Senate Bill 301

Sponsored by Senator HANSELL (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Requires State Department of Fish and Wildlife to consider elk overpopulation when implementing the Oregon Landowner Damage Program. Removes sunset on program.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to landowner damage tags; amending section 3, chapter 363, Oregon Laws 2013; and repealing section 5, chapter 363, Oregon Laws 2013.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. Section 3, chapter 363, Oregon Laws 2013, is amended to read:

Sec. 3. Notwithstanding any other provision of the wildlife laws, the State Department of Fish and Wildlife shall create and implement an Oregon Landowner Damage Program that:

(1) Addresses damage caused by elk on privately owned lands in Oregon.

(2) Provides landowner damage tags only for areas where elk are currently causing damage, where there has been a history of elk damage coupled with actions to alleviate elk damage or where the department has designated the area as an elk deemphasis area.

(3) Considers elk overpopulation. [3]

(4) [Limits the use of damage tags to taking] Authorizes a person to use a landowner damage tag to take only an antlerless elk.

(5) [Limits the use of damage tags to taking] Authorizes a person to use a landowner damage tag to take an elk on property owned, leased or rented by the [landowner] person complaining of elk damage or on property owned, leased or rented by a business entity that includes the [landowner] person as a principal partner or shareholder.

(6) [Limits the use of damage tags to taking] Allows exchange of unused general season elk tags or controlled hunt elk tags for landowner damage tags.

(7) [Limits the use of damage tags to taking] Does not impose a limit on the number of [total] landowner damage tags available for each [landowner] person, except that no more than five landowner damage tags may be valid at any one time.

(8) [Limits the use of damage tags to taking] Does not impose a minimum acreage requirement for [landowner] participation.

(9) [Limits the use of damage tags to taking] Allows [landowners] a person to register for participation in the program at any time prior to the issuance of landowner damage tags.

(10) [Limits the use of damage tags to taking] Establishes a $30 fee for [landowners] a person to register for participation in the program.

(11) [Limits the use of damage tags to taking] Establishes a $15 fee for [landowners] a person to modify the [landowner’s] person’s landowner damage tag distribution.

(12) [Limits the use of damage tags to taking] Authorizes department biologists to sell and exchange landowner damage tags.

NOTE: Matter in boldfaced type in an amended section is new; matter [italic and bracketed] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in boldfaced type.

LC 2440
[12] (13) Authorizes department biologists to establish the period of validity for landowner damage tags through negotiation with landowners affected persons.

[13] (14) Requires landowners a person who uses a landowner damage tag to record the number of elk taken and, within 10 days after the end of a designated hunt period, to report to the local department biologist the number of elk taken.

SECTION 2. Section 5, chapter 363, Oregon Laws 2013, is repealed.