

House Bill 2903

Sponsored by Representative GOMBERG; Representative SMITH DB, Senators ANDERSON, WEBER (Presession filed.)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Requires State Department of Fish and Wildlife, State Fish and Wildlife Commission and Department of State Lands to implement Ocean Policy Advisory Council recommendations to develop adaptive management and social monitoring program to support marine reserves.

Appropriates moneys to State Department of Fish and Wildlife to implement programs.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

1
2 Relating to marine reserves; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 196.540, 196.542 and
3 196.545.

4 Whereas the Ocean Policy Advisory Council has made recommendations for the policies of a
5 marine reserve program, the siting of marine reserves and protected areas in Oregon; and

6 Whereas ORS 196.540 (2) affirmed and mandated the council's recommendations to the State
7 Department of Fish and Wildlife for the establishment of marine reserves and protected areas, the
8 development of a marine reserve program, staffing, management and assessment; and

9 Whereas section 4 of Senate Bill 1510 (2012) required that a decadal assessment be conducted
10 in 2022 and that recommendations be provided for administrative or legislative action; and

11 Whereas the council's scientific and technical advisory committee conducted a marine reserve
12 assessment through Oregon State University and subsequently made legislative recommendations to
13 increase strategic investments in Oregon's marine reserve programs; and

14 Whereas the council has unanimously supported the recommendations from the decadal assess-
15 ment of Oregon's marine reserves, both in policy direction and in full funding of the program; and

16 Whereas Oregon's marine reserve program is a necessary investment in Oregon's statewide
17 planning goal relating to ocean resources and represents a critical fishery-independent, long term
18 monitoring and applied research investment by the State of Oregon; now, therefore,

19 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

20 **SECTION 1.** ORS 196.540 is amended to read:

21 196.540. The State Department of Fish and Wildlife, State Fish and Wildlife Commission, State
22 Land Board and relevant state agencies shall, consistent with existing statutory authority, imple-
23 ment:

24 (1) The November 29, 2008, recommendations from the Ocean Policy Advisory Council on marine
25 reserves by adopting rules to establish, study, monitor, evaluate and enforce a pilot marine reserve
26 at Otter Rock and a pilot marine reserve and a marine protected area at Redfish Rocks.

27 (2) The January 25, 2011, recommendations, limited to those related to boundaries and allow-
28 ances, from the State Department of Fish and Wildlife on marine reserves by adopting rules to es-
29 tablish, study, monitor, evaluate and enforce:

30 (a) A marine reserve and two marine protected areas at Cape Falcon;

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 (b) A marine reserve and three marine protected areas at Cascade Head; and

2 (c) A marine reserve, two marine protected areas and a seabird protection area at Cape
3 Perpetua.

4 **(3) The March ____, 2023, recommendations from the Ocean Policy Advisory Council to**
5 **develop for the marine reserves:**

6 (a) **An adaptive management plan that includes the development and implementation of:**

7 **(A) Specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-oriented objectives for ecological**
8 **and socioeconomic monitoring and research;**

9 **(B) Consistent measurable indicators of social impacts;**

10 **(C) Efficient long-term ecological sampling protocols that remain consistent and respon-**
11 **sive to adaptive management;**

12 **(D) Assessment of the capacity for the marine reserves to enhance ecological resilience**
13 **to environmental disturbances, including data collection and evaluation over long periods of**
14 **time and on how the reserves operate as a network; and**

15 **(E) Defined goals for outreach and engagement, including engagement with federally re-**
16 **cognized Indian tribes, and assessments to evaluate the effectiveness in achieving these**
17 **goals.**

18 **(b) A collaborative process through which social monitoring data on the reserves can be**
19 **interpreted to affect policy decisions. The process should include steps for decision-making**
20 **and conflict management.**

21 **SECTION 2.** ORS 196.545 is amended to read:

22 196.545. (1) The State Department of Fish and Wildlife, in consultation with members from the
23 scientific and technical advisory committee established under ORS 196.451, other relevant marine
24 and fishery scientists, relevant state agencies, ocean users and coastal communities shall implement
25 the activities described in ORS 196.540 by developing **and amending** a work plan **and adaptive**
26 **management plan consistent with ORS 196.540.**

27 (2) The work plan shall contain the following elements regarding the marine reserves described
28 in ORS 196.540:

29 (a) A biological assessment, including information on habitat characterization, biological re-
30 sources, local knowledge and, for the established [*pilot*] marine reserves, monitoring plans.

31 (b) A socioeconomic assessment, including a description of human uses, net effects on sport and
32 commercial fisheries and communities and, for the established [*pilot*] marine reserves, monitoring
33 plans.

34 (c) Formation of community teams, with diverse and balanced stakeholder representation that
35 includes local government, recreational fishing industry, commercial fishing industry, nonfishing in-
36 dustry, recreationalists, conservation, coastal watershed councils, relevant marine and avian scien-
37 tists, to collaborate and develop recommendations **as needed** for potential **changes to** marine
38 reserves, considering the biological and socioeconomic information developed under this
39 section. Collaboration may be facilitated by a neutral outside party hired through a competitive
40 bidding process.

41 (d) Provision of information on the process and data gathered to interested parties and made
42 available to the public.

43 (e) Development of scientifically based goals specific to each of the marine reserve sites, incor-
44 porating continuity and cumulative outcomes, benefits and impacts.

45 [*f) Provision of baseline data on Oregon's territorial sea, as defined in ORS 196.405.*]

1 [(g)] (f) Development of an enforcement plan in consultation with the Oregon State Police and
2 representatives from affected user groups.

3 [(h)] (g) Use of communities and volunteers to assist in implementing the work plan where fea-
4 sible and practical.

5 **(h) Continued engagement of communities, including commercial and recreational fishing**
6 **fleets, in order to ensure that marine reserve science is useful to communities and that the**
7 **department incorporates community and fishermen knowledge into ongoing research and**
8 **monitoring efforts.**

9 [(3) *The data and recommendations produced from the work plan and other available nearshore*
10 *data shall be used by the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, in consultation with the Ocean Policy*
11 *Advisory Council, to recommend the number, size, location and restriction limits of the potential sites*
12 *for marine reserve designation, consistent with Executive Order 08-07. If, through this process, it is*
13 *determined that other appropriate sites need to be considered or that potential sites are not consistent*
14 *with Executive Order 08-07, then the data and recommendations produced shall be provided to the*
15 *public, the State Department of Fish and Wildlife and other relevant state agencies for future purposes*
16 *relevant to nearshore management.*]

17 **SECTION 3. In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-**
18 **ated to the State Department of Fish and Wildlife, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023,**
19 **out of the General Fund, the amount of \$800,000, to implement ORS 196.540 (3).**

20 **SECTION 4.** ORS 196.542 is amended to read:

21 196.542. [(1) *The State Fish and Wildlife Commission may not impose prohibitions on fishing by*
22 *rule pursuant to ORS 196.540 until the baseline data specified in ORS 196.545 (2)(f) have been collected*
23 *consistent with scientifically based monitoring plans.*]

24 [(2)] In implementing the activities described in ORS 196.540 pursuant to ORS 196.545, the State
25 Department of Fish and Wildlife shall use local resources where feasible and practical.

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