

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WATER

February 7, 2005 Hearing Room 357

1:00 PM Tapes 23 - 24

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Bob Jenson, Chair

Rep. Jerry Krummel, Vice-Chair

Rep. Jackie Dingfelder, Vice-Chair

Rep. Alan Brown

Rep. Billy Dalto

Rep. Carolyn Tomei

MEMBER EXCUSED: Rep. Phil Barnhart

Guest member: Rep. Brad Witt

STAFF PRESENT: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Committee Administrator

Pamella Andersen, Committee Assistant

MEASURES/ISSUES HEARD:

Independent Multidisciplinary Science Team (IMST) Operations

- Informational Meeting

These minutes are in compliance with Senate and House Rules. Only text enclosed in quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words. For complete contents, please refer to the tapes.

TAPE/#	Speaker	Comments
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TAPE 23, A

004	Chair Jenson	Calls the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m. Opens the informational meeting on the Independent Multidisciplinary Science Team (IMST) operations.
008	Sandy Thiele-Cirka	Administrator. Notes IMST statute and list of natural resource acronyms. Mentions field trip on Wednesday, February 9, 2005.

independent multidisciplinary science team (IMST) operations - informational meeting

024	Brendan McCarthy	Deputy Counsel, Legislative Counsel Office. Provides history of the creation of the IMST to help implement the Oregon Plan.
045	Chair Jensen	Invites Rep. Witt to join the committee members.
048	McCarthy	Continues providing history of the IMST.
155	Rep. Krummel	Comments on the authority given to the IMST in ORS 541.409 (3). Questions what IMST can do with their authority.
181	McCarthy	Describes the purpose of the Oregon plan to create a recovery plan for salmon, and the IMST to ensure reporting.
208	Rep. Krummel	Questions whether the IMST is still necessary.
215	Chair Jenson	States that the question should be addressed to the committee.
226	McCarthy	Remarks that the IMST is a very useful part of the plan.
230	Chair Jenson	Explains the IMST's role in the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) proposal to the federal government for the de-listing of the Coastal Coho.
277	Rep. Krummel	Questions whether the IMST should be strengthened to require agencies to give reason or cause to deny an IMST recommendation.

287	Chair Jenson	Explains the intention of the IMST to report to the agency and then to the legislative committee.
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345	McCarthy	Elaborates further on the role of the IMST.
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384	Chair Jenson	Explains why the National Academy of Science is part of the IMST.
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TAPE 24, A

032	Jim Myron	Policy Advisor, Governor's Natural Resources Office. Describes the IMST's membership and duties. Mentions Governor's recommended budget proposal to increase funding for the IMST.
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095	Myron	Addresses the Coastal Coho assessment.
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115	Chair Jenson	Provides additional explanation of Coho recovery.
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135	Myron	Reports on the projects of the IMST.
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151	Rep. Dingfelder	Questions how the work plan is set for the IMST.
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188	Myron	Explains how the IMST creates an annual work plan.
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212	Chair Jenson	Inquires about the choice of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) as a reference for independent science boards.
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230	Jeannette Holman	Department of State Lands. Member of Legislative Counsel at the time the bill was drafted. Reiterates that the NAS was chosen for their status and intensive peer review, and their independence from other interested parties.
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265	Rep. Dingfelder	Questions whether Washington state has a similar team for Salmon recovery or if Oregon modeled another state. Inquires if Oregon has looked at other states' legislation.
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281	Holman	Responds that Washington state's plan was implemented after the Oregon Plan. States that that there were no other states with similar provisions at the time the Oregon Plan was implemented.
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298	Chair Jenson	
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Questions if Oregon was on the cutting edge. Provides history on the progression toward the Oregon Plan.

300	Holman	Believes Oregon was cutting edge, as there were no other models to review.
330	Rep. Dingfelder	Notes that the Watershed Health Program was the first. Questions whether funds were federal or state.
338	Holman	Responds that funds were from the state.
343	Chair Jenson	Addresses the issue of compensation for the IMST members that are from Oregon State University (OSU).
379	Thiele-Cirka	Reviews the current compensation for OSU professors and scientists on the IMST.
415	Chair Jenson	Offers clarifying statements on salaries for IMST members.
448	Thiele-Cirka	Comments on the 2003-05 budget IMST funding.

TAPE 23, B

005	Rep. Dingfelder	Inquires about the total amount in the Governor's proposed budget, and Measure 66 and federal money.
010	Thiele-Cirka	Relates the total amount in the proposed budget, and explains where the funds comes from.
031	Rep. Krummel	Questions how many hours contract IMST members spend on this project.
035	Chair Jenson	Responds that that information is not available at this meeting.
052	Katie Fast	Oregon Farm Bureau (OFB). Submits written testimony (Exhibit a) and testifies on the water temperature standard report from IMST.
065	Chair Jenson	States that the legislative committee is responsible for the neglect of the oversight committee.

070	Fast	Continues addressing concerns with the water temperature standard report.
086	Rep. Dingfelder	Inquires who sets temperature standards.
088	Fast	Responds that temperature standards are set by the Department of Environmental Quality and the federal Environment Protection Agency. Provides information on the temperature standard report.
111	Fast	Continues discussion of the interim workgroup on the IMST. Lists recommendations of the workgroup. Reviews the changes that have been made since the recommendations were developed.
162	Rep. Tomei	Seeks clarification on the recommendations that remove part of the law.
166	Fast	States that some recommendations went beyond the statutory framework. Addresses OFB concerns with the IMST.
203	Rep. Tomei	Requests an example of policy recommendations made by the IMST.
208	Fast	Offers an example in the temperature report. Continues to address concerns with the IMST recommendations.
241	Rep. Krummel	Comments on the changes OFB recommends, as opposed to OFB suggesting the IMST has become obsolete.
250	Fast	Responds that the IMST needs to provide scientific review.
264	Pat Larsen	Science and Natural Resource Advisor, Oregon Cattlemen's Association (OCA). Submits written testimony (Exhibit c) and addresses concerns with the IMST temperature report. Offers recommendations.

TAPE 24, B

010	Chris Jarmer	Oregon Forest Industries Council (OFIC). Comments on science, policy, and data interpretation. Offers examples of interpreting data.
038	Rep. Tomei	Questions how temperature is measured before harvest.

040	Jarmer	Explains how temperature is measured. Offers recommendations to help IMST be more effective. Reiterates the importance of the Coastal Coho salmon report.
088	Chair Jenson	Comments on the liability of a science report, and conflicting science.
130	Rep. Dingfelder	Comments on the role of the legislature to make policy decisions when they are not scientists. Questions whether policies have been strongly influenced by the IMST.
160	Jarmer	Responds that it is difficult to provide useful information and not make policy recommendations, as well. Comments on the decisions and recommendations of the IMST regarding the temperature report.
184	Chair Jenson	States that the report was constructed to answer questions from policy makers who may not have framed the question correctly. Addresses minority reports and conflicting science.
265	Chair Jenson	Closes the informational meeting. Adjourns the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

- A. IMST, written testimony, Katie Fast, 3 pp
- B. IMST, written testimony, Pat Larsen, 4 pp