

REVENUE: Revenue statement issued

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by Prior Reference
Vote:	3 - 1 - 2
Yeas:	Courtney, Hass, Dingfelder
Nays:	Hansell
Exc.:	Bates, Olsen
Prepared By:	Beth Reiley, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Repeals provisions related to taking food fish by fixed fishing gear or seines. Directs State Department of Fish and Wildlife to establish and implement Columbia River fisheries transition program (Program). Establishes Columbia River Fisheries Transition Fund (Fund) and continuously appropriates moneys in Fund to State Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) for purposes of Program to provide grants to assist counties to implement county programs under which: (1) compensation is provided to individuals who hold certain vessel permits and who provide documentation of economic harm resulting from restrictions related to Columbia River fish management and (2) financial assistance is provided to individuals who hold certain vessel permits and who demonstrate history of recent landings to help offset cost to those individuals of fishing equipment required as result of loss of fishing opportunities resulting from restrictions related to Columbia River fish management. Requires counties to have established programs with parameters to compensate or provide financial assistance to individuals, establish county advisory committee to oversee program, and allow all individuals who hold certain vessel permits to participate in county program in order to qualify for grant under Program. Sunsets Program and Fund on January 2, 2019. Establishes Columbia River Fisheries Enhancement Fund (Enhancement Fund) and continuously appropriates moneys in Enhancement Fund to Commission to implement measures that enhance fisheries, optimize economic benefits of fisheries and advance native fish conservation related to Columbia River fish management and reform. Sunsets Enhancement Fund on January 2, 2022. Authorizes Commission to establish by rule annual Columbia Basin salmon, steelhead and sturgeon recreational fishing endorsement fee (Fee) not to exceed \$9.50. Requires endorsement to fish for salmon, steelhead and sturgeon in Columbia Basin. Stipulates money collected by Fee be deposited in the Enhancement Fund. Sunsets fee January 2, 2022. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Tribal fishing rights
- Economic impact of fisheries on local communities
- Stakeholder process for developing program

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife has begun a rulemaking process to reform fisheries on the lower mainstem Columbia River – a process that includes phasing out the use of non-tribal commercial gill nets. The rulemaking process was initiated in response to an August 9, 2012 letter from Governor John Kitzhaber to Bobby Levy, Chair of the Fish and Wild Commission, and Roy Elicker, Director of ODFW. The letter asked the Commission and ODFW to work with their counterparts in Washington to complete the necessary rulemaking.

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This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.