

## HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 2213

By COMMITTEE ON RULES

June 7

1 On page 1 of the printed bill, line 2, delete “creating new provisions; amending ORS 183.335 and  
2 183.405;”.

3 After line 3, insert:

4 “Whereas today’s challenges facing fish, wildlife and habitat are not being met by the current  
5 funding model for the State Department of Fish and Wildlife; and

6 “Whereas the Task Force on Funding for Fish, Wildlife and Related Outdoor Recreation and  
7 Education was established by House Bill 2402 during the 2015 regular session of the Legislative  
8 Assembly (chapter 712, Oregon Laws 2015) and was tasked with developing recommendations for  
9 strengthening the State Department of Fish and Wildlife’s ability to conserve natural resources and  
10 connect Oregonians to nature through outdoor recreation and education opportunities; and

11 “Whereas the December 2016 task force report to the Legislative Assembly recommends poten-  
12 tial alternative, sustainable funding sources for the department, potential budget adjustments to  
13 ensure relevant department program areas are funded in accordance with legislative direction and  
14 opportunities for the department to better achieve its mission through leveraging, coordinating and  
15 budgeting funds from alternate and existing sources; and

16 “Whereas the task force recommendations are based on the importance of taking immediate  
17 action to address the increasing complexity and costs of conservation and management of fish,  
18 wildlife and habitat and related recreational and educational opportunities; and

19 “Whereas population growth, development, infrastructure needs, climate change and other na-  
20 tural and man-made changes all contribute to the increasing complexity and costs faced by the de-  
21 partment by placing new pressures on Oregon’s fish, wildlife and wild places; and

22 “Whereas public attitudes, uses and demands related to recreation and the aesthetic value of the  
23 natural world have developed to reflect changing public needs and expectations concerning conser-  
24 vation, recreation and education; and

25 “Whereas society is becoming disconnected from the natural world and this disconnection im-  
26 pacts public health and well-being, as well as the future of fish and wildlife in Oregon; and

27 “Whereas investments are necessary to ensure that future generations can experience the na-  
28 tural world, to increase public understanding of the numerous species of fish and wildlife that make  
29 Oregon home, to improve hunting and fishing opportunities while reducing the hunting and fishing  
30 license fees that currently fund most conservation efforts, and to recognize diversity by providing  
31 opportunities for all Oregonians to enjoy the state’s rich outdoor heritage; and

32 “Whereas the increasing complexity and cost of conservation and management must be shared  
33 by all Oregonians; and

34 “Whereas addressing these challenges through implementation of the department’s statutory  
35 mission and responsibilities requires new, diversified and sustainable sources of revenue to supple-

1 ment existing funding and to ensure that Oregon is a leader in fish and wildlife conservation and  
2 management; and

3 “Whereas establishing an Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund is a critical first step in  
4 providing the department with a vehicle to receive and expend revenues dedicated to conservation,  
5 management, research, habitat improvements, enforcement, outdoor recreation, education and other  
6 activities that serve to protect, maintain or enhance the fish and wildlife resources of Oregon; now,  
7 therefore,”.

8 Delete lines 5 through 24 and delete pages 2 through 11 and insert:

9 **“SECTION 1. (1) The Oregon Conservation and Recreation Advisory Committee is estab-**  
10 **lished as an advisory committee to the State Fish and Wildlife Commission. The commission**  
11 **shall determine the number of members of the committee and the geographical represen-**  
12 **tation by the members. The Governor shall appoint the members of the committee.**

13 **“(2) The committee shall review policies of the State Department of Fish and Wildlife and**  
14 **make recommendations to the commission and the department concerning the implementa-**  
15 **tion of activities funded by moneys in the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund.**

16 **“(3) Members of the committee may not receive compensation for service as members.**  
17 **However, subject to any applicable law regulating travel and other expenses of state officers**  
18 **and employees, a member may be reimbursed for actual and necessary travel and other ex-**  
19 **penditures incurred in the performance of official duties from moneys available to the depart-**  
20 **ment for the purpose of reimbursement of committee members.**

21 **“(4) The department and the committee jointly shall submit to each odd-numbered year**  
22 **regular session of the Legislative Assembly a report on expenditure of moneys deposited in**  
23 **the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund established under section 2 of this 2017 Act**  
24 **and on the status of various activities funded by the moneys.**

25 **“SECTION 2. (1) The Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund is established separate**  
26 **and distinct from the General Fund. Interest earned by the Oregon Conservation and Re-**  
27 **creation Fund shall be credited to the fund.**

28 **“(2) Moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the State Department of Fish**  
29 **and Wildlife to carry out activities under the wildlife laws that serve to protect, maintain**  
30 **or enhance fish and wildlife resources in Oregon, including, but not limited to:**

31 **“(a) Promoting the health of Oregon’s ecosystems and fish and wildlife species by imple-**  
32 **menting conservation programs and strategies identified in the Oregon Conservation Strat-**  
33 **egy, as defined in ORS 541.890, including conservation programs and strategies for the**  
34 **nearshore identified in the marine component of the Oregon Conservation Strategy;**

35 **“(b) Improving engagement of the public in outdoor recreation opportunities related to**  
36 **and in support of healthy fish, wildlife and habitats;**

37 **“(c) Improving educational outreach and engagement of the public, including diverse and**  
38 **underserved communities, related to and in support of healthy fish, wildlife and habitats; and**

39 **“(d) Other conservation, management, research, habitat improvement, enforcement,**  
40 **outdoor recreation or education activities.**

41 **“(3) The fund shall consist of:**

42 **“(a) Moneys appropriated to the department for deposit in the fund or otherwise trans-**  
43 **ferred to the fund; and**

44 **“(b) Gifts, grants, contributions or other donations for use as described in subsection (2)**  
45 **of this section, that are received by the department from any public or private source and**

1 caused to be deposited and credited to the fund.

2       “**SECTION 3.** There is appropriated to the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, for the  
3 biennium beginning July 1, 2017, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$11 million for de-  
4 posit in the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund to be used for the purposes authorized  
5 by section 2 of this 2017 Act.

6       “**SECTION 4.** This 2017 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public  
7 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2017 Act takes effect  
8 July 1, 2017.”

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