

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

81st Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2021 Regular Session
Legislative Fiscal Office

Measure: HB 2661

*Only Impacts on Original or Engrossed
Versions are Considered Official*

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Measure Description:

Appropriates moneys to State Department of Fish and Wildlife for purpose of funding programs that award \$5 for each take of pikeminnow, if take complies with wildlife laws.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure may require budgetary action - See analysis.

Summary of Expenditure Impact: See Analysis

Analysis: This measure provides a one-time \$100,000 General Fund appropriation to the Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to fund programs that award \$5 for each take of a pikeminnow.

Currently, there are three indigenous species of pikeminnow in Oregon that exist in multiple waterways throughout Oregon. The measure is overly broad and does not specify which type of pikeminnow or which area of Oregon would be subject to this program. The Bonneville Power Administration currently funds a Northern Pikeminnow Sport Reward program, which ODFW participates in that awards money for northern pikeminnow taken in the lower Columbia and Snake rivers.

The fiscal impact is indeterminate. It is unknown if the intent of the measure is to establish a new program to be operated by ODFW across the state, or a specific region of the state for a specific species of pikeminnow, or to fund the current program that is operated on the lower Columbia and Snake rivers.

To establish a new pikeminnow reward program, the General Fund provided in the measure would not be sufficient. As an example, if ODFW were to establish this program, and focus solely on the Rogue River, ODFW anticipates the need for four Biological Science Assistants (2.00 FTE) to develop, set-up, and manage registration and collection stations. Assist registering anglers, compiling data of registered anglers, recording biological data, and transportation of fish to rendering or disposal locations. In addition, ODFW would need one Natural Resource Specialist 3 (0.25 FTE) for administration of the program, program development, outreach, development of administrative rule, analyzing data, and report writing. The estimated cost of these positions and related supplies are about \$349,149 General Fund to set up this program in one area of the state. These costs are in addition to the \$100,000 General Fund intended for reimbursement of pikeminnow.