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. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act makes ODFW, SFWC and DSL amend their marine reserve programs. (Flesch Readability Score: 74.8).

Requires the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, the State Fish and Wildlife Commission and the Department of State Lands to implement the Ocean Policy Advisory Council recommendations to develop an adaptive management and social monitoring program to support marine reserves. Appropriates moneys to the State Department of Fish and Wildlife to implement programs. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to marine reserves; creating new provisions; amending ORS 196.540, 196.542 and 196.545; and declaring an emergency.

Whereas the Ocean Policy Advisory Council has made recommendations for the policies of a marine reserve program, the siting of marine reserves and protected areas in Oregon; and

Whereas ORS 196.540 (2) affirmed and mandated the council's recommendations to the State Department of Fish and Wildlife for the establishment of marine reserves and protected areas, the development of a marine reserve program, staffing, management and assessment; and

Whereas section 4 of Senate Bill 1510 (2012) required that a decadal assessment be conducted in 2022 and that recommendations be provided for administrative or legislative action; and

Whereas the council's scientific and technical advisory committee conducted a marine reserve assessment through Oregon State University and subsequently made legislative recommendations to increase strategic investments in Oregon's marine reserve programs; and

Whereas the council has unanimously supported the recommendations from the decadal assessment of Oregon's marine reserves, both in policy direction and in full funding of the program; and

Whereas Oregon's marine reserve program is a necessary investment in Oregon's statewide planning goal relating to ocean resources and represents a critical fishery-independent, long term monitoring and applied research investment by the State of Oregon; now, therefore,

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

SECTION 1. ORS 196.540 is amended to read:

196.540. The State Department of Fish and Wildlife, State Fish and Wildlife Commission, State Land Board and relevant state agencies shall, consistent with existing statutory authority, implement:


(2) The January 25, 2011, recommendations, limited to those related to boundaries and allow-
ances, from the State Department of Fish and Wildlife on marine reserves by adopting rules to est-
etablish, study, monitor, evaluate and enforce:

(a) A marine reserve and two marine protected areas at Cape Falcon;
(b) A marine reserve and three marine protected areas at Cascade Head; and
(c) A marine reserve, two marine protected areas and a seabird protection area at Cape
Perpetua.

(3) The October 25, 2022, recommendations from the Ocean Policy Advisory Council to
develop for the marine reserves:

(a) An adaptive management plan that includes the development and implementation of:
(A) Specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-oriented objectives for ecological
and socioeconomic monitoring and research;
(B) Consistent measurable indicators of social impacts;
(C) Efficient long-term ecological sampling protocols that remain consistent and responsive
to adaptive management;
(D) Assessment of the capacity for the marine reserves to enhance ecological resilience
to environmental disturbances, including data collection and evaluation over long periods of
time and on how the reserves operate as a network; and
(E) Defined goals for outreach and engagement, including engagement with federally re-
recognized Indian tribes, and assessments to evaluate the effectiveness in achieving these
goals.

(b) A collaborative process through which social monitoring data on the reserves can be
interpreted to affect policy decisions. The process should include steps for decision-making
and conflict management.

SECTION 2. ORS 196.545 is amended to read:

ORS 196.545. (1) The State Department of Fish and Wildlife, in consultation with members from the
scientific and technical advisory committee established under ORS 196.451, other relevant marine
and fishery scientists, relevant state agencies, ocean users and coastal communities shall implement
the activities described in ORS 196.540 by developing and amending a work plan and adaptive
management plan consistent with ORS 196.540.

(2) The work plan shall contain the following elements regarding the marine reserves described
in ORS 196.540:

(a) A biological assessment, including information on habitat characterization, biological re-
sources, local knowledge and, for the established [pilot] marine reserves, monitoring plans.
(b) A socioeconomic assessment, including a description of human uses, net effects on sport and
commercial fisheries and communities and, for the established [pilot] marine reserves, monitoring
plans.
(c) Formation of community teams, with diverse and balanced stakeholder representation that
includes local government, recreational fishing industry, commercial fishing industry, nonfishing in-
dustry, recreationalists, conservation, coastal watershed councils, relevant marine and avian scien-
tists, to collaborate and develop recommendations as needed for potential changes to marine
reserves, considering the biological and socioeconomic information developed under this
section. Collaboration may be facilitated by a neutral outside party hired through a competitive
bidding process.
(d) Provision of information on the process and data gathered to interested parties and made
available to the public.
(e) Development of scientifically based goals specific to each of the marine reserve sites, incorporating continuity and cumulative outcomes, benefits and impacts.

[(f) Provision of baseline data on Oregon’s territorial sea, as defined in ORS 196.405.]

[(g)] (f) Development of an enforcement plan in consultation with the Oregon State Police and representatives from affected user groups.

[(h)] (g) Use of communities and volunteers to assist in implementing the work plan where feasible and practical.

(h) Continued engagement of communities, including commercial and recreational fishing fleets, in order to ensure that marine reserve science is useful to communities and that the department incorporates community and fishermen knowledge into ongoing research and monitoring efforts.

[(3) The data and recommendations produced from the work plan and other available nearshore data shall be used by the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, in consultation with the Ocean Policy Advisory Council, to recommend the number, size, location and restriction limits of the potential sites for marine reserve designation, consistent with Executive Order 08-07. If, through this process, it is determined that other appropriate sites need to be considered or that potential sites are not consistent with Executive Order 08-07, then the data and recommendations produced shall be provided to the public, the State Department of Fish and Wildlife and other relevant state agencies for future purposes relevant to nearshore management.]

SECTION 3. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, for the biennium ending June 30, 2025, out of the General Fund, the amount of $800,000, to implement ORS 196.540 (3).

SECTION 4. ORS 196.542 is amended to read:

196.542. [(1) The State Fish and Wildlife Commission may not impose prohibitions on fishing by rule pursuant to ORS 196.540 until the baseline data specified in ORS 196.545 (2)(f) have been collected consistent with scientifically based monitoring plans.]

[(2)] In implementing the activities described in ORS 196.540 pursuant to ORS 196.545, the State Department of Fish and Wildlife shall use local resources where feasible and practical.

SECTION 5. This 2024 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2024 Act takes effect on its passage.