

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

April 23, 2025

Agenda Item: 3b

Information

Public Comment Allowed: Yes

Topic: Legislative Update

Presented by: Katie Gauthier, Government Relations Manager

Background:

The 2025 legislative session continues to move forward toward an anticipated sine die by the end of June. At the end of March, the first deadline in the session reduced the number of bills that are still active. So far, it has been a busy session for OPRD.

Below is a summary of the status of legislation we are tracking that has the potential to impact the agency.

The following legislation was introduced on behalf of the agency:

[HB 2922A](#)- Employee Address Disclosure allows OPRD park rangers and park managers to participate in an existing program within DMV that allows them to exchange their home address with their office address within the DMV system if they choose. It has passed the House and is waiting for a hearing in the Senate Rules Committee.

[HB 2925A](#)- Ocean Shore Permitting aligns the OPRD permitting process with Department of State Lands by extending our timelines and adding more flexibility in the process to allow staff to work with applicants. It will also create a new category of permit for smaller less complicated projects and allow the agency to set fees in rule. It passed the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee and is in Ways and Means Committee, because it included rules around fees.

[SB 838A](#)- Procurement Exemption, exempts OPRD from procurement and printing requirements of other state executive branch agencies. OPRD would develop procurement processes and procedures similar to other exempt agencies like Travel Oregon, Oregon Lottery, or Oregon Travel Information Council. This bill passed the Senate unanimously and is in the House Emergency Management, General Government and Veterans Committee.

Other legislation we are tracking:

[HB 2232](#) transfers rulemaking authority for ATV sound levels from DEQ and certain off-road equipment from ODOT to OPRD. This bill was signed by the Governor on March 19 and included an emergency clause, so it is effective now.

[HB 3122](#) directs OPRD to enter into negotiations with the BLM over establishing a fee for use of the road at Lake Owyhee Reservoir. The bill calls for us to work with county and road district, along with the federal agencies to set the fee and plan for road maintenance and infrastructure needs. This bill had a hearing in the Joint Transportation committee. The sponsor agreed to amend the bill to create a workgroup with OPRD as a participant. The bill is unlikely to move forward in its current form but may be amended to include these changes.

[HB 3190A](#) reauthorizes the special assessment for historic properties program but limits it to commercial properties. This bill passed out of the House Revenue committee and is waiting for a vote in the full House.

[HB 3209](#) increases RV registration fees and creates a fund for disposal of abandoned RVs. This bill had a hearing in the Joint Transportation Committee.

[SB 179](#) makes recreational immunity changes approved during the 2024 session permanent. Without legislation those changes would sunset. This bill passed the Senate unanimously and is waiting for action in the House Judiciary Committee.

[SB 565A](#) was amended to require OPRD study financial sustainability and revenue and report back to the legislature in February 2026. The bill also transfers landscaping and maintenance responsibilities for the capitol mall back to DAS. This bill passed out of the Senate Natural Resources Committee and is in Ways & Means Committee.

[SB 929A](#) would appropriate \$100,000 in general fund and require the agency to dedicate \$1 million in lottery funding for the Oregon Coast Trail. This bill passed out of the Senate Energy and Environment Committee and is in Ways and Means.

Legislation we were tracking that did not make the initial deadline and will not move forward includes:

[HB 2137](#) would require the agency provide free day use to all Oregonians, funded by a voluntary contribution of an additional \$38 when registering a vehicle. It did not receive a hearing.

[SB 378](#) directs the state parks and recreation commission to adopt rules authorizing any Oregon resident over 65 to have free camping and day use access to state parks. It did not receive a hearing.

Prior Action by Commission: The Commission approved moving forward with 2025 Legislative Concepts in April 2024.

Action Requested: none

Attachments: none

Prepared by: Katie Gauthier