

Senate Joint Memorial 8

Sponsored by Senator GIROD

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Requests Congress to require federal government to permit State Department of Fish and Wildlife to manage double-crested cormorant population in State of Oregon through targeted take.

JOINT MEMORIAL

To the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled:

We, your memorialists, the Seventy-seventh Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in legislative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

Whereas the number of double-crested cormorants nesting in the Columbia River estuary has increased dramatically in the last two decades; and

Whereas predation on young salmon and steelhead by double-crested cormorants has substantial impact on the population of salmon and steelhead in this state; and

Whereas though the double-crested cormorant was added to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act in 1972, the same year dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT) was banned, the cormorant population has grown steadily to large numbers since then; and

Whereas in recent years the biggest single nesting colony of double-crested cormorants has settled on East Sand Island at the mouth of the Columbia River, where an estimated 10,500 breeding pairs have eaten 22.6 million young salmon and steelhead in the last year; and

Whereas double-crested cormorants threaten the restoration of wild fish protected by the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as well as hatchery fish important to sport and commercial fishing; and

Whereas hazing methods have proven insufficient in deterring double-crested cormorants from feeding on young salmon and steelhead; and

Whereas the failure of nonlethal methods requires that additional action be taken to mitigate the devastation of the salmon and steelhead populations by double-crested cormorants; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

(1) The Congress of the United States of America is respectfully requested to pass legislation requiring the federal government to permit the State Department of Fish and Wildlife to manage the double-crested cormorant population in the State of Oregon through the targeted take of double-crested cormorants.

(2) A copy of this memorial shall be sent to the United States Secretary of the Interior and to each member of the Oregon Congressional Delegation.

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.