

# A-Engrossed Senate Bill 512

Ordered by the Senate April 2  
Including Senate Amendments dated April 2

Sponsored by Senator SMITH DB, Representatives OSBORNE, BOICE (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. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

**Digest: The Act tells an agency to study certain factors on fish released from the Rock Creek Hatchery, and to report on the study to the legislature. The Act gives money to the agency for the study. (Flesch Readability Score: 64.0).**

*[Digest: The Act tells an agency to operate a fish hatchery at the Rock Creek Hatchery. The Act tells the agency to release the hatchery fish into a river. The Act gives money for those activities. (Flesch Readability Score: 64.4).]*

*[Directs the State Fish and Wildlife Commission to operate a summer steelhead fish hatchery at the Rock Creek Hatchery and release the hatchery fish into the North Umpqua River.]*

**Directs the State Department of Fish and Wildlife to study the impacts of temperature, predation and rearing practices associated with the Rock Creek Hatchery. Directs the department to report on the study to the Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2026.**

Appropriates moneys to the *[commission]* **department** out of the General Fund for *[operating the hatchery and releasing the hatchery fish]* **conducting the study.**

Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to the Rock Creek Hatchery; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 **SECTION 1. (1) The State Department of Fish and Wildlife shall study:**

5 (a) **The potential impacts of temperature and of predation by nonnative fish species on**  
6 **hatchery releases of coho salmon, winter steelhead salmon and chinook salmon associated**  
7 **with the Rock Creek Hatchery in the Umpqua River basin to determine whether alternative**  
8 **strategies for hatchery releases could minimize the potential for predation; and**

9 (b) **The impact of rearing practices on the homing of spring chinook salmon to the Rock**  
10 **Creek Hatchery.**

11 (2) **The department shall submit a report on the study in the manner provided by ORS**  
12 **192.245, and may include recommendations for legislation, to the interim committees of the**  
13 **Legislative Assembly related to wildlife no later than September 15, 2026.**

14 **SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2025 Act is repealed on June 30, 2027.**

15 **SECTION 3. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**  
16 **ated to the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025,**  
17 **out of the General Fund, the amount of \$1,400,000 for the purpose of carrying out the pro-**  
18 **visions of section 1 of this 2025 Act.**

19 **SECTION 4. This 2025 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public**  
20 **peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2025 Act takes effect**

**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.

1 **on its passage.**

2

---