

HB 3932 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Prepared By: Erin Pischke, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/25, 4/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure requires the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to adopt rules with specific criteria related to navigable or non-navigable rivers, streams, and watersheds and which prohibit a person from taking a beaver, for a recreational or commercial purpose, from such waterways and watersheds.

Detailed summary:

Defines terms. Requires the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) to adopt rules specific criteria related to navigable or non-navigable rivers, streams, and watersheds and which prohibit a person from taking a beaver, for a recreational or commercial purpose, from such waterways and watersheds. Requires the Commission to adopt rules in section 2 as soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act. Allows an employee of a federal or state land management agency may take a beaver or arrange for the taking of a beaver for certain allowable reasons. Specifies that provisions of the measure and rulemaking do not apply on public lands that are otherwise closed to the hunting and trapping of beaver.

- *FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement issued yet*
- *REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement issued yet*

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Prior to 2023, beavers causing damage on private property were defined as predatory animals and rodents under animal laws administered by the Oregon Department of Agriculture, and unlimited taking of beaver on private land without a permit was allowed. House Bill 3464 (2023) removed beavers from the statutory definition of "predatory animal," and allowed for killing beaver only by permit, with exceptions for threats to infrastructure or crops and for certain small forestland owners.