



AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

BACKGROUND

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) maintains a consolidated bearer's license program that provides no-charge licenses to statutorily defined government entities so that they can provide recreational services to their respective constituencies. The passage of Senate Bill 320-A Engrossed (SB320) during the 2021 legislative session added nonprofit organizations that provide excursions to veterans and service members as authorized participants of the bearer's license program and provides the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) with rule making authority for the program.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

These concepts were presented and discussed during the 2021 Legislative Session through legislative review of SB 320. Public review and comment on the draft rules will be accepted prior to, and during, the December Commission meeting.

ISSUE 1

Adoption of Oregon Administrative Rules to implement Senate Bill 320

ANALYSIS

The passage of SB320 during the 2021 Legislative session amended Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 497.162 to provide no-charge daily angling licenses to nonprofit organizations for up to an estimated 50,000 eligible veterans and armed service members to participate in outdoor excursions with the purpose of fishing or harvesting shellfish. SB320 also provides the Commission with rulemaking authority to implement this statute effective January 1, 2022 through January 2, 2027.

OPTIONS

1. Create a rule to allow for no-charge daily angling licenses to nonprofit organizations for excursions with Veterans and Service Members.
2. Do not create a rule to allow for no-charge daily angling licenses to organizations for excursions with Veterans and Service Members.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

ODFW staff recommend creating a rule to allow for providing no-charge daily angling licenses to organizations for excursions with Veterans and Service Members.

Having rules in place that outlines the details of a program like this is essential for program participants and beneficiaries to understand compliance standards and qualifications associated with it. Rules allow ODFW to define key data elements and reporting requirements for participating organizations. Defining these items for the organizations will ensure an increased level of data collection and data quality for future analysis to be conducted on the program.

Rules also allow for the development of agency policies and procedures for the program. This would mitigate management risks associated with rolling out a new program at the state level.

DRAFT MOTION:

I move to amend OAR Chapter 635, Division 010 as proposed by staff in Exhibit 3.

Effective Date: January 1, 2022