

HB 3191 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY
House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

Carrier: Rep. Evans

Action Date: 04/06/21

Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)

Vote: 10-0-0-0

Yeas: 10 - Breese-Iverson, Cate, Hudson, Marsh, McLain, Post, Reardon, Smith DB, Williams, Witt

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Stuty Maskey, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 4/1, 4/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to adopt rules governing the disposition of the carcasses of adult returning hatchery fish. Requires that rules include, but are not limited to, requirements that: (1) at least 50 percent of the carcasses from all adult hatchery-produced fish returning to hatchery facilities be retained and placed at seasonally appropriate times in natural spawning and rearing areas to enhance nutrient recycling consistent with pathology constraints; and (2) the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), when selling eggs and carcasses from hatchery facilities to provide revenue to support hatchery programs and facilities, prioritize sales of eggs and carcasses to Oregon small businesses in communities with high rates of unemployment and other Oregon small businesses.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Nutritional benefits to young fish provided by carcasses in streams
- Importance of fish runs on local economy and environment

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Removes requirement for Oregon Fish and Wildlife (ODFW): to conduct a biennial analysis of the annual return rates of hatchery-produced fish; to prepare report on the results of the analysis, which may include recommendations for legislation; and to post the report on its website.

BACKGROUND:

Under current law, it is unlawful for a person to discard any dead animal into Oregon waters unless it is a fish carcass and the person returns it to the water from which the fish was caught (ORS 164.785).

House Bill 3191 A would direct Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to adopt rules governing the disposal of the carcasses of returning hatchery fish.