

Exhibit B

**Public Correspondence received
as of July 17, 2014**

Lisa Evans

From: ODFW Comments <odfw.comments@state.or.us>
Sent: Thursday, June 05, 2014 8:24 AM
To: Debbie L Colbert; Lisa Evans
Subject: FW: Trout Unlimited Comments on ODFW budget 6-5-2014
Attachments: OCTU comments on ODFW budget 6-5-2014 (1).docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

From: thomas [mailto:tmilowolf@msn.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 05, 2014 8:22 AM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us; odfw.comments@state.or.us; Debbie Colbert; Ed Bowles; Roy ELICKER
Subject: Trout Unlimited Comments on ODFW budget 6-5-2014

Trout Unlimited Comments which will be delivered today before ODFW Commission.

Tom Wolf, Executive Director
Oregon Council Trout Unlimited
22875 NW Chestnut Street
Astoria, OR 97124
503-640-2123
503-883-1102 cell
tmilowolf@msn.com
www.tuoregon.org
www.tu.org



From: Darek Staab
Upper Deschutes Home Rivers Initiative for Trout Unlimited
50 SW Bond St. Suite 4, Bend, OR, 97702

June 4, 2014

To: Chair Levy and ODFW Commissioners

Attention: ODFW budget and changes in staff

On behalf of the Upper Deschutes Home Rivers Initiative of Trout Unlimited (TU), thank you for your time and interest in taking care of our shared fisheries in Central Oregon. I am writing in support of our local region's ODFW staff, and specifically the important work of our STEP Biologist and the Assistant District Fish Biologists. I work as an ODFW partner in the basin, and the work of the biologists has been critical for monitoring our diverse fish populations and actively working on restoration and education projects. Our region is large, and we have worked extremely hard to leverage funding from across the nation to support our rivers and fish, and ODFW's biologists have been essential in our scientific, education, and restoration work. We must find a way to keep these great people on staff, as I couldn't imagine implementing adaptive management without the data they collect, without the volunteers they supervise, and without their knowledge of our unique species and habitat throughout the region. I work extensively with Jen Luke, Tim Porter, Erik Moberly and Brett Hodgson, and they are all essential to this region and taking care of our fish!

We are a national organization with over 600 local members who support conservation and restoration of native and wild fish in the Upper Deschutes river basin. We support projects for our community and watershed which combine volunteers, staff support, and grant funds to care for our local and shared natural resources. TU and ODFW work closely out here in Central Oregon. Together we collect data on the impacts of grazing, poor road drainage, recreational impacts, and how these management impacts effect our fish populations. We are all stretched thin, as we are trying to fix 100 years of harmful grazing, road construction and maintenance, irrigation practices, and a growing recreation economy. In addition, our rivers and streams are rugged, and we all need to work carefully together to carry out our spawning surveys, snorkel surveys, restoration of native fish through releases of fry and smolt into our streams, and therefore every rig, set of gear, and staff member is essential. We need to consider cuts carefully for our future, and not sacrifice the staff getting the work done on the ground.

Trout Unlimited, as a partner in the basin, directly supports strong science and management in the basin. If we don't have key staff to collect the needed information, write comments related to management actions, support restoration practices to improve our habitat, than our fish and angling experiences will just continue to degrade, and our future will suffer. We urge you to support our local biologists on the Crooked, Deschutes and Metolius systems and the absolutely critical science, restoration and advocacy they provide for our dry and conservative landscape.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Darek Staab", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Darek Staab, Project Manager for Trout Unlimited's Deschutes Initiative

Lisa Evans

From: Les Helgeson <greenhills@wildblue.net>
Sent: Thursday, June 05, 2014 12:18 PM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Cc: Rep Gomberg; Sen Roblan; BROWNSCOMBE Brett * GOV; REP Krieger; SEN Bates; SEN Johnson
Subject: ODFW Budget

Commissioners,

I cannot support staff's budget as presented at recent meetings across the state. It is clear the Department is facing an expanding budget deficit which renders current programs and staffing levels unsustainable. This is nothing new.

It is time for user groups to pay the true cost of managing hunting and fishing opportunities. Based upon charts and figures provided, it is clear that management of hunting and fishing resources, especially the fishing component, consumes the vast majority of the Department's budget. I might support some very limited general fund for management efforts that contribute to the enjoyment of a majority of Oregonians (ie wildlife viewing) but expecting folks to pay, for example, for the killing of birds and seals under the presumption it would improve hunting and fishing opportunities is without merit and insults the senses of sensible people. Likewise, directly subsidizing hunting and fishing opportunity with general fund dollars is equally unmeritorious.

