

Department of Agriculture 635 Capitol St NE Salem, OR 97301-2532



August 27, 2018

The Honorable Senator Peter Courtney, Co-Chair The Honorable Representative Tina Kotek, Co-Chair State Emergency Board 900 Court Street NE H-178 State Capitol Salem, OR 97301-4048

Dear Co-Chairpersons:

Nature of the Request

The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) requests permission to appear before the September meeting of the Emergency Board for the purpose of requesting additional Lottery Funds limitation for ongoing Japanese beetle eradication efforts.

Agency Action/Background

During the 2016 invasive pests trapping season, the ODA trapped a record number of Japanese beetle in the Cedar Mill and Bethany neighborhoods in NW Portland. Early in the 2017 legislative session, ODA received \$801,380 constitutionally dedicated Lottery Funds for the 2015-17 biennium to begin a five-year eradication effort. An additional \$1,113,115 in constitutionally dedicated Lottery Funds was included in the ODA budget for 2017-19 for continuing eradication costs.

During the 2017 eradication project, an increasing number of beetles were trapped in the treatment area, and additionally they were found in areas surrounding the initial treatment area, as well as in traps at the Portland airport, Swan Island, and in Douglas County. The increased treatment areas, coupled with higher than anticipated costs to maintain the quarantine and dispose of green waste in the existing treatment area, required additional resources beyond what was approved in the 2017-19 legislative adopted budget for ODA.

During the 2018 legislative session, ODA's constitutionally dedicated Lottery Funds expenditure limitation was increased by \$846,821 on a one-time basis for the additional costs of eradication. In addition, the Lottery Funds allocation for ODA was increased by \$1,359,653 to pay for any additional eradication efforts as needed, with the expectation that the department would need to request an increase in expenditure limitation from the Emergency Board.

Action Requested

The Department respectfully requests the Emergency Board increase Lottery Funds limitation by \$1,359,653 to cover the costs of ongoing eradication efforts.

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Legislation Affected

Oregon Law 2017, Chapter 562, Section 3

Sincerely,

Alexis M. Taylor, Director

Oregon Department of Agriculture

Attachments:

ODA Japanese Beetle Analysis