

SB 372 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Meeting Dates: 4/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to adopt rules for issuance of wildlife salvage permits (permit) to recover, possess, use or transport deer or elk that have been accidentally killed as result of vehicle collision when purpose is to salvage game meat for human consumption. Requires holder of permit to promptly surrender deer or elk antlers to Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). Exempts state of Oregon from liability for loss or damage arising out of activities under permit. Prohibits issuance of permit for animal killed under humane euthanasia statute (ORS 498.016) unless applicant was driving when involved in collision that accidentally rendered animal crippled or helpless. Directs ODFW to make salvage permits available for issuance no later than January 1, 2019. Directs ODFW to prepare and submit report on implementation of salvage permit rules to legislative committees during 2023 legislative session. Repeals permit authority effective January 1, 2024.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

BACKGROUND:

Under current law, a person may kill crippled or helpless wildlife when the killing is done for humane purposes (ORS 498.016). Such action must be immediately reported to a person authorized to enforce the wildlife laws and the wildlife must be disposed of as directed by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission.

Senate Bill 372A would direct the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to adopt rules for the issuance of wildlife salvage permits to allow the use for human consumption of game meat from deer and elk accidentally killed as a result of a car accident. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife would be directed to prepare and submit a report on the program to the 2023 Legislative Assembly, and the program would sunset on January 1, 2024.