

conditions of federal, state or local permits for the project. [2013 c.784 §11]

Note: See note under 541.651.

541.685 [1985 c.545 §5; renumbered 196.765 and then 196.900 in 1989]

541.686 Protection of project water dedicated to in-stream use. If a project dedicates water to in-stream use under the requirements described in ORS 541.681 or as allowed under ORS 541.683, the Water Resources Department shall protect the dedicated water in-stream consistent with the priority of the dedicated water source. Dedicated water from projects may come from newly developed water or from other sources and may be put in-stream at other locations in the tributary if the department determines as provided under ORS 540.530 that the alternate location would not injure existing water rights and, in consultation with the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, determines that the alternate location would provide greater or equal environmental benefit. The Water Resources Department, in consultation with the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, shall determine the timing of the flows to maximize in-stream benefits in a manner consistent with public health and safety. [2013 c.784 §12]

Note: See note under 541.651.

541.689 Projects requiring determination of seasonally varying flows; methodology. (1) The Water Resources Department shall make a determination as provided under subsection (2) of this section if an application for a loan or grant from the Water Supply Development Account is for a project that requires a water storage or aquifer recharge permit or limited license for the storage of water outside of the official irrigation season and:

(a) Impounds surface water on a perennial stream;

(b) Diverts water from a stream that supports state or federally listed sensitive, threatened or endangered fish species; or

(c) Diverts more than 500 acre-feet of surface water annually.

(2) The department shall review a completed application for a project described in subsection (1) of this section to determine whether the applicable seasonally varying flows have been established under this section for the stream of interest. If the department determines that the applicable seasonally varying flows have not previously been established, the department shall establish the seasonally varying flows before issuing a loan or grant from the account. The department may use account moneys to pay the cost of establishing a seasonally varying

flow and to pay other costs directly related to project development.

(3) The Water Resources Department shall establish any seasonally varying flows under subsection (2) of this section in consultation with the State Department of Fish and Wildlife and any affected Indian tribes. The Water Resources Department may rely upon existing scientific data and analysis or may fund new data and analysis. The Water Resources Department shall establish seasonally varying flows using a methodology established by Water Resources Commission rules.

(4) If the department establishes applicable seasonally varying flows for the stream of interest, the department shall make the seasonally varying flows a condition of:

(a) The new or existing water storage or aquifer recharge permit or limited license for the storage of water issued for any project described in subsection (1) of this section that receives a loan or grant from the account; and

(b) The new or existing water storage or aquifer recharge permit or limited license for the storage of water issued for any subsequent project that:

(A) Receives a loan or grant from the account;

(B) Is for the storage of water outside of the official irrigation season; and

(C) Has a diversion point that is subject to seasonally varying flows.

(5) The applicant for or holder of a permit or license described in subsection (4)(b) of this section may request that the applicable seasonally varying flows established under subsection (2) of this section for the stream of interest be altered based upon new information. There is, however, a rebuttable presumption that existing applicable seasonally varying flows protect and maintain the biological, ecological and physical functions of the stream to the extent required by commission rules.

(6) The department shall condition a water storage permit and resulting certificate, aquifer recharge permit and resulting certificate or limited license for a project that receives a grant or loan from the account and meets the other conditions described in subsection (4) of this section to protect the seasonally varying flow in effect at the time the loan or grant is issued for the project.

(7) For purposes of any project that receives a loan or grant from the account and meets the other conditions described in subsection (4) of this section, the department shall use a seasonally varying flow methodology provided by commission rules in lieu