

RENEW The Water Recovery & Wildfire Reduction Package: HB3078/

Over the past decade, the <u>negative impacts</u> from the dramatic overgrowth of Western Junipers has become clear. Areas of Central, Southern and Eastern Oregon have seen 1000% + increases in noxious, highly flammable Juniper stands. This overgrowth can consume 100+ % of the precipitation on an acre of wildland, <u>draining streams and critical springs, crowding out native grasses</u>, negatively impacting sage grouse and mule deer, & adding to the <u>huge wildfire challenges</u>. Study after study has confirmed these impacts.





Soil &Water Conservation Districts have worked with an innovative state grant to address this crisis. Combining this state funding with private grants, & federal and landowner resources, thousands of acres of

excessive Junipers are being removed, restoring stream flows, Increasing soil moisture, improving wildlife habitat and reducing the risk of dangerous wildfire.

This year, this good work needs to be renewed. HB3078/HB3115:

Renew the SWDC pilots to remove excessive, harmful Juniper stands & restore water / reduce wildfire risks.

The essential package incentivizes continued, collaborative work on water conservation, stream and soil restoration and balance between environmental & other users of our precious water resources.



Questions:

rep.emersonlevy@oregonlegislature.gov / rep.vikkibreeseiverson@oregonlegislature.gov /

Doug Riggs, doug@nwpolicy.com



Restore stream Flows Reduce wildfire risks

Enhance soil moisture and groundwater Protect clean air

Improve sage grouse and mule dear habitat Restore native grasses



Participants in the Juniper Mitigation / Water Restoration Projects:

Wheeler Soil and Water

Deschutes SWCD

Crook SWCD

Jefferson SWCD

Harney SWCD

Lake County SWCD

Klamath SWCD

Oregon State University

NRCS/USDOA/OWEB/etc.



