

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Measure: SB 736 - A

Seventy-Sixth Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2011 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

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Date: 4-26-2011

Measure Description:

Prohibits gillnet fishing in lower Columbia River except in off-channel fishery enhancement areas specified by rule of State Fish and Wildlife Commission.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Summary of Expenditure Impact:

	2011-13 Biennium	2013-15 Biennium
Department of Fish & Wildlife – Other Funds	\$331,259	\$0

Summary of Revenue Impact: See Analysis

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 prohibits gillnet fishing in the mainstream Columbia River from March 1 through May 31. The measure directs the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to evaluate off-channel fishery enhancement areas in the lower Columbia River specified by rule of the Department. Additionally, the measure directs ODFW to evaluate the possibility of creating an enhancement area in the North Portland Harbor. ODFW is directed to report on the evaluation and any proposals for changes to the enhancement areas to the legislative assembly no later than October 1, 2012. The measure removes the lottery system for vessel permits, and prohibits individuals from renewing a permit if they have not engaged in activities authorized under the permit in the 12 months prior to renewal application.

ODFW anticipates the need for five limited-duration positions, a Natural Resource Specialist 2 and four Experimental Biology Aides, totaling \$124,259 Other Funds to conduct the evaluations required by the measure. ODFW anticipates additional costs of \$207,000 to contract with commercial fishers, and to conduct test fishing, and water quality analysis of the specified areas.

The revenue impact is indeterminate. The number of permits no longer issued as a result of this measure is unknown. Based on a three year average of permit data, ODFW anticipates approximately 132 permits would not be renewed for an estimated loss of \$13,200 Other Funds revenue.