

JOINT COMMITTEE ON STREAM RESTORATION
AND SPECIES RECOVERY

January 22, 1999 Hearing Room 50

9:00 a.m. Tapes 3 - 5

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sen. Ted Ferrioli, Co-Chair

Rep. Ken Messerle, Co-Chair

Sen. Ginny Burdick, Vice-Chair

Sen. Joan Dukes

Sen. David Nelson

Sen. Veral Tarno

Rep. Bob Jenson, Vice-Chair

Rep. Al King

Rep. Jeff Kruse

Rep. Randy Leonard

Rep. Lynn Lundquist

Rep. Susan Morgan

Rep. Bruce Starr

Rep. Terry Thompson

STAFF PRESENT: Judith Callens, Administrator

Stephen Kosiewicz, Administrative Support

MEASURE/ISSUES HEARD: Governor's Watershed Enhancement Board Background

Oregon Plan History

Measure 66 Discussion

Department of Fish and Wildlife Funding Shortfall

TAPE/#	Speaker	Comments
TAPE 3, A		
004	Chair Ferrioli	Calls the committee to order at 9:11 a.m. Announces that Rep. Kruse is excused for the first part of the meeting due to legislative business.
<u>GOVERNOR'S WATERSHED ENHANCEMENT BOARD BACKGROUND</u>		
012	Ken Bierly	Program Manager, Governor's Watershed Enhancement Board (GWEB). Submits written material (EXHIBIT A) and begins testimony on GWEB's background: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created in 1987 • Board and advisory committees membership
055	Bierly	Continues GWEB overview [testimony inaudible at times]: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staffing history of GWEB • Funding history of GWEB • Establishment of the Oregon Watershed Health Program by the 1993 Legislature
096	Bierly	Discusses the changes that took place in 1995 that affected GWEB [testimony inaudible at times].
123	Bierly	Discusses the changes that took place in 1997 that affected GWEB [testimony inaudible at times].
181	Bierly	Continues discussing the changes that took place in 1997 that affected GWEB [testimony inaudible at times].
235	Bierly	Continues testimony by discussing the allocation of funds for the 1997-99 biennium [testimony inaudible at times].
284	Bierly	Continues testimony by discussing the upcoming work that the Board is going to do [testimony inaudible at times].
332	Chair Ferrioli	Explains that GWEB started out as a notion that there ought to be a mechanism for improving, enhancing, or encouraging people to do watershed management.
378	Rep. Messerle	Expresses his concern with the funding associated with Measure 66 and the workload that GWEB faces. Asks Mr. Bierly if he has any ideas as to what this committee should be looking at over the next few months.

391	Bierly	[Response inaudible]
TAPE 4, A		
017	Chair Ferrioli	Comments that GWEB has been able to empower citizens at the ground level because of its small size, and that as it has been forced to grow because of the needs of the Oregon Plan, they've expanded the processes to almost the breaking point.
034	Bierly	Comments that one of the elements that has been valuable in the discussions held by the Board has been the interplay of federal land management agencies and private land managers [comments inaudible at times].
051	Sen. Nelson	Asks how they measure their success rate.
058	Bierly	Responds that they have struggled very hard with how you rate success in looking at watershed restoration.
082	Sen. Nelson	Comments that there are a lot of healthy things going on within the Willamette watershed.
089	Bierly	Comments that he has been very impressed with the amount of knowledge and understanding private landowners bring to discussions [comments inaudible at times].
101	Chair Ferrioli	Comments that the issue is how are they trying to accomplish.
126	Rep. Leonard	Asks for clarification that the Pudding Creek is the major source of contaminants in the Willamette.
130	Bierly	Responds that he doesn't think this is an accurate statement.
138	Rep. Leonard	Asks for clarification that the source of the contaminants in Pudding Creek is known.
144	Bierly	Responds that most of the contaminants come from agriculture.
146	Rep. Leonard	Comments on a program started in the early '70s that bought up property along the Willamette and its tributaries for the purpose of making a barrier to eliminate sources of pollution, and asks for clarification that this law was repealed around 1975 or 1977.
158	Bierly	Comments on his understanding of this program [comments inaudible at times].

