2009 Regular Legislative Session FISCAL ANALYSIS OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION Prepared by the Oregon Legislative Fiscal Office

MEASURE NUMBER: HB 2579 STATUS: A Engrossed

SUBJECT: Creates Task Force on Lower Columbia River Salmon Harvest Allocation

GOVERNMENT UNIT AFFECTED: Department of Fish and Wildlife and Legislative Assembly

PREPARED BY: John Terpening **REVIEWED BY:** Paul Siebert

DATE: April 28, 2009

EXPENDITURES:

See Analysis

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2009

LOCAL GOVERNMENT MANDATE: This bill does not affect local governments' service levels or shared revenues sufficient to trigger Section 15, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution.

ANALYSIS: The measure creates the twelve-member Task Force on Lower Columbia River Salmon Harvest Allocation. The Task Force is directed to consider and identify recommendations for legislation regarding fishing gear and increased fishing opportunities for commercial and recreational fishing. The Task Force is directed to choose a mediator from the Mark O. Hatfield School of Government to facilitate the meetings and assist the Task Force. The Task Force must submit a report including recommendations to the interim legislative committees related to salmon fishing no later than January 1, 2011. The Department of Fish and Wildlife will provide staff support to the Task Force. Any expenses related to the mediator, or reimbursement of members for expenses for travel, or expenditures for performing functions of the Task Force to be paid by the Department of Fish and Wildlife. The measure states that the Fish and Wildlife Commission shall reduce lower Columbia Salmon allocation between 30% and 40% for calendar years 2011 and 2012 if the Task Force fails to issue a consensus report by the January 1, 2011 deadline.

ODFW estimates expenditures for meeting costs and the mediator from the Mark O. Hatfield School of Government would total \$69,000 in General Fund. ODFW states that five existing staff, four managers and a Supervising Fish and Wildlife Biologist, would be required to provide staff support and meeting preparation for the Task Force equating to total Other Funds expenditures of \$125,190. This redeployment of existing resources would result in other Columbia River Fisheries Management activities being deferred.