



SOUTH CAROLINA REVENUE AND FISCAL AFFAIRS OFFICE
STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT
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This fiscal impact statement is produced in compliance with the South Carolina Code of Laws and House and Senate rules. The focus of the analysis is on governmental expenditure and revenue impacts and may not provide a comprehensive summary of the legislation.

Bill Number: H. 3505 Introduced on January 10, 2023
Author: J. E. Johnson
Subject: Blue Catfish
Requestor: House Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Environmental Affairs
RFA Analyst(s): Miller
Impact Date: January 20, 2023

Fiscal Impact Summary

This bill removes all other state waterways as areas where it is unlawful to possess more than two blue catfish more than thirty-two inches long or to take more than twenty-five blue catfish in a day.

This bill will have no expenditure impact for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) as the agency anticipates being able to manage this within the normal course of business.

Additionally, this bill will not have a revenue impact as there are so few violations ticketed. It is not anticipated that shrinking the area for the possession or removal of blue catfish will result in a change in the number of violations, and thereby, the amount of fines collected.

Explanation of Fiscal Impact

Introduced on January 10, 2023

State Expenditure

This bill removes all other state waterways as areas where it is unlawful to possess more than two blue catfish more than thirty-two inches long or to take more than twenty-five blue catfish in a day.

DNR will update its annual Hunting and Fishing guide publication and online media to reflect this change in where it is unlawful to possess more than two blue catfish more than thirty-two inches long or to take more than twenty-five blue catfish in a day. DNR anticipates being able to manage this within the normal course of business. Therefore, this bill will have no expenditure impact for DNR.

State Revenue

This bill removes all other state waterways as areas where it is unlawful to possess more than two blue catfish more than thirty-two inches long or to take more than twenty-five blue catfish in a day. A person who violates this provision is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be fined up to \$300. According to DNR, a person may pay up to \$630, including the fine and court fees.

According to DNR's records there have been three summons tickets issued for these violations. As there are so few violations ticketed, it is not anticipated that shrinking the area for the possession or removal of blue catfish will result in a change in the number of violations, and thereby, the amount of fines collected. Therefore, this bill will not have a revenue impact.

Local Expenditure

N/A

Local Revenue

N/A



Frank A. Rainwater, Executive Director