

HB 2835 -1 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/28

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) in consultation with the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Advisory Committee to adopt rules to establish a pilot program to provide grants paid out of the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund (OCRF) to cities, counties, or nonprofit organizations for projects related to recreational fishing inside an urban growth boundary. Allows for grants to include matching funds for large donations to OCRF under certain conditions. Specifies that matching funds may be paid out of moneys appropriated to OCRF and may exceed the amount of matching funds committed to other projects funded by OCRF. Requires ODFW to submit a report on the implementation of the pilot program to the natural resources-related interim committees of Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2026. Sunsets pilot program and reporting requirements on January 2, 2027.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-1 Appropriates \$5 million General Fund moneys to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife for deposit in the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund to fund grants provided by the pilot program.

BACKGROUND:

In 2019, the Oregon Legislature passed House Bill 2829 establishing the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund (OCRF), along with an associated Advisory Committee to guide expenditures, and directing the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to use the fund to carry out activities to protect, maintain, or enhance fish and wildlife resources in Oregon.

House Bill 2835 would direct ODFW in consultation with the Advisory Committee to establish a pilot program to award grants for recreational fishing facilities within urban growth boundary and to submit a progress report to the natural resources-related interim committee of Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2026.