

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

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| Action: | Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed |
| Vote: | 8 - 0 - 0 |
| Yeas: | Beyer, Gilliam, Krieger, Roblan, Schaufler, VanOrman, Wingard, Clem |
| Nays: | 0 |
| Exc.: | 0 |
| Prepared By: | Beth Patrino and Cheyenne Ross, Administrators |
| Meeting Dates: | 5/12, 5/28 |

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Permits state Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) to designate up to three lakes as Blue Ribbon Fisheries. Allows Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) to develop such fisheries to provide for recreational angling opportunities such as catch and release, family-oriented fishing, fly fishing, and trophy angling. Prohibits designation of Diamond Lake. Directs Department to report to Legislature no later than October 15, 2010. Directs Department to submit funding request to 76th Legislative Assembly for development and maintenance of Blue Ribbon Fisheries.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Developing Oregon's angling opportunities and reputation as a recreational destination for anglers
- Program's consistency with Department's 25 Year Recreational Angling Enhancement Plan
- Success of similar existing programs

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Makes designation and development of Blue Ribbon Fisheries permissive rather than mandatory and restricts such designation to lakes. Limits number of designations to three and excludes Diamond Lake.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife currently manages select fisheries for "quality" or as "trophy" fisheries, as described in the Trout Management and Warmwater Fish Management Plans adopted by the Fish and Wildlife Commission in the Basin Fish Management Plan. The Department is in the process of implementing actions discussed in its 25-Year Recreational Angling Enhancement Plan. Identified in this plan is the need to increase diversity and quality in Oregon's fisheries, including stall and flowing water trout fisheries.