

COIN Legislative Session Worksheet for 2025

Bill Number and Title: [HB 2984](#) - Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund

Brief Description of Bill: HB 2984 appropriates \$1.5 million to ODFW for deposit in the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund (OCRF) for projects that "relate to water" and protect, maintain or enhance fish and wildlife resources. OCRF is overseen by an advisory committee and serves as a grant fund for projects that further the Oregon Conservation Strategy. In 2022, the legislature appropriated \$5 million to OCRF as part of the drought resilience package; the OCRF has been effective in spending down those funds on meaningful projects and this bill will help maintain that momentum. ODFW would receive a one-time appropriation of \$1.5 million General Fund for the 2025-27 biennium, deposited into the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund. Approximately \$1.4 million would be distributed through a competitive grant program with an estimated \$99,100 for administrative costs, including project planning and management, requests for proposals, technical reviews, and grant administration. The measure declares an emergency and takes effect on passage.

Recommendation: Endorse

Name of Point Person who completed this form: Monica Tomosy

Email address if you are willing to be contacted with questions about this bill:
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Last Updated: March 1

1. Research topic – choose which category best fits your bill:

☒ Climate, Energy Environment

☐ Campaign Finance Reform

☐ Healthcare/Gun Safety

☐ Transportation

☐ Criminal Justice

☐ Other describe:

☐ Housing/Houselessness

☐ Immigration/Social Justice

☐ Education

☐ Economics

☐ Gun Safety

2. The bill's Chief Sponsors: Helms, Owens

Regular Sponsors:

3. The bill's legislative opponents: probably GOP people who are just anti-investing in the public good.

4. What advocacy groups are supporting this bill and why are they supporting it? Provide contact information if available. (maximum 200 words). Many conservation NGOs have submitted supportive testimony. Many Oregon landscapes, where water supply and water storage are essential elements of functional ecosystems need restoration. Drought resilience is a goal in Oregon. Treating the landscape with restoration will provide multiple benefits to State

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residents, including maintenance of water supply and storage, and minimization of flood and wildfire risk. Given the responsibility ODFW has, to ensure endemic species are not extirpated, the priority species and habitats have been identified in the Oregon Conservation Strategy. Many of these species are in trouble due to landscapes whose hydrological processes were degraded. Techniques to restore the composition and function of these areas have been proven effective. However, the extent of the need is so great that the State funding for such projects has not been adequate to meet the demand.

5. What groups are opposing this bill and why are they opposing it? (maximum 200 words)

Not seeing any listed in OLIS.

6. Reasons COIN should take a position on this bill. Choose all that apply:

☒ Progressive groups across the state care strongly about this.

☐ This Bill protects or expands the rights of marginalized populations.

☐ This bill helps change the structures of the democratic system to make it work better.

☒ This issue is controlled by the state or states have a great deal of power in it.

☐ Other

7. What is the likelihood this bill will pass?

Good, unless effective opposition shows up later.

8. List the relevant dates concerning the bill(s)-(scheduled committee hearings, votes, lobby days, other scheduled advocacy, phone banks, post-card parties, etc).

No Hearings scheduled at this time.

9. Please list any specific advocacy action you would like COIN to help with, any media contacts that may be helpful or any other important information?

COIN to support this bill, track it, and testify/submit testimony if a hearing is held.