

PRELIMINARY STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

CARRIER:

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact

SUBSEQUENT REFERRAL TO:

Action:

Vote:

Yeas:

Nays:

Exc.:

Prepared By: Beth Reiley, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 4/20

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Creates free license for organizers of fishing derbies to take and sell northern pikeminnow during duration of derby. Provides that, when organizer holds fishing derby license for derby, participants in derby are not required to hold certain commercial fishing licenses. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND: In 1990 regional Department of Fish and Wildlife managers approved the use of targeted fisheries for harvesting northern pikeminnow (formerly known as northern squawfish) within the lower Columbia and Snake rivers. Earlier research had indicated that predation related juvenile salmonid mortality was substantial, larger northern pikeminnow were more piscivorous and more susceptible to angling, and that a modest removal of northern pikeminnow could result in a disproportionately large reduction in predation of salmon.

Senate Bill 931 creates a free license for the organizers of a fishing derby to take and sell northern pikeminnow.