

Legislative Wrap-Up

2013 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Water Resources Commission Meeting
August 9, 2013



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Brenda Bateman, Senior Policy Coordinator
OREGON WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

Session Basics

Oregon's 77th Legislative Assembly

- Convened in Salem on February 4
- 3,830 LC drafts came out of Legislative Counsel
- 1,014 amendments came through Legislative Counsel
- 3,083 fiscal impact statements from Legislative Fiscal
- 4,651 revenue statements came from Legislative Revenue
- 788 bills enrolled (approved by both chambers)
- Made modest investments in the IWRS – multiple agencies
- Adjourned Sine Die 2:48 pm, Monday July 8

Legislative Leadership

Senate

- **30 members (16-14 split favoring Democrats)**
- **Senator Peter Courtney -- President of the Senate**

House of Representatives

- **60 members (34-26 split favoring Democrats)**
- **Representative Tina Kotek -- Speaker of the House**

Committee Assignments

Senate Environment & Natural Resources Committee

Jackie Dingfelder (D-Portland), Chair

Alan Olsen (R-Canby), Vice Chair

Mark Haas (D-Beaverton)

Alan Bates (D-Medford)

Bill Hansell (R-Pendleton)

Committee Assignments

House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

Brad Witt (D-Clatskanie), Chair

Caddy McKeown (D-Coos Bay), Vice Chair

Sal Esquivel (R-Medford), Vice Chair

Brian Clem (D-Salem)

Wayne Krieger (R-Gold Beach)

Jeff Reardon (D-Portland)

Jim Thompson (R-Dallas)

Ben Unger (D-Hillsboro)

Gail Whitsett (R-Klamath Falls)

Committee Assignments

Natural Resources Subcommittee of Ways and Means Committee

Sen. Chris Edwards (D-Eugene), Co-Chair

Rep. Ben Unger (D-Hillsboro), Co-Chair

Sen. Jackie Dingfelder (D-Portland)

Sen. Chuck Thomsen (R-Hood River)

Rep. Jules Bailey (D-Portland)

Rep. Bruce Hanna (R-Roseburg)

WRD-Originated Bills Signed into Law

Senate Bill 199

Continue Split Season Leasing Program

Effective Jan. 1, 2014

Extends program sunset to Jan. 2, 2024

Clarifies statutory language, drawing upon language in rule

No administrative changes to the program

Senate Bill 200

Authorizes Splitting a Permit into Multiple Ownerships

Effective Jan. 1, 2014

Allows ag water right holder to split a permit, meeting conditions

Rule-making likely

House Bill 2259

Extends Water Right Transaction Fee Schedule

Effective July 1, 2013

Fees sunset July 1, 2017, rolling back to 2009-13 levels

IWRS Rec. #13B...Fund Water Resources Mgt at the State Level

Other Water-Related Bills Signed into Law

Senate Bill 837

Allows in-conduit hydro developers a choice:

(1) Install fish passage required by ODFW or (2) pay into new account IWRS Rec. #4B (use existing infra to create hydropower) and IWRS Rec. #11D (protect/restore instream habitat and access)

Senate Bill 839

Water Supply Development

Establishes criteria and conditions to receive grants and loans

Creates two task forces to work on governance & flow requirements

IWRS Rec. #9C (partner for long-term water resource management)

IWRS Rec. #10B (improve access to storage)

IWRS Rec. #10E (authorize and fund a water supply devt program)

House Joint Memorial 7

Federal Investment in Water Infrastructure...IWRS Rec #7A

House Bill 2620

Regional Planning...IWRS Rec #9A and 9B

Pertinent Budget Bills

SB 5547

Appropriates money from the General Fund to the Department

SB 5506

General obligation bonds, revenue bonds, certificates of participation, other financing programs. Includes loans to the Umatilla Basin and authorization for lottery bonds

SB 5533

Names projects and agencies receiving funds from the sale of lottery bonds.

HB 5008

Limitation / authorization to spend lottery bonds, once received.

Conclusion

- **Very busy session for Water Resources, in both the policy and funding arenas**
- **Current programs and fees had their sunsets extended and resources added**
- **Programs were re-established (e.g., water-use reporting) or newly established (split a permit; water supply development)**
- **Bottom Line: requests designed to implement and support the IWRS fared very well, at WRD and other natural resource agencies**

Questions and Discussion



Thank You!