

Note: See note under 541.890.

541.940 Parks and Natural Resources Fund.

(1) There is established in the State Treasury, separate and distinct from the General Fund, the Parks and Natural Resources Fund to be administered by the Oregon Department of Administrative Services. All moneys transferred from the State Lottery Fund and all other moneys authorized to be transferred to the Parks and Natural Resources Fund from whatever source are appropriated continuously for the public purposes of restoring and protecting Oregon's parks, beaches, watersheds and native fish and wildlife habitats. Fifteen percent of the net proceeds from the Oregon State Lottery shall be deposited in the Parks and Natural Resources Fund created under this subsection.

(2) The Legislative Assembly may not limit expenditures from the Parks and Natural Resources Fund. The Legislative Assembly may appropriate other moneys or revenues to the Parks and Natural Resources Fund. [Formerly 541.377]

Note: See note under 541.890.

541.942 Natural Resources Subaccount.

(1) Of the moneys deposited into the Parks and Natural Resources Fund created under ORS 541.940 from the Oregon State Lottery, 50 percent shall be deposited into a Natural Resources Subaccount for the public purpose of financing the restoration and protection of native fish and wildlife, watersheds and water quality in Oregon. The State Treasurer may invest and reinvest the moneys in the Natural Resources Subaccount as provided in ORS 293.701 to 293.857.

(2) Moneys in the Natural Resources Subaccount shall be used to accomplish each of the following:

(a) Protecting and improving water quality in the rivers, lakes and streams of this state by restoring natural watershed functions or stream flows;

(b) Securing long-term protection for lands and waters that provide significant habitats for native fish and wildlife;

(c) Restoring and maintaining habitat needed to sustain healthy and resilient populations of native fish and wildlife;

(d) Maintaining the diversity of plants, animals and ecosystems in this state;

(e) Involving people in voluntary actions to protect, restore and maintain the ecological health of lands and waters in this state; and

(f) Remedying the conditions that limit the health of fish and wildlife, fish and wildlife habitats and watershed functions that are in the greatest need of conservation.

(3) Except as provided in subsections (4) and (5) of this section, of the moneys deposited into the Natural Resources Subaccount from the Oregon State Lottery:

(a) Sixty-five percent of the moneys shall be deposited into the Watershed Conservation Grant Fund established under ORS 541.947 to be used by the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board for the purposes set forth in ORS 541.956; and

(b) Thirty-five percent of the moneys shall be deposited into the Watershed Conservation Operating Fund established under ORS 541.945.

(4) If the amount transferred from the Oregon State Lottery to the Parks and Natural Resources Fund during a biennium is more than 150 percent of the amount that was transferred during the 2009-2011 biennium, except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, the State Treasurer shall, during the next following biennium, deposit from the Natural Resources Subaccount to the Watershed Conservation Grant Fund the amount described in subsection (3)(a) of this section plus an amount equal to the difference between the amount deposited from the subaccount to the Watershed Conservation Grant Fund during the preceding biennium and 70 percent of the moneys received by the subaccount from the Oregon State Lottery during the preceding biennium.

(5) The requirements in subsections (3) and (4) of this section apply only for biennia in which the Legislative Assembly does not require a greater percentage of the Natural Resources Subaccount moneys to be deposited into the Watershed Conservation Grant Fund. The Legislative Assembly may not authorize the percentage of Natural Resources Subaccount moneys deposited into the Watershed Conservation Grant Fund in a biennium to be less than the percentage required to be deposited under subsections (3) and (4) of this section. [2011 c.643 §9]

Note: See note under 541.890.

541.945 Watershed Conservation Operating Fund; purposes.

(1) The Watershed Conservation Operating Fund is established in the State Treasury separate and distinct from the General Fund. The Watershed Conservation Operating Fund shall consist of all moneys placed in the fund as provided by law. The purpose of the fund is to carry out activities that support all of the purposes described in ORS 541.942. Moneys in the Watershed Conservation Operating Fund shall be used for each of the following:

(a) To develop, implement or update state conservation strategies or plans to protect or restore native fish or wildlife habitats or to protect or restore natural watershed or