

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass with Amendments to the B-Engrossed Measure. (Printed C-Engrossed)

Vote: 5 - 0 - 0

Yeas: Beyer, Burdick, Ferrioli, Starr, Rosenbaum

Nays: 0

Exc.: 0

Prepared By: Lori Brocker, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 6/19, 6/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Establishes Oregon Hatchery Research Center Board (Board) and specifies membership and duties. Stipulates Board consists of 15 members, including 12 voting members appointed by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Director. Names hatchery research center located on Fall Creek, near Alsea, as Oregon Hatchery Research Center (OHRC) and requires OHRC to carry out certain duties. Requires Board to: (1) establish strategic directions and operational objectives for OHRC; (2) develop proposed operating budget for OHRC after consultation with the Director of OHRC, Oregon State University (OSU) and ODFW; (3) recommend research projects and issue requests for research proposals; (4) review and prioritize all research proposals submitted to OHRC before research takes place; (5) make recommendations regarding how research projects may be enhanced to meet strategic directions and operational objectives; and (6) report to Legislative Assembly, ODFW Director and State Fish and Wildlife Commission, regarding the findings of research projects and any recommendations regarding current hatchery management practices on or before February 1 of each calendar year. Directs ODFW Director to appoint Director of OHRC after consultation with chairperson of department related to fish and wildlife at OSU. Directs ODFW, after consultation with Board, to renegotiate any agreement with State Board of Higher Education related to OHRC before January 1, 2014. Declares emergency, effective upon passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of Oregon Hatchery Research Center
- Need for research on impact of hatchery fish on native fish and habitat
- Committee's involvement in how research projects are selected

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces measure.

BACKGROUND: The Oregon Hatchery Research Center (OHRC), located on Fall Creek just outside the community of Alsea, opened in October 2005. The OHRC site contains an education and research building with laboratory space, an interpretive center, offices, classrooms, audio/visual capability, conference rooms and dormitory-style living quarters. In addition, the OHRC site includes four artificial streams, fish-rearing facilities, maintenance shop, storage building, water treatment facilities and residences for three full-time employees.

House Bill 3441 C would establish the Oregon Hatchery Research Center Board to establish strategic directions and operational objectives for the OHRC.