A fundamental problem facing the agency, as it has always been, is the ever increasing costs of hatchery operations. Since 2000 the agency has been additionally faced with a substantially reduced user base largely due to fee increases put into effect at that time (and since). It is no secret that many of the resources themselves have been in a state of serious depletion for the most part so the Department is in a dilemma. Despite various public relations campaigns funded and implemented by the Department, the public is well aware that hunting and fishing in Oregon is a time and resource consuming endeavor that is most often unsuccessful. Quality outdoor experiences can be had for far less so other outdoor user opportunities are growing while fishing and hunting have declined substantially over the years. PR campaigns have done little to reverse this trend.

Indeed, much of the economic benefit attributed to hunting and fishing is transitory. Other outdoor activities most often entail expenditures for gas, lodging, food, equipment/gadgets etc. so the argument for general fund dollars to support ODFW is weak at best. Would we support ski passes with general fund dollars so as to backfill this specialty business sector?

While I could support general fund dollars for OSP, reality is most of their effort is directed at patrolling "crowd fisheries" supported by fish hatcheries. As such license/tag fees should be dedicated and match any general funds - dollar for dollar. Regions are currently understaffed so availability of troopers to assist the general public is severely limited, and would continue to be so under the current budget proposal.

User fees will have to be increased substantially beyond what staff is suggesting. I can only support the use of general funds that are in the bona fide interest of a majority of Oregonians and not just a small minority who are resource consumers, along with the relatively limited number of businesses that depend on them. In other words, it is time hunters and fisherman pay the true cost the benefit they are receiving. Reality is current hatchery operations are unsustainable and may have to be reduced, as well.

It may also be time to consider incorporating the hunting and fishing component of ODFW into the Department

of Agriculture just as the Department of F & W is nested within the School of Agriculture at Oregon State University. Such a move would potentially create substantial administrative efficiency and could thus help offset fee increases needed in lieu of general fund requests. Perhaps a new agency might be established that would assume the wildlife conservation mandate of the current ODFW. The current mission of ODFW is untenable and at cross purposes resulting in substantial inefficiency from resource, financial and legal perspectives.

Ultimately, the legislature will need to consider what to do with an agency that is unsustainable and in a perpetual state of bailout for want of maintaining an antiquated hatchery system that benefits a small minority of Oregonians. Unfortunately, we have now largely lost the opportunity to restore viable native populations in the foreseeable future so little alternative is left but to have anglers and businesses associated with these fisheries pay their fair share.

Hatcheries should also be required to donate returning fish to local food banks so anglers who allegedly depend on fishing for food would could continue to do so if they qualify for food bank assistance. The same should be done for wildlife seized from poachers (currently meat is donated to local jails with benefit to criminals - often those doing the poaching!).

In conclusion, I remain strongly opposed to appropriating general fund dollars that are otherwise needed for education, law enforcement and health care needs - especially the disabled. The proposal before you remains a request for steak and lobster at the cost of a hamburger. As such license fees will need to increase and appropriate cuts made to administration and hatchery programs, in particular, in lieu of appropriation of general funds.

sincerely,
gards,

Les Helgeson

Les Helgeson
40805 Upper Nestucca River Road
Beaver, OR 97108
Home: (503) 398-5965
Email: greenhills@wildblue.net

Ray Elicker

6/24/14

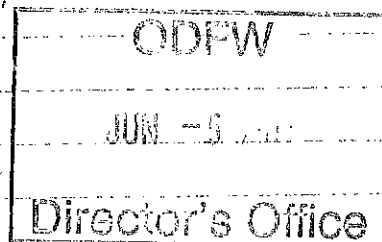
My Coworkers and myself think it is Crap that you want to increase the price of Tags and license to hunt in Oregon.

It's bad enough that we have to call and report on Deer Tags.

I would like to know why the Hell a Turkey Tag costs as much as a Deer Tag.

NO MORE HUNTING FEES!

1400 Appleton
medford or
97501
Kenneth J. Drake



Roy Elicker, Director
Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, OR 97302

Re: Management, Budgeting, and Field Staff (Especially Bill Tinniswood)

Dear Director Elicker:

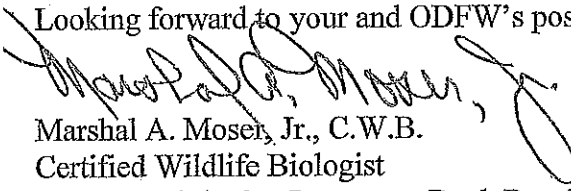
Please accept this urgent message to be included in your 2015-17 Proposed Agency Budget process including the ODFW Commission Briefing on June 5, 2014. Note my comments are not due to the proposed increase in license fees, that there is inflation and other cost increases is understandable as long as good management decisions are made.