169	Rep. Leonard	States that he has heard a lot of talk about cooperation and planning, but wonders when they are going to deal with the known sources of contaminants.
188	Chair Ferrioli	Comments that what he is hearing is a concern about the Willamette water quality and point-source pollution, and that the committee needs to make some decisions about how the Willamette is handled.
214	Rep. Messerle	Comments on the agencies that will be coming before the committee in the next few meetings and commends Mr. Bierly for his efforts to work with the committee during the interim.
<u>OREGON PLAN HISTORY</u>		
238	Jay Nicholas	Oregon Plan Project Leader, Governor's Natural Resources Office. Submits written material (EXHIBIT B) and begins testimony on the chronological history of the Oregon Plan.
292	Nicholas	Continues reviewing the history of the Oregon Plan
342	Nicholas	Continues reviewing the history of the Oregon Plan.
TAPE 3, B		
015	Chair Ferrioli	Comments on how the Legislature reacted to the Oregon Plan legislation during the 1997 Session.
036	Rep. Messerle	Asks Mr. Nicholas what he sees as committee priorities this session.
043	Nicholas	Responds that what they are trying to achieve with the Oregon Plan is that they want it allóhealthy watersheds, vibrant self-sustaining natural populationsóand they want the same thing for the human communities, which is not going to be easy.
069	Rep. Messerle	Comments that the committee needs some guidelines as to where they should be putting special emphasis. Comments on the impact the listing has had in his district.
088	Rep. Leonard	Asks what specifically the 1999 Legislature can do to improve water quality and conditions for salmon to return. Comments on the factors that affect fish populations.
103	Chair Ferrioli	Explains that the committee will be hearing presentations about predation, water quality, temperature standards, and point and non-point source pollution at a later date.

109	Nicholas	Responds that providing economic incentives for landowners, streamlining the permit process, and increasing the funding for the Independent Multidisciplinary Science Team (IMST) are ways the Legislature can help.
138	Chair Ferrioli	Comments that the challenge is developing appropriate solutions to the problems, and suggests that the committee receive a copy of the Executive Summary of the Oregon Plan and a copy of National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) proposal for revisions to the Oregon Forest Practices Act.
156	Rep. King	Comments that he would like to know which groups need to cooperate more in the Oregon Plan process and which groups, who they want at the table, have walked away.
166	Chair Ferrioli	Suggests that the committee have a presentation from the Healthy Streams Partnership (HSP) to find out who those people are.
174	Sen. Nelson	Asks for clarification on the number of miles of stream in Oregon.
179	Nicholas	Responds that it depends on the size of the stream you're talking about.
186	Sen. Nelson	Comments on the magnitude of the problem if you look at the entire state as a watershed.
191	Sen. Burdick	Comments that when the Legislature approved the Oregon Plan in 1997 there was funding that was contingent on not having a listing, and asks Mr. Nicholas to explain the funding history of the Oregon Plan.
198	Nicholas	Responds that he is not the best person to explain the funding element of the Oregon Plan.
207	Sen. Burdick	Asks if there was a listing hanging over their head when they started work on the Oregon Plan back in 1995.
214	Nicholas	Responds there was a listing.
227	Chair Ferrioli	States that there is a lot more history to be discussed. Explains the origin of the funding for some of the Oregon Plan.
249	Rep. Messerle	Asks where the habitat water quality factor rate along with all of the factors that are involved in what happened to the fisheries resource.
266	Nicholas	Responds that he doesn't have a percentage figure. Provides background information on how he views this problem.

