

A-Engrossed House Bill 3106

Ordered by the House April 10
Including House Amendments dated April 10

Sponsored by Representatives OWENS, HELM (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act creates the Integrated Water Data Team. The Act says that DOGAMI must lead the team and work with the team on creating a state water data portal. (Flesch Readability Score: 75.4).

[Digest: The Act gives money to DEQ to work on the Oregon Water Data Portal project. (Flesch Readability Score: 67.5).]

[Appropriates moneys from the General Fund to the Department of Environmental Quality for the Oregon Water Data Portal project.]

Creates the Integrated Water Data Team. Directs the State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries to be the lead agency to coordinate the Integrated Water Data Team.

Directs the State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries to work with the Integrated Water Data Team to create and maintain a statewide integrated water data portal.

[Declares an emergency, effective July 1, 2025.]

Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to water data; and prescribing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. Interagency data coordination. (1) The Integrated Water Data Team is created. Each of the following shall designate one member of the board or institute, or one member who is an employee of the department or authority, to serve on the Integrated Water Data Team:

(a) The Water Resources Department;

(b) The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board;

(c) The Department of Environmental Quality;

(d) The State Department of Fish and Wildlife;

(e) The Department of State Lands;

(f) The State Department of Agriculture;

(g) The State Forestry Department;

(h) The State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries;

(i) The Institute for Natural Resources; and

(j) The Oregon Health Authority.

(2) The State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries shall be the lead agency to coordinate the Integrated Water Data Team unless the Governor designates another agency to be the lead agency.

(3) The team shall improve communication and data sharing among agencies and improve interagency coordination efforts to increase accessibility, interoperability and usability of

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter *[italic and bracketed]* is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

water data to support water and watershed planning and management, including but not limited to water quantity, water quality, watershed health, habitat, ecology and water infrastructure data.

(4) The team shall work together to achieve the following goals:

(a) Increasing the availability, accessibility and usability of existing data and information that supports water and watershed planning and management at the basin or watershed scale;

(b) Increasing water data sets included in the integrated water data portal as provided under section 2 of this 2025 Act;

(c) Developing and maintaining an inventory of existing water data, identifying gaps in water data and prioritizing investments in water data;

(d) Supporting data needs related to the development of the integrated state water resources strategy, including satisfying the requirement in ORS 536.220 (5) to forecast Oregon's in-stream and out-of-stream water needs;

(e) Supporting the data needs related to the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds, including satisfying the requirements described in ORS 541.972;

(f) Supporting other interagency coordination activities related to water data collection and use;

(g) Promoting adoption of and adherence to protocols and common water data standards within each participating agency;

(h) Developing and supporting processes within each participating agency to strategically sequence water data sets for inclusion in the integrated water data portal on a biennial basis, including projects needed to prepare the data sets for inclusion; and

(i) Avoiding duplication and increasing usefulness and public accessibility of water data.

SECTION 2. Integrated water data portal. (1) As used in this section, "state agency" means an agency of the executive department, as defined in ORS 174.112.

(2) The State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries shall work with the Integrated Water Data Team established under section 1 of this 2025 Act to:

(a) Create and maintain a statewide integrated water data portal that provides a single point of access for water-related data;

(b) Develop and maintain protocols and common water data standards necessary to support inclusion of water data in an integrated water data portal. These protocols and standards should support the discoverability, accessibility, interoperability and reuse of digital assets and, to the extent possible, should be guided by existing protocols and standards;

(c) Develop criteria and support a process for strategically sequencing water datasets for inclusion in the integrated water data portal on a biennial basis, including projects needed to prepare the datasets for inclusion;

(d) Establish a governance structure, through memorandums of agreement or other mechanisms, that supports sustainable ongoing operations of the integrated water data portal;

(e) Consult and collaborate with other providers and users of water data to improve the functionality and usefulness of the integrated water data portal and increase accessibility of water data over time;

(f) Collaborate with other regional and national efforts to share, integrate and manage water data; and

(g) Take into consideration the recommendations contained in reports developed by the Department of Environmental Quality when creating the integrated water data portal.

