

**549.620 Acquisition of property.** The Water Resources Commission may acquire property, as defined in ORS 35.550 (1), by purchase, donation or condemnation in the manner provided in ORS 35.550 to 35.575, when necessary to carry out the duties assigned it by ORS 549.610. [1957 c.466 §4]

**549.625 Powers of commission with respect to acquired property.** As to any property acquired pursuant to ORS 549.605 to 549.645, the Water Resources Commission may sell, donate, exchange or lease it or grant easements thereon, on terms which are beneficial to the state and meet all federal flood control project requirements; and the commission, or one or more of its members or employees designated by the commission to represent it, may execute and deliver, in the name of the State of Oregon, a lease, deed or other instrument of conveyance of such property. These leases, deeds and instruments may contain such reservations as the commission deems necessary to protect the interests of the state in flood control. [1957 c.466 §5]

**549.630 Operation and maintenance of projects.** After the completion of a flood control project or a portion thereof and, in the case of projects constructed by the federal government, after such project or a useful portion thereof has been turned over to the state by the federal government, such projects may be operated and maintained by the Water Resources Commission for the primary purpose of flood control; or, when the commission deems such action to be in the public interest, the commission may enter into agreements with public or quasi-public bodies and other persons to operate and maintain such projects. [1957 c.466 §6]

**549.635 Agreements for joint participation or aid.** The Water Resources Commission may enter into agreements with the federal government, public and quasi-public bodies, including but not limited to drainage and irrigation districts organized under the laws of Oregon, water control districts and subdistricts formed under ORS chapter 553 and district improvement companies formed under ORS chapter 554, and other persons for the purpose of participating jointly with such bodies or persons in federal flood control projects or aiding such bodies or persons in meeting obligations imposed upon them in connection with federal flood control project agreements. The commission shall not aid or agree to aid any public or quasi-public body or person unless such body or person is meeting satisfactorily or to the best of its ability all obligations imposed upon it under such agreements. [1957 c.466 §7]

**549.640 Disposition of moneys received by commission.** Except as provided in ORS 536.500, all moneys received by the Water Resources Commission under the provisions of ORS 549.605 to 549.645, including any allotment of moneys from the federal government to reimburse the state for expenditures made in connection with a flood control project, shall be turned over to the State Treasurer to be placed in the State Treasury to the credit of the General Fund. [1957 c.466 §8]

**549.645 Waiver of state's immunity to suit or action.** Except upon contracts providing for arbitration under the provisions of ORS 36.600 to 36.740, a suit or action may be maintained against the State of Oregon through and in the name of the Water Resources Commission for an injury to the rights of the plaintiff arising from some act or omission attributable to the Water Resources Commission acting as authorized by ORS 549.605 to 549.645. [1957 c.466 §9; 2003 c.598 §46]

#### POWERS OF CERTAIN COUNTIES WITH RESPECT TO WATER CONSERVATION AND FLOOD CONTROL

**549.710 Powers of counties with populations in excess of 50,000.** In any county having a population in excess of 50,000, according to the latest federal decennial census, the county court or board of county commissioners may:

(1) Carry out surveys and plan and engage in projects relating to water conservation and flood control.

(2) Contract and cooperate with federal and state agencies, with other counties and with other public corporations in making surveys and planning and engaging in projects relating to water conservation and flood control.

(3) Provide lands and rights of way, operate and maintain flood control projects and do such other things as are necessary for county participation in federal flood control and water conservation projects.

(4) Remove or destroy drifts and drifting material in rivers and streams or on land that has been flooded. [1957 c.296 §1]

**549.720 Procedure for removing or destroying drifts and drifting materials.** When removing or destroying drifts or drifting material in rivers or streams or on land that has been flooded the county shall:

(1) Have the right to enter upon any land for purposes of inspection, removal and destruction of drifts and drifting material.

(2) Give reasonable notice to owners of salvable material that the county has sal-