

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Department of Fish and Wildlife Hatchery Assessment

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Natural Resources Subcommittee
Carrier: Representative Levy

On April 3rd, the Natural Resources Subcommittee received a report from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife on their Hatchery Assessment.

SB 5506, from the 2023 session, included a budget note directing the Department to obtain a third-party assessment of the operations, sustainability, and climate vulnerability of state-owned fish hatcheries, and report back to the Legislature during the 2025 session. Seven separate contracts were issued due to the broad range of expertise and topics to be covered, including extensive public engagement. The report identified the following key findings:

- All hatcheries provide a positive net economic benefit.
- Climate vulnerability varies among location and species.
- Nearly all species in all regions indicated a future hatchery need related to either mitigation, conservation, or harvest augmentation.
- Estimated infrastructure needs at the 14 state-owned hatcheries totaled \$180 million in 2024.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends acknowledging receipt of the report.