

Oregon State Marine Board

House Bill 2321 -Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program

Purpose

This legislative concept expands regulations to prevent the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species within the state. Removes permit exemption for boats under 10 feet.

Background

The Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program (AISPP) was passed into law in 2009. Mandatory inspections at designated stations along Oregon's borders were added to the law in 2011.

In 2014, the National Sea Grant Law Center published a report, "Preventing the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species by Recreational Boats: Model Legislative Provisions and Guidance to Promote Reciprocity among State Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination Programs". One recommendation within this report is the requirement to drain all standing or captured water and transport boats with plugs and valves open to facilitate drainage in the boat to minimize standing water that can support mussel survival.

Current statute does not provide authority to require a vehicle transporting a boat that bypassed an open inspection station to return to the station for inspection.

Current law exempts boats less than 10 feet from carrying the AIS permit. This element of the law was adopted from another state and is a source of contention among boaters and difficult to enforce by law enforcement. Removing the under 10 feet exemption clarifies the intent of the law and raises additional revenue, thereby eliminating the need for a fee increase this biennium.

Fees

No change. \$5 annual, \$10 two-year permit.

Summary

Require boaters to drain standing water after a boat is removed from a waterbody and before the boat is transported away from the boat launch or retrieval area by opening all drain plugs, bailers, valves or other devices used to control the draining of water from ballast tanks, bilges, livewells and motorwells. Boats must be transported within the state in this manner. The penalty for failure to comply is a Class D violation with a presumptive fine of \$30 for non-motorized boats and \$50 for motorized boats.

Requires a person transporting a boat to return to an inspection station if stopped by law enforcement for bypassing a mandatory inspection station, provided the station is open and within five miles of the location of the stop. Failure to return to the inspection station is a Class C misdemeanor.

Clarifies persons 14 years of age or older are required to carry a permit when operating a non-motorized boat. Requires person to cooperate with recommended decontamination process at check station. Removes the exemption for boats under 10 feet and requires all boats to carry an AIS permit.

Fiscal Impact	2017-2019	2019-2021
Revenue	\$419,537	\$569,463
Expenditures		
Staff	\$38,680	\$53,990
S&S	\$9,855	\$16,155
Special Payments	\$318,536	\$329,132
. Total	\$366,536	\$399,277

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