

Legislative and Budget Update



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Session Bills Committees More

2020 1st Special Session

Session Details for Wednesday, June 24, 2020 Pick a new date

Senate Convenes at 8:00 AM House Convenes at 8:00 AM

Meetings Today ▾

Committee	Meeting Location	Meeting Time
Joint Committee On The First Special Session of 2020	HR 50	10:00 AM
Joint Committee On The First Special Session of 2020	HR 50	1:00 PM

Senate Third Readings ▾ House Third Readings ▶

Senate Third Reading Alert
Action On Executive Appointments Requiring Senate Confirmation

House Second Readings ▶
House First Readings ▶

Racquel Rancier, Policy Manager

Lisa Snyder, Administrative Services Division Administrator

Bryn Hudson, Water Policy Analyst – Legislative Coordinator

- **January-Ongoing – WRD meeting with stakeholders**
- **June 5 – LC placeholder information to DAS***
- **October 2 (or 14 days after receipt of LC) – Request one revision**
- **December 18 – Legislative Concept Filing Deadline**

*WRD values input on proposals and will continue to seek and address feedback prior to session.

2020 Legislative Concepts

- **Changes to Right to Store Water**
- **Water Rights Transactions and Dam Safety Fees**
- **Extending Irrigation District Pilot Project**
- **Updating Hydroelectric Fee Structure**
- **Well Construction Program Modernization**
 - **Summaries in Attachment 1**

Hydroelectric Fee Structure

- **Complicated fee structure and anticipated budgetary shortfalls**
- **Propose to:**
 - **Equalize and increase large project fees**
 - **Simplify smaller project fees**
- **Needs further discussion with stakeholders**

Well Construction Program

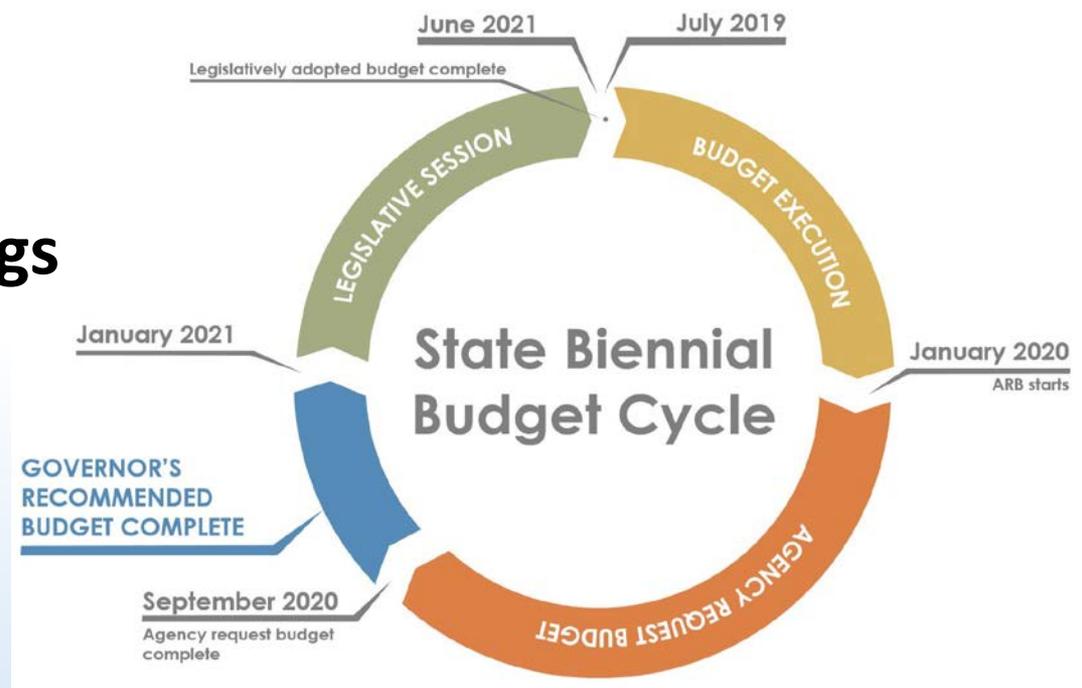
- **Improper well construction or abandonment -> contamination, waste and groundwater level declines**
- **Protect public health & preserve groundwater water supplies**
- **2016 Secretary of State Audit, 2017 Integrated Water Resources Strategy, 2019 Strategic Plan**
- **Lack of resources to inspect all new wells; unaddressed deficiencies**
- **Critical to implement practices to improve the likelihood that wells are properly constructed and maximize limited staff**

Well Construction Proposals

- **Maximize limited staff and increase accuracy of data on start cards and well logs**
- **Plan inspection workloads / inspections at seal placement**
- **Training and driller knowledge to reduce well deficiencies**
- **Address driller liability concerns balancing need to protect well owners & the resource with limited staff**
- **Well Abandonment, Repair, & Replacement Funding**
- **Needs further discussion with stakeholders**

2020 Budget Timelines

- **January to May**
 - Obtain feedback
 - Stakeholder meetings
- **May – Early June**
 - Lock numbers
 - Package titles & prioritization
- **July 31 – Final budget document due**



Policy Option Packages

- **14 packages**
- **28 new positions**
- **2 current positions**
- **\$10m general fund**
- **\$110k other fund**
- **\$20.5m Lottery Revenue Bond (plus cost of issuance)**
- **\$31m Total**

Budget Packages: Prioritization

- **Protect public safety and prepare for emergencies: dam safety, drought, floods and climate change**
- **Invest in IT systems to advance the Strategic Plan work, staff productivity and ability to manage water resources**
- **Maintain existing agency services and minimize reductions**
- **Invest in water management and water supply solutions**
- **Support local and regional efforts to address water supply challenges**

2020 Budget Packages

- 1. Increasing resiliency, preparedness, and response**
- 2. Modernizing IT systems and solutions**
- 3. Legal expenses**
- 4. Water right and dam safety program services (see fee LC)**
- 5. Hydroelectric program services (see fee LC)**
- 6. Fiscal and contracting administration**

2020 Budget Packages

- 7. Well construction**
- 8. Supporting water supply solutions: WRDP**
- 9. Water management and distribution services**
- 10. Groundwater studies**
- 11. Deschutes & other complex basin issues**
- 12. Harney Basin CREP**
- 13. Willamette Basin Reallocation**
- 14. Audit compliance**

OREGON



WATER RESOURCES
DEPARTMENT