FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION



Legislative Fiscal Office 83rd Oregon Legislative Assembly 2025 Regular Session

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Bill Title: Relating to small watercraft.

Government Unit(s) Affected: Marine Board

Summary of Fiscal Impact

Costs related to the measure are anticipated to be minimal - see explanatory analysis.

Summary of Revenue Impact

Agency Fund Type	2025-27 Biennium	2027-29 Biennium
Oregon State Marine Board	\$ 1,048,182	\$ 1,391,304
Total Revenue Impact	\$ 1,048,182	\$ 1,391,304

Measure Description

The measure increases various boating fees collected by the Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB). Among the fee types impacted, the measure:

- Increases the aquatic invasive species prevention permit for non-resident boats from \$20 to \$30
- Increases the biennial fee for original or renewal registration of motorized boats from \$5 to \$8
- Increases the fee for an operator of a boat livery holding five or more boats ready for hire from \$10 to \$13 for each boat, which must be deposited into the Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Fund
- Increases the amount deposited from the sale of waterway access permits into the Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Fund

The measure removes the 10-foot minimum requirement for a waterway access permit while operating a nonmotorized boat. The measure also exempts nonmotorized boats under 10 feet used for whitewater recreation from the waterway access permit requirement.

Fiscal Analysis

As a result of the boating fee increases in the measure, OSMB will update its fee structure using existing budgetary resources. The measure is therefore anticipated to have a minimal fiscal impact on OSMB.

However, the measure would have a revenue impact on OSMB. Removing the 10-foot minimum requirement for a waterway access permit will increase the amount deposited into both the Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Fund and the Waterway Access Fund. OSMB estimates an additional 18,750 permits sold from the removal of this requirement in the 2025-27 biennium, and an additional 25,000 in the 2027-29 biennium. In addition, by exempting nonmotorized boats engaged in whitewater recreation activities from having to purchase a waterway access permit, OSMB estimates the measure would reduce unit sales from this user group by 750 in the 2025-27 biennium and 1,000 units in the 2027-29 biennium. That would reduce fee revenue by \$15,000 in the 2025-27 biennium and \$20,000 in the 2027-29 biennium, respectively.

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Once the boating fee increases take effect in January 2026, the measure is projected to generate approximately \$1 million in fee revenue during the 2025-27 biennium. Of this amount, \$832,182 will be deposited into the Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Fund and \$216,000 will be deposited into the Waterway Access Fund. The measure is also projected to generate an additional \$1.4 million of fee revenue in the 2027-29 biennium. For context, the current boating fees are projected to generate \$3.5 million in total fee revenue in the 2025-27 biennium.

OSMB's budget will need additional Other Funds expenditure limitation to expend the increased fee revenue deposited in the Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Fund and the Waterway Access Fund.

Relevant Dates

The measure takes effect on January 1, 2026.

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