

S 3315

Predation Reduction of Salmon Act

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Animals

Introduced: Jul 31, 2018

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (Jul 31, 2018)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/3315>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]

Party: Democratic • **State:** OR • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Jul 31, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 31, 2018

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Animals

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 2083	Related bill	Jun 27, 2018: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Predation Reduction of Salmon Act

This bill amends the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to authorize the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to issue permits allowing Washington, Oregon, and Idaho to kill sea lions in a portion of the Columbia River and certain tributaries in order to protect specified fish from sea lion predation. Specifically, the permits may be issued to protect: (1) endangered or threatened species of salmon, steelhead, or eulachon; and (2) species of lamprey or sturgeon that are listed as a species of concern. Those states may enter into memoranda of understanding with Indian tribes with legal or historic interests in the protection of the species in such area for deterrence and removal of sea lions.

Permits may be issued to kill sea lions only if the sea lions are part of a population that is not categorized as depleted or strategic.

The cumulative annual taking of sea lions each year under all such permits is limited to 10% of the annual potential biological removal level. In addition, the takings must be humane.

NOAA must suspend the issuance of the permits if, after five years, lethal removal authority is no longer necessary to protect fish from sea lion predation.

The Department of the Interior must study the effectiveness of the permits on the recovery of salmon and steelhead stocks.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 31, 2018:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jul 31, 2018:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.