My first request is very unusual as a wildlife professional, i.e., support of a specific government employee through a budgeting process. I am speaking of the Assistant Fish Biologist out of Klamath Falls, Bill Tinniswood, a significantly outstanding field employee. As I state below, research and field staff of ODFW is of ultimate importance. You may have learned Bill goes beyond the usual employee of 9-5, using his personal time and money to further research, restoration, and management of Oregon's renewable natural resources. He is the face of ODFW over a huge section of Oregon's wild world-class fishery, doing an excellent job and coordinating fish management actions among a plethora of agencies, private organizations, and individuals (including myself) and is positively known well beyond his area of official duties.

My second comment is generated, in part, from the need to make the first request. As concerned managers of a natural resource agency, please do everything possible to keep your field and research teams as fully staffed and supplied as possible. You are the coordinators and decision makers to keep the hands and feet of ODFW staffed and equipped to do the job for the public. PR is very important to ODFW mission and funding; many are afraid that the budgeting proposals reflect negatively on what happens to management over time in so many agencies and other organizations. You know the situation, of course, better than I. Please make any necessary cuts and streamlining as much as possible on the administrative side and do not allow ODFW to become another top-heavy bureaucratic agency, remote, expensive, and inefficient in serving the public.

In support of my professional recommendations my background includes, presently, over 36 years as a free-lance Biological Consultant. I am certified by The Wildlife Society, an international organization of wildlife professionals. My clients have included the federal government to private companies and individuals. Before that I was a state director for six years for a national conservation organization.

Looking forward to your and ODFW's positive decisions, sincerely,


Marshal A. Moser, Jr., C.W.B.
Certified Wildlife Biologist
Manager-Biologist, Lonesome Duck Ranch
EcoServices Biological Consulting
32965 Highway 97 N
Priloquin, Oregon 97624-9725
Personal Cell Phone: 541/880-4629
Personal E-mail: MarshalMoser@gmail.com
Website: www.lonesomeduck.com

ODFW

01/16/14

Director's Office

Cc: Curt Melcher, Deputy Director-Natural Resources, ODFW

Jason Bader

From: jdldcustom <jdldcustom@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 05, 2014 8:10 PM
To: odfw.info@state.or.us
Subject: Fees

Your license fees are absolutely ridiculous. You set the seasons up for fishing failure, over regulate the harvest, and change your already confusing regulations multiple times throughout the seasons, then expect people to pay nearly \$100 for just the right to fish in this over taxed state? It's no wonder this is a dying activity/industry. Assholes...

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE smartphone

Lisa Evans

From: Teri Kucera
Sent: Friday, June 06, 2014 3:36 PM
To: Lisa Evans
Subject: FW: Comments?

Use this version for the August exhibit. Thanks.

From: Roy Elicker
Sent: Friday, June 06, 2014 2:05 PM
To: Brett Hodgson; Lind, Yancy A - BEND OR
Cc: ELICKER Roy; Teri Kucera; Debbie L Colbert; Curt Melcher
Subject: RE: Comments?

Thanks for your comments, Yancy. Much appreciated. Since they came in today, we will be sure that they are in the Commission's final August budget package.

From: Brett Hodgson [<mailto:brett.l.hodgson@state.or.us>]
Sent: Friday, June 06, 2014 10:00 AM
To: Lind, Yancy A - BEND OR
Cc: ELICKER Roy
Subject: RE: Comments?

Yancy,

This looks great. Thanks again for your support.

Here's Roy's email.

roy.elicker@state.or.us

From: Lind, Yancy A - BEND OR [mailto:yancy_lind@ml.com]
Sent: Friday, June 06, 2014 8:54 AM
To: 'Brett Hodgson (brett.l.hodgson@state.or.us)'
Subject: Comments?

Brett,

Comments on this before I send it off? Also, I can't find Roy's email address on the ODFW website. Can you send that to me?

I gave your contact info to the Bend Paddle Trails Alliance folks. They are looking for someone to give them input from a fisheries perspective on their plan for replacing the Mirror Pond dam.

Thanks.

Yancy

To: Roy Elicker, Director, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife

Cc: Central Oregon Flyfishers Board of Directors

Director Elicker,

Central Oregon Flyfishers is an angling club located in Bend with approximately 291 member families residing throughout Central Oregon and the rest of the state. We are an active club with year-round meetings, outings, education programs, and conservation activities where we work closely with our local ODFW field biologists. We also partner with the local office on STEP programs like Kokanee Karnival, an award-winning year-long fisheries and angling education program for 4th and 5th graders in the Bend-La Pine School District.

