

Agenda Item Summary

BACKGROUND

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) derive approximately 35 percent of its biennial budget from license and tag fees from the sport and commercial users. The Agency has two sets of fees, one set of fees is set in statute by the legislature and one set is adopted in permanent rule by the ODFW Commission.

House Bill 2223 has been approved by the 2009 Legislature to increase the statutorily set fees by approximately 21 percent. The administratively set fees haven't been increased since 2000, and some of the fees have remained unchanged since 1974.

In 2004 the Agency made a commitment to the recreational hunters and fishers that the next fee increase would include increases in all fees, including the administratively set fees.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

ODFW started its public outreach process in January 2008 to discuss the potential of raising license fees to be effective January 1, 2010. Below is a summary of those outreach activities:

First, the agency formed an External Budget Advisory Committee (EBAC) made up of over 40 public members who have been actively engaged in agency issues over time. The EBAC members are from many different organizations, and include land-based industry, public officials, and sportsmen group representatives. The EBAC committee met three times from January through May 2008.

Second, agency staff traveled around the state to 13 different town hall meetings outlining the budget issues for the 2009-11 biennium, which included specific discussions about a possible fee increase. There were approximately 300 members of the public that attended these meetings, along with agency staff.

Third, the department met directly with constituent groups such as hunting and fishing groups, trappers and fur traders, private hunting reserves, conservation groups and cervid ranchers to discuss the fee increases that affect their groups.

Fourth, the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission took public testimony at their June 6, 2008 hearing where they adopted specific fee increases and budget recommendations.

Fifth, the House Natural Resource Committee, chaired by Representative Clem assigned a workgroup to review ODFW's proposed fee increase. Representative Krieger was appointed the chair of the work group and several industry representatives were asked to participate. The group met three times to review each individual fee. Concensus was achieved and the fee bill was approved by the House Natural Resource Committee.

Final, the fee bill had public hearings in both the House and Senate.

ISSUE 1

FORMAL ADOPTION OF OREGON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES THAT SETS NEW LICENSE FEES THAT ARE NOT SET IN STATUE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2010.

ANALYSIS

A summary of the recommend license and fee increases is presented in the attachment Summary of Individual Fee Increases.

OPTIONS

Option 1. Approve ODFW staff recommended license and fee increases
Option 2. Reject any and all recommended license and fee increases.

**STAFF
RECOMMENDATION**

Option 1.

DRAFT MOTION

I move to amend Chapter 635, Divisions 006, 007, 008, 010, 043, 044, 047, 048, 049, 050, 051, 055, 056, 060, 065, 066, 067, 075, 090, and 200 relating to increasing administratively set licenses and fees, as proposed by staff.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Upon Filing