

HB 3347 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Meeting Dates: 3/23

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Authorizes Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) to establish by rule annual and daily Willamette River salmon, steelhead, and sturgeon recreational fishing endorsement fees of up to \$9.75 per annual license and \$1 per daily license. Requires that fishing endorsements for salmon, steelhead, or sturgeon in Willamette River be in addition to the angling licenses and tags required under wildlife laws. Establishes Willamette River Fisheries Enhancement Fund (Enhancement Fund) and continuously appropriates moneys to Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to implement measures that enhance fisheries, optimize economic benefits of fisheries, and advance native fish conservation. Establishes the Willamette River Endorsements Board (Board) within ODFW and authorizes the Board to determine use of moneys in the Enhancement Fund. Directs Commission to appoint the Board members and specifies the eligibility, term of office, official duties, and compensation for service.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

In 2013, the Oregon legislature established the Columbia River Fisheries Enhancement Fund to enhance fisheries, optimize the economic benefits of fisheries, and advance native fish conservation related to Columbia River fish management and reform. The legislation also authorized the Fish and Wildlife Commission to set a fee for a recreational fishing endorsement for a daily license to fish for salmon, steelhead, and sturgeon in the Columbia Basin.

House Bill 3347 would authorize the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to establish by rule annual and daily Willamette River salmon, steelhead, and sturgeon recreational fishing endorsements fee. The measure would also establish the Willamette River Fisheries Enhancement Fund and the Willamette River Endorsements Board to determine the use of Enhancement Fund moneys.