House Bill 2219

Sponsored by Representatives SMITH DB, WRIGHT (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.

Instructs State Fish and Wildlife Commission to establish by rule certain requirements for sea urchin commercial fishery to address proliferation of purple sea urchins.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to sea urchins; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 508.760.

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

SECTION 1. ORS 508.760 is amended to read:

508.760. (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of the commercial fishing laws, the State Fish and Wildlife Commission shall, by rule, establish a system for regulating participation in the sea urchin commercial fishery in order to:

(a) Provide a sea urchin (Strongylocentrotus franciscanus, S. purpuratus and S. droebachiensis) commercial fishery with optimum profits to those engaged in the fishery [and to].

(b) Prevent a concentration of fishing effort that would deplete the [resource, the State Fish and Wildlife Commission, by rule, shall establish a system for limiting participation in the sea urchin commercial fishery. Any such system may include, but is not limited to, provisions on the following matters:] sea urchin populations.

(c) Address the proliferation of S. purpuratus and resulting negative effects on kelp beds.

(2) The system must:

(a) [Establishment of] Establish criteria for initial entry into fishery participation and for annual qualification for participation thereafter.

(b) [Establishment of] Establish terms and conditions for transferring participation rights.

(c) Establish criteria and conditions specific to the S. purpuratus fishery that, among other conditions, allow an unlimited number of persons to participate in the S. purpuratus fishery.

(d) Designate kelp beds that have been negatively affected by S. purpuratus as kelp restoration areas.

(e) Designate kelp beds that are threatened by high concentrations of S. purpuratus as kelp bed areas of risk.

(f) Authorize the taking of S. purpuratus, in and around kelp beds and within the kelp restoration areas and kelp bed areas of risk designated under paragraphs (d) and (e) of this subsection, in the amounts necessary to reduce the effects of S. purpuratus on the kelp beds.

[2)(a)] (3)(a) The annual fee to participate in [the] a sea urchin fishery described in this section is:

(A) $125 for resident applicants.

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.

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(B) $175 for nonresident applicants.

(b) A fee of $100 shall be charged for each transfer of participation rights under this section.

SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date of this 2023 Act, the State Fish and Wildlife Commission shall adopt and amend rules as needed to implement the amendments to ORS 508.760 by section 1 of this 2023 Act.