



Oregon

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To: **The Honorable Jeff Golden, Chair**
Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery



House Bill 2067

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Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

The Department appreciates the opportunity to discuss House bill 2067 with you today. House bill 2067 makes changes to the one-day angling license and one-day angling and shellfish fees, as well as allows the agency to charge less than the fee amount prescribed in ORS 497.061.

Reducing the Cost of the Daily Angling and Shellfish License

House bill 2067 eliminates the one-day angling license, and reduces the one-day angling and shellfish license fee, effectively providing shellfish privilege at no extra cost. While only having a minimal fiscal impact to the agency, this change will allow individuals to participate in marine fisheries and shellfish harvest at a lower cost than our current products allow.

The price for a one-day license allowing both angling and shell fishing would drop from \$32.50 to \$23.00 at current prices, a reduction of about 30%. This will assist coastal Charter and guide operations who market combination fishing and crabbing trips. Many of the customers for these trips are either visitors to the coast or folks that generally do not purchase annual license products. We expect that this change may also aid our recruitment, retention, and reactivation (R3) efforts by reducing the cost of participation for these combined activities. Increased interest in participation and sales could offset the calculated loss in revenue created by the price reduction. The agency plans to absorb any loss in revenue within the shellfish program, which can maintain current services even if a revenue reduction is realized.

House bill 2067 requires a restructuring of the statutes that dedicate portions of the sales of Daily Angling Licenses to designated programs. In many cases both the Daily Angling License and the Daily Angling and Shellfish License are referenced. In those statutes no changes are needed to continue to direct a portion of the sale from daily licenses to programs. However, only the Daily Angling License is referenced for the Oregon Hatchery Research Center Fund. HB 2067 adds Daily Angling and Shellfish License to this section, with the intent to replace the Daily Angling License reference and maintain funding for Oregon Hatchery Research Center. Without these changes, the proposed license restructure would remove a necessary and stable revenue source.

Allowing for Promotional Opportunities and Temporary Price Reductions

House bill 2067 allows the state Fish and Wildlife commission to set fees for licenses and tags that are less than the amounts listed in the statutory fee schedule. The primary reason for these changes

is to maximize participation, recruitment, reactivation and retention of hunters and anglers. The ability to discount license and tag fees temporarily would allow special cost incentives to market hunting and angling activities.

With this statutory change, the department would be allowed, with Fish and Wildlife Commission authorization to lower the cost of a license, tag or permit temporarily and determine if pricing modifications can act as an incentive for recruiting additional hunters, anglers and shellfish harvesters. The department currently does not have any plans to reduce fees, but would utilize the allowance provided in HB 2067 to trial promotions activities and conduct evaluations of the outcomes on revenue and participation.

Thank you for your consideration of HB 2067.

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