

SB 59 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/8, 3/29

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Repeals sunset on Columbia River Fisheries Enhancement Fund (Fund). Authorizes the State Fish and Wildlife Commission to by rule establish annual and daily Columbia Basin salmon, steelhead, and sturgeon recreational fishing endorsements with a fee not to exceed \$9.75 per annual license and \$1 per day daily license. Requires deposit of fee revenue into Fund. Removes sunset on statutory provision requiring youth license and pioneer combination license to include authorization for purchaser to engage in angling activities for which an endorsement to fish for salmon, steelhead, and sturgeon in the Columbia Basin is required. Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

Subsequent referral to JWMs.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 Adds the following allowed uses of the Columbia River Fisheries Enhancement Fund (Fund): to implement measures to advance selective harvest practices and improve monitoring and data regarding fishery-related mortality. Specifies that the use of moneys to advance native fish conservation must be directly related to Columbia River fish management and reform adopted by rule of the Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission). Extends sunset on Fund until January 2, 2026. Extends sunset on authority of Commission to establish an annual and daily Columbia Basin salmon, steelhead, and sturgeon recreational fishing endorsement until January 2, 2026. Directs that if Commission adopts rules that decrease fishery impacts or the share of salmon allocated to Columbia River recreational fisheries, or expand the areas and seasons where non-tribal gill nets are permitted in the Lower Columbia River non-tribal fisheries as compared to regulatory restrictions in place from 2017 to 2020, the Commission may not require or collect the endorsement, beginning in the following calendar year.

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

BACKGROUND:

In 2013, the Oregon legislature enacted Senate Bill 830 establishing 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 (Commission) to set a fee for a recreational fishing endorsement not to exceed \$9.75 per annual license or \$1 for a daily license to fish for salmon, steelhead, and sturgeon in the Columbia Basin; an endorsement is required in addition to other required angling and license tags. The Fund and related fees are set to sunset on January 2, 2022.

Senate Bill 59 would repeal the sunset on the Columbia River Fisheries Enhancement Fund and continue the authorization for the Commission to establish a recreational fishing endorsement fee to fish for salmon, steelhead, and sturgeon in the Columbia Basin.