(3) The integrated water data portal must:

(a) Publish data in machine-readable formats and, when feasible, ensure data published via the integrated water data portal is interoperable;

(b) Be designed to support water decision-making at different scales and for different uses, supported by technical experts in water quantity and quality;

(c) Be informed over time by input and feedback provided by users of water data and be developed in response to specific use cases of water data;

(d) Be designed to allow for integration of water data from diverse water data providers, including state agencies, federal agencies, local governments, Indian tribes, academic institutions, nongovernmental organizations and other entities;

(e) Take into consideration lessons learned and opportunities presented by the Oregon Open Data Portal in existence before the effective date of this 2025 Act; and

(f) Be hosted on a platform operated and maintained by the office of Enterprise Information Services within the Oregon Department of Administrative Services.

(4) For data that is not already publicly available, permission must be granted by the data provider before including data in the integrated water data portal.

(5) Nothing in this section prevents a state agency from disseminating, managing or publishing data separately from the portal, but all state agencies that produce, collect, process or maintain water data shall strive to adhere to the documented standards and protocols developed under this section.

(6) State agencies that fund the collection, processing or improvement of water data may, as a condition of the receipt of a grant or contract, require adherence to the water data standards and protocols developed under this section and any other conditions that increase the likelihood of the data being included in the integrated water data portal.

(7) The State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries may enter into an agreement with an existing governmental or private entity or an organization developed under ORS chapter 190 that supports the participation of local, state and federal partners in the development and use of the integrated water data portal, to improve coordination and collaboration between water data providers, water data users and water data experts on the collection, maintenance and use of water data, as well as to perform necessary research or outreach to support portal development and use.

(8) The State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries shall contract with technical experts to develop tools and applications for the integrated water data portal, including, but not limited to, the Institute for Natural Resources, Oregon State University's Center for Applied Systems and Software and any other water data experts that may be useful in creation of the integrated water data portal.

(9) The State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries may contract with third parties to carry out its duties under this section.

SECTION 3. Integrated Water Data Account. (1) The Integrated Water Data Account is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the account shall be credited to the account. All moneys in the account are continuously appropriated to the State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries.

(2) The department may accept gifts, grants or contributions from any source, whether

1 public or private, for deposit in the Integrated Water Data Account.

2 (3) The account consists of:

3 (a) Moneys appropriated to the account by the Legislative Assembly.

4 (b) Moneys from any federal, state or other grants.

5 (c) Moneys received under subsection (2) of this section.

6 (d) Earnings on the account.

7 (4) Expenditures by the department from the Integrated Water Data Account shall be
8 made only for the following purposes:

9 (a) Developing and implementing the integrated water data portal under section 2 of this
10 2025 Act.

11 (b) Implementing actions taken by the Integrated Water Data Team to accomplish the
12 goals specified in sections 1 and 2 of this 2025 Act.

13 (c) Making distributions to state agencies that are part of the Integrated Water Data
14 Team.

15 (d) Making grants to entities other than members of the team for the collection, man-
16 agement and improvement of water data for the purposes of developing, maintaining or im-
17 proving the integrated water data portal established under section 2 of this 2025 Act.

18 (5) The department may adopt rules necessary for the administration of this section.

19 **SECTION 4. Report.** No later than September 15 of each even-numbered year, the State
20 Department of Geology and Mineral Industries shall submit, to the interim committees of
21 the Legislative Assembly related to water, a report that must include:

22 (1) An inventory of available water data at each agency specified in section 1 of this 2025
23 Act that supports water and watershed planning and management;

24 (2) Identification and prioritization of water data gaps and needs to support water and
25 watershed planning and management;

26 (3) Identification and prioritization of projects and actions that address priority water
27 data gaps and needs within each agency specified in section 1 of this 2025 Act as it relates
28 to including data in the integrated water data portal established under section 2 of this 2025
29 Act;

30 (4) Progress measured against established metrics to carry out the purposes of sections
31 1, 2 and 3 of this 2025 Act during the two calendar years immediately preceding the year of
32 the report;

33 (5) Proposed actions and budgetary resources needed to carry out the purposes of
34 sections 1, 2 and 3 of this 2025 Act in the two years following the date of the report;

35 (6) Recommendations to improve interagency coordination related to water data;

36 (7) Policy recommendations to increase access to and use of water data;

37 (8) A summary of public outreach and public participation activities; and

38 (9) Other information determined to be beneficial for the purposes of carrying out
39 sections 1, 2 and 3 of this 2025 Act.

40 **SECTION 5. Captions.** The section captions used in this 2025 Act are provided only for
41 the convenience of the reader and do not become part of the statutory law of this state or
42 express any legislative intent in the enactment of this 2025 Act.

43 **SECTION 6. Effective date.** This 2025 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the date on
44 which the 2025 regular session of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly adjourns sine die.