

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Fiscal: Fiscal impact issued**Revenue:** No Revenue Impact**Action Date:** 06/23/15**Action:** Do Pass With Amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)**Meeting Dates:** 06/23**Vote:****Senate**

Yeas: 7 - Burdick, Devlin, Johnson, Monroe, Roblan, Shields, Steiner Hayward

Nays: 5 - Girod, Hansell, Thomsen, Whitsett, Winters

House

Yeas: 8 - Buckley, Gomberg, Huffman, Komp, Nathanson, Rayfield, Read, Williamson

Nays: 3 - McLane, Whisnant, Whitsett

Exc: 1 - Smith

Prepared By: Paul Siebert, Budget Analyst**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Incrementally increases or establishes certain fees related to hunting, angling and commercial fishing over six-year period, applicable January 1, 2016, January 1, 2018, and January 1, 2020. Consolidates fee provisions for certain hunting and angling fees into statutory fee schedule. Modifies existing surcharges. Extends landowner preference program. Authorizes State Fish and Wildlife Commission to issue youth license to resident and nonresident persons 12 through 17 years of age. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- New fee schedule product of a workgroup of stakeholders
- Lower fees than proposed by the Governor
- Changes to lessen impact on ocean sport fishing

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

Replaces the fee schedule in the original bill and includes intent to repeal January 1, 2020 incremental increase if the Legislatively Assembly enacts alternative revenue sources equal or greater to the anticipated revenue from the third incremental increases of tags and fees in 2020.

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) receives funding from several sources. A third of ODFW's revenue comes from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses. Another third comes from the federal government – much of it tied to the sale of hunting and fishing equipment. The rest of the department funding comes from a variety of sources. Most of that funding can be used only for specific purposes spelled out in grants, contracts or statute. Six percent of ODFW's revenue comes from Oregon's general tax dollars and the lottery combined. During the 2013 - 2015 biennium, ODFW is staffing 25 district and field offices to provide customer service, operating 33 hatchery facilities and 15 fish-rearing facilities, and managing 16 wildlife areas with 1,262 full-time equivalent employees.