308	Rep. Messerle	States that he would like more specific information from Mr. Nicholas on this issue. Comments that the perception is that they can't do anything about the ocean, and he would like to pursue this.
325	Chair Ferrioli	Asks Mr. Nicholas to see that the committee members receive copies of NMFS's proposal for revisions to the Oregon Forest Practices Act.
<u>DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE FUNDING SHORTFALL</u>		
339	Jim Greer	Director, Department of Fish and Wildlife. Submits written material (EXHIBIT C) and begins testimony on ODFW's funding shortfall [testimony inaudible at times].
384	Greer	Continues testimony on ODFW's funding shortfall [testimony inaudible at times].
TAPE 4, B		
005	Greer	Continues discussing the funding shortfall [testimony inaudible at times].
040	Greer	Continues testimony by discussing how ODFW is addressing the funding shortfall [testimony inaudible at times]: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in General Fund appropriation • License fee increases
093	Rep. Lundquist	Asks if there are societal influences affecting the decline in licenses, which the Legislature is not going to have control over.
102	Greer	Responds that there are, and that a lot of other states are facing the same problem Oregon is.
134	Rep. Lundquist	Explains the reason for his question.
138	Chair Ferrioli	Explains that they will hear the Measure 66 presentation at a later meeting date.
144	Rep. Kruse	Asks Mr. Greer to show the committee where the reductions in FTE have taken place in ODFW.
163	Greer	Responds that he can show specifically where they've dropped 200 FTE over the last six years. Gives a few examples.
177	Rep. Kruse	Comments that he didn't want the committee getting the impression that it is an agency reduction, but that it is more of a redirection of mission.

183	Chair Ferrioli	Comments that ODFW has gathered feedback about a fee increase as opposed to cutting essential services, and the committee needs to interact with these people to get their direction as well.
191	Rep. Jenson	Asks if they have any assessment or evaluation of the point of diminishing return in terms of fee increases.
195	Greer	Responds that they have done some analysis of what the affect of the fee increase will be on the total number of sales.
216	Rep. Jenson	Asks what the relation is between the number of cougar tags issued and the number of animals taken since they lowered the price of the tag.
223	Greer	Responds that prior to Measure 18 they were harvesting an average of 160 cougars statewide, and that after Measure 18 passed this average dropped in the first year to about 37.
246	Rep. Jenson	Asks for clarification that there is potentially a significant cost increase for ODFW.
249	Greer	Responds that they've asked for a package of five FTE and \$.5 million to focus on bear and cougar activities around the state in this biennium's budget.
255	Rep. King	Comments that he is interested in seeing some modifications in some hunting licenses.
273	Greer	Comments that they are already getting a number of complaints about how much of the calendar the hunting seasons consume.
278	Rep. King	Clarifies that he was not suggesting new seasons.
280	Greer	Comments that they do have in place a higher quality one-time hunt.
302	Chair Ferrioli	Suggests that they bring in some elk hunters on this issue.
312	Rep. Messerle	Asks Mr. Greer what he thinks the committee should focus on.
322	Greer	Responds that they should be focusing on accountability, the core areas that have good populations and those that have bad populations, and getting information out on the successes.
372	Rep. Messerle	Comments that Mr. Greer responded mostly to the issue of habitat, and that he wants to know how important of a factor habitat is.

383	Greer	Comments that predation is also a volatile issue, and that they need to focus on what are the factors affecting the salmonid species.
399	Rep. Leonard	Asks Mr. Greer if they have considered doing something different with their license system to make it easier for people to get and renew a license. Suggests they do renewal by mail similar to what DMV does.
TAPE 5, A		
014	Greer	Responds that they have considered making their license system easier [testimony inaudible at times].
024	Rep. Leonard	Repeats his suggestion that they do license renewal by mail.
027	Greer	States that the primary concern they have is the auditing of those license funds.
030	Rep. Leonard	Suggests they notify those who are licensed this year of when their license expires, and offer them the opportunity to renew by mail.
036	Chair Ferrioli	Confirms that this is a good suggestion. Suggests that ODFW's new marketing specialist look into this suggestion.
040	Sen. Nelson	Comments that he has heard that some of the problems that ODFW is experiencing are due to policy decisions coming from the commission level.
059	Chair Ferrioli	States that the next meeting will be Tuesday, January 26 at 4:30 p.m. Adjourns the committee at 11:04 a.m.

Submitted By, Reviewed By,

Stephen Kosiewicz, Judith Callens,
Administrative Support Administrator

EXHIBIT SUMMARY

A ñ Governor's Watershed Enhancement Board background, written material, Ken Bierly, 42 pp.

B ñ Oregon Plan history, written material, Jay Nicholas, 34 pp.

C ñ Department of Fish and Wildlife funding shortfall, written material, Jim Greer, 9 pp.