LC 1434 2015 Regular Session 11/3/14 (CDT/ps)

## DRAFT

## **SUMMARY**

Allows establishment of wildlife food plots on small tract forestland subject to reforestation requirements without affecting small tract forestland assessment.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

2 Relating to wildlife food plots.

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- 3 Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:
- 4 SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:
- 5 (a) "Forest tree species" has the meaning given that term in ORS 6 527.620.
- 7 (b) "Small tract forestland" has the meaning given that term in 8 ORS 321.700.
  - (c) "Wildlife food plots" means a small tract forestland area that, instead of being used for growing and harvesting a forest tree species, is planted in vegetation capable of substantially contributing to wildlife nutrition.
  - (2) The owner of a small tract forestland that is subject to reforestation requirements under ORS 527.610 to 527.770 may, notwithstanding any contrary provision of the reforestation requirements, establish wildlife food plots within the boundaries of the forestland without affecting the small tract forestland assessment of the forestland. The combined size of the wildlife food plots described in this subsection may not exceed:
    - (a) 2.5 percent of the small tract forestland, if the forestland is 500

1 acres or less in size;

- (b) 2.0 percent of the small tract forestland, if the forestland is more than 500 acres but not more than 1,000 acres in size; or
- (c) 1.0 percent of the small tract forestland, if the forestland is more than 1,000 acres in size.
- (3)(a) The State Board of Forestry shall adopt rules for carrying out this section. The board shall consult with the State Department of Fish and Wildlife to identify vegetation capable of substantially contributing to wildlife nutrition. The board rules shall require that any forestland established as a wildlife food plot remain in use as a wildlife food plot for as long as the forestland remains in small tract forestland assessment.
- (b) The establishment of a wildlife food plot as provided by board rules is a forest practice providing for the overall maintenance of forestland resources as described in ORS 527.710 and supersedes any contrary reforestation requirement under ORS 527.610 to 527.770 for the wildlife food plot.
- SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2015 Act applies to the establishment of wildlife food plots in small tract forestland assessment years beginning on or after the effective date of this 2015 Act.