

HB 2342 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

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

Prepared By: Anna Glueder, LPRO Analyst

Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 2/24, 3/24

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure incrementally raises fees for specific wildlife licenses, tags, and permits, along with certain fishing and vessel permit fees over a six-year period. It also establishes the Marine Fisheries Enhancement Fund Subaccount (subaccount) and authorizes the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to impose ocean endorsement fees, which will be deposited into the subaccount.

Detailed Summary

Wildlife license, tag, and permit fees

- The measure updates scheduled increases of certain wildlife license, tag, and permit fee amounts for activities occurring on or after January 1, 2026 and on or after January 1, 2030.

Marine Fisheries Enhancement Fund

- Establishes the Marine Fisheries Enhancement Fund Subaccount (subaccount) in the Fish and Wildlife account and specifies the promotion and enhancement of marine fisheries and marine conservations as the only authorized expenditures for the subaccount.
- Authorizes the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to establish annual and daily ocean endorsements in the marine zone as designated by rule for any fish species except shellfish and requires endorsement fees to be deposited in the subaccount.

Fishing fees

The measure increases annual fees for the following activities and permit applications occurring on or after January 1, 2026, January 1, 2028, and January 1, 2030:

- permits to take bottom-dwelling animals living intertidally
- certain boat and fishing licenses
- landing fees
- limited fish seller permits
- permits to participate in sea urchin fishery
- permits to participate in roe-herring fishery
- permits to participate in ocean Dungeness crab fishery
- certain vessel permits

Increases annual fees for certain vessel permit transfers occurring on or after January 1, 2026.

Takes effect on the 91st day following adjournment sine die.

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:

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-2 The amendment clarifies the boundaries for ocean endorsements by specifying them as ocean waters to the west of the high tide line, visible jetty ends, or the Buoy 10 north-south line in the Columbia River. It further exempts salmon and steelhead trout fishing from the endorsement.

FISCAL: Fiscal impact issued

REVENUE: Revenue impact issued

BACKGROUND:

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) receives funding from several sources. A third of ODFW's revenue comes from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses. Another third comes from the federal government – much of it tied to the sale of hunting and fishing equipment. The rest of the department funding comes from a variety of sources. Most of that funding can be used only for specific purposes spelled out in grants, contracts, or statute. Eleven percent of ODFW's revenue comes from Oregon's general tax dollars and the lottery combined.