

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by Prior Reference
Vote:	8 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Bailey, Bentz, Boone, Krieger, Thompson, Witt, Cannon, Gilliam
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Liz Puskar, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/29, 4/19

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Establishes Task Force on McKenzie River Subbasin (Task Force), and specifies composition of Task Force membership. Directs Task Force to prepare proposals relating to implementation by State Department of Fish and Wildlife of strategies in Upper Willamette River Conservation and Recovery Plan for Chinook Salmon and Steelhead. Requires Task Force to submit report to Legislative Assembly by October 1, 2012. Establishes McKenzie River Subbasin Fund. Specifies purposes for which Task Force may accept grants and donations for deposit into Fund, and for what purposes moneys in Fund may be used. Sunsets January 2, 2014. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Importance to state economy of fishing industry
- Importance of input from local stakeholders in implementation of recovery plan

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Specifies composition of Task Force on McKenzie River Subbasin. Allows members of Task Force to be reimbursed for travel and other expenses from McKenzie River Subbasin Fund. Specifies purposes for which Task Force may accept grants and donations for deposit into Fund, and for what purposes moneys in Fund may be used.

BACKGROUND: The Upper Willamette River Conservation and Recovery Plan for Chinook Salmon and Steelhead serves as a federal recovery plan for certain fish populations listed within the Endangered Species Act as important for the evolutionary legacy of the species. The Plan also serves as a State of Oregon conservation plan for the same populations within Species Management Units for State of Oregon risk assessment and conservation status of native fish species, which is guided by Oregon's Native Fish Conservation Policy. The Plan is designed to guide implementation of actions needed to conserve and recover these populations by providing an informed, strategic, and voluntary approach.

The Plan is the product of a multi-year process led by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, with extensive participation by the Governor's Natural Resources Office; the Fisheries Service of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; other state, federal, and local agencies; and numerous stakeholders representing a variety of interests.