

SB 830 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Natural Resources

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Meeting Dates: 3/27, 4/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Directs the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to include relocation of beavers from western Oregon to central and eastern Oregon in a program for voluntarily relocating beavers.

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

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

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Individuals may seek a permit from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to capture, transfer, and release live beavers onto public or private lands. In 2017, ODFW established beaver relocation requirements that set forth the process for an individual to obtain a permit for relocation, as well as best management practices for improving the chances that relocated beaver will survive and colonize the new location. The ODFW Beaver Relocation Requirements document states that release sites will ideally occur within the same sub-basin, but that movement of beaver across sub-basins within a basin may be approved by the receiving site's ODFW Watershed Manager, and that movement of beaver across basins must be approved from the Region Manager and Wildlife Division. In 2022, ODFW was directed to develop a program for voluntarily relocating beavers as part of the Private Forest Accord, an agreement that made substantive and procedural changes to the Oregon Forest Practices Act.

Senate Bill 830 would direct the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to include relocation of beavers from western Oregon to central and eastern Oregon in a program for voluntarily relocating beavers.