



Nick Fish, Commissioner  
Michael Stuhr, P.E., Administrator

1120 SW 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Room 600  
Portland, Oregon 97204-1926  
Information: 503-823-7404  
[www.portlandoregon.gov/water](http://www.portlandoregon.gov/water)



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## IMPACT STATEMENT

**Date:** February 9, 2016

**Council Date:** April 6, 2016

**Legislation Title:** Authorize the Water Bureau to execute a Cost Recovery Agreement for \$24,237 to fund an environmental analysis to renew an easement with the U.S. Forest Service for continued operation of Water Bureau facilities at Bull Run Lake (Ordinance)

**Contact Name:** Liane Davis

**Contact Phone:** 503-823-7487

**Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:**

The Water Bureau seeks to enter into a Cost Recovery Agreement with the U.S. Forest Service to fund the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis required by the U.S. Forest Service to renew the Bull Run Lake easement.

The Water Bureau has operated water storage facilities at Bull Run Lake under U.S. Forest Service special use authorization since 1921. On June 25, 1997, City Council through Ordinance No. 171321 approved a 20-year easement for continued operation of Water Bureau facilities at Bull Run Lake. The easement identifies the water supply from Bull Run Lake as a contingency supply and expires in 2017. Per the terms of the easement the Water Bureau must renew the easement upon expiration in order to continue use of its water storage facilities.

The Water Bureau is negotiating an updated 30-year easement with the U.S. Forest Service for operation of water facilities at Bull Run Lake. The U.S. Forest Service's process to renew an easement includes a new NEPA analysis of potential environmental impacts to Bull Run Lake. The NEPA that informed the current easement was completed in 1995. This agreement will fund an updated NEPA analysis that is required by the U.S. Forest Service in order to renew the Bull Run Lake easement. Pending completion of the NEPA analysis and a successful update of the easement, the Water Bureau plans to return to Council in the future with a separate ordinance to authorize the renewed easement.

**Financial and budgetary impacts:**

Funds will be distributed to the U.S. Forest Service in the total amount of \$24,237. Funding is available in the FY 2015-16 Budget and will be requested in the FY 2016-17 Budget.

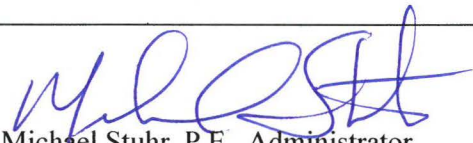
**Community impacts and community involvement:**

An extensive public process accompanied the negotiation and approval of the current easement, including the opportunity for public comment and appeal of the Environmental Assessment. The terms of the original easement signed in 1997 set forth operational limitations for management of Bull Run Lake and mitigation and monitoring requirements. These requirements are not expected to significantly change. The new NEPA process will analyze conditions that have not appreciably changed in the past 20 years. The updates and progress on the mitigation and monitoring measures are included in the Bull Run Quarterly Projects List which is posted on the Water Bureau's website. Planned and actual use of water supply from Bull Run Lake is also updated in the annual Seasonal Water Supply Augmentation and Contingency Plan and related status updates. These documents are also available on the Water Bureau website.

**Budgetary Impact Worksheet****Does this action change appropriations?**

- ☐ YES: Please complete the information below.  
☒ NO: Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount

 Michael Stuhr, P.E., Administrator	3/7/16
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APPROPRIATION UNIT HEAD (Typed name and signature)