Senate Bill 650

Sponsored by Senator HANSELL (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**.

Requires State Department of Fish and Wildlife to produce four reports on elk populations and financial impacts of elk using private lands as range. Sunsets January 2, 2021.

Declares emergency, effective on passage.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

2 Relating to elk-related reports; and declaring an emergency.

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

4 <u>SECTION 1.</u> (1) As used in this section, "public/private ratio" means the relative per-

5 centages of a private acre of land that are used to serve public needs, including feeding elk,

6 and private needs, including feeding livestock or producing agricultural crops.

7 (2) On or before December 1, 2020, the State Department of Fish and Wildlife shall submit

8 to the interim committees of the Legislative Assembly related to wildlife, natural resources

9 or the environment one elk population and financial impact report for each of the following

10 groups of wildlife units:

- 11 (a) Columbia Basin/Heppner/Starkey/Ukiah/Desolation;
- 12 (b) Wilson/Trask/Saddle Mountain;
- 13 (c) Northside/Murderers Creek/Beulah/Malheur River; and
- 14 (d) Siuslaw.

1

15 (3) Each report required under subsection (2) of this section shall:

16 (a) Identify all areas in the wildlife units that are used as range by elk;

- 17 (b) Determine which portions of the areas identified in paragraph (a) of this subsection
- 18 are on private and public lands;

(c) Estimate elk populations in the wildlife units that the department believes will exist
 10 years from the effective date of this 2019 Act; and

(d) Describe actions the department could take to minimize financial impacts to a person
that owns land that is used as range by elk.

23 (4) To the extent practicable, each report required under subsection (2) of this section24 shall:

(a) Determine the public/private ratio for the private lands identified under subsection
(3)(b) of this section;

(b) Determine the financial impact of elk land use on persons that own land that is used
as range by elk; and

(c) Estimate the private financial impacts of changes to public/private ratios in the
 wildlife units 10 years from the effective date of this 2019 Act.

1 (5)(a) The department shall appoint a steering committee for each report.

(b) In appointing the steering committees required under paragraph (a) of this subsection, the department shall consider recommendations from the policy manager for the Natural Resources Policy Steering Committee of the Association of Oregon Counties and county government officials of any county that contains all or part of a wildlife unit listed in subsection (2) of this section.

(c) For each group of wildlife units identified in subsection (2) of this section, the steering
committee shall consist of one person who is employed by a county government in one of the
wildlife units and one person who is employed by the department and has official responsibilities related to elk herds in one or more of the wildlife units.

11 SECTION 2. Section 1 of this 2019 Act is repealed on January 2, 2021.

12 <u>SECTION 3.</u> This 2019 Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public 13 peace, health and safety, an emergency is declared to exist, and this 2019 Act takes effect 14 on its passage.

15