grant program.

Administrative costs include staffing, grant management, and technical assistance for beaver coexistence strategies. The remaining funds will be awarded as grants of up to \$50,000 per cycle to eligible applicants, including watershed councils, soil and water conservation districts, and nonprofit organizations.

Measure: HB 3143

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

ODFW will require an increase in Other Funds expenditure limitation to access and distribute moneys from the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund.

Other Entities

The measure is anticipated to have no or minimal impact for the Department of Agriculture and special districts.

Relevant Dates

ODFW and the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Advisory Committee must report to the committees or interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to the environment on the expenditures of moneys under the Landowners Living with Beavers Grant Program by September 15, 2027.

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

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