

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action:	Do Pass the B-Engrossed Measure
Vote:	5 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Beyer, Burdick, Ferrioli, Starr, Rosenbaum
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Lori Brocker, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	6/18

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Defines “chronic depredation.” Stipulates that nothing in wildlife laws is intended to prevent Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) or Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) lethally taking wolves to address chronic depredation of livestock, regardless of management status of wolves under Oregon Wolf Conservation and Management Plan (Plan). Describes and specifies circumstances and process for allowed taking of wolves. Authorizes person who is landowner or lawful occupant to authorize another person to enter onto land for purpose of taking wolves. Requires authorization to be in writing and to include specific information. If person takes wolves under Act, person must report taking to ODFW within 24 hours and make reasonable effort to preserve scene of taking. Until June 30, 2015, any taking by Commission or ODFW under Section 2 (2) must be consistent with rules adopted by Commission related to lethal take of wolves in effect on effective date of Act. Stipulates Act governs taking of wolves causing damage. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of measure
- Management of wolf population
- Collaboration and consensus leading to agreement on wolf management
- Clarification provided by measure provisions

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Gray wolves are listed as endangered in Oregon under the Oregon Endangered Species Act (ESA). Wolves west of Oregon Highway 395/78/95 are federally protected as endangered under the federal ESA. Oregon’s wolf population has continued to increase in distribution and abundance.

In 2005, the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission adopted a Wolf Conservation and Management Plan to “ensure the conservation of gray wolves as required by Oregon law while protecting the social and economic interests of all Oregonians.” The plan includes provisions for monitoring and managing populations, developing education and communication programs, and responding to wolf interactions with wildlife, humans, and livestock. House Bill 3452B establishes the circumstances under which a wolf may be taken.