

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 05/26/15

Action: Do Pass.

Meeting Dates: 05/07, 05/26

Vote:

Yeas: 9 - Barreto, Esquivel, Frederick, Gorsek, Krieger, McKeown, McLain, Whitsett, Witt

Prepared By: Chuck Gallagher, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Invasive Species Council (Council) to appoint State Invasive Species Coordinator (Coordinator). Establishes Coordinator as nonvoting, ex-officio member of Council. Clarifies 17 other Council members are authorized voting members.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Rises in demand for attention to critical invasive species issues
- Need for coordination among agencies of government
- Influx of aquatic invasive plants and mussels attached to boats hauled from out of state
- Fiscal impacts of not addressing invasive species issues

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Invasive Species Council is a 17-member Council established by the Legislature in 2001. The Council was created to include a network of local, state, federal, tribal and private entities that work to combat the threat posed by invasive species. The Council works to offer a way for people to report invasive species to appropriate agencies, increase public involvement, conduct educational events and administer the Invasive Species Control Account for eradication and educational projects. Currently, the Council has the authority to appoint a State Invasive Species Coordinator but it is not required.

Senate Bill 209 would make the appointment of a State Invasive Species Coordinator mandatory as a nonvoting, ex officio member of the Council and clarifies the voting role of other Council members.