I have been authorized by the COF Board of Directors to write to you regarding your proposed 2015-2017 budget. We appreciate the difficulty the projected \$32M budget shortfall presents. We understand that all cuts will be painful and you have a tough problem. We would like to make a few comments:

- 1) We believe that it is imperative that you make no further cuts to field biologist staffing. We know firsthand how important these individuals are to monitoring, maintaining, and improving the health of the fisheries we anglers cherish. We also believe that your efforts to create "efficiencies" in the field should not limit the ability of the field biologists to effectively do their jobs.
- 2) We support your proposal to increase angler license fees as well as adding a fee to the Pioneer License. In fact, we believe that you are being too modest in your proposed rate increases. While no one likes to pay more for anything, if an Oregonian can afford to go fishing they can afford to pay more for a license. When compared to the cost of gear, travel, food, lodging, etc., a license is a minor expense. An annual license is less than the cost of a single tank of gas. We believe that license fees, including those for the Pioneer License, should be raised enough to at least cover the expense of keeping your field biologists.
- 3) We do not support lowering the age at which a youth license is required. Nor do we support increasing youth license fees. As you have pointed out, the number of licensed anglers in Oregon has declined over the years. We believe that providing an easy path to introducing new, young anglers to our sport should be provided. Lowering the age or increasing the fees for a youth license would not be consistent with that.

Thank you for your consideration. We appreciate the work you and everyone at ODFW does.

Best wishes,

Yancy Lind
Conservation Chair, Central Oregon Flyfishers

Yancy Lind, CRPC®
Lind | White Group
Senior Financial Advisor | Vice President
Merrill Lynch Global Wealth Management
541-312-6821 | 888-312-6821 (toll free)
yancy_lind@ml.com | www.fa.ml.com/lind_white | NMLS # 590176
"The interest of our customers must come first." - Charles E. Merrill

This message, and any attachments, is for the intended recipient(s) only, may contain information that is privileged, confidential and/or proprietary and subject to important terms and conditions available at <http://www.bankofamerica.com/emaildisclaimer>. If you are not the intended recipient, please delete this message.

son Bader

From: Nick Guist <nguist@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 07, 2014 12:18 AM
To: odfw.info@state.or.us
Subject: Hunting in Oregon

To whom it may concern:

I was watching the news yesterday and you guys came on the tube saying you have a short fall of money. As I was watching a few things came to mind. How can you guys have no money when your sitting in a brand new building bigger and better than the pervious one? Also you say theres no other choice but to raise the prices. All you doing is making it a rich man sport and pushing the average Joe not to hunt or fish. When you guys do that you really won't have any body hunting and fishing and your poaching will increase dramatically.

Ok I have a few suggestions. You guys really, really need to control your predator population and get it back under control. The cougars, the wolf's and coyotes are all wiping out the deer and elk population which in turn nothing to hunt, less hunters no money. Second try lowering the prices of all hunting and fishing licenses. Look at Idaho when they raised the prices. The same thing happened, lower hunting and fishing tags were purchased less money. So they lowered the prices back down and more people purchased tags again. The same thing will happen in this state I arantee you!

Thanks

Nick

Sent from my iPad

Jason Bader

From: CenturyLink Customer <zeekupp@q.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 08, 2014 10:44 PM
To: odfw.info@state.or.us
Subject: License fees

I read that fees are going to go up due to low participation. Why do you think it is down? Because the fees keep going up! Duh! It is going to go down further if you continue to jack up prices. When fishing first went to \$33., I boycotted it. I didn't fish that whole year. Think I won't do it again? Think again. If wages went up like this, I could get a job flipping burgers for \$50.00 an hour. I mean really. How come a fishing license in Arkansas only cost \$10.50? I have lived in both places and the fishing is not that much better here. In fact, it might be better there. Thus, it appears you have a serious waste problem just like the rest of government does. I strongly urge you to find it and quit trying to bleed us dry. Further, I want to know where every dollar goes. Can you tell me that? I bet you don't even know.

Sincerely,
Ed "Taking up the tail pipe" Boyd-Kuppenbender

Lisa Evans

From: ODFW Comments <odfw.comments@state.or.us>
Sent: Monday, June 09, 2014 8:55 AM
To: Debbie L Colbert; Lisa Evans
Subject: FW: Public Comments from the Web

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: Red Category

-----Original Message-----

From: AMOS Marty [mailto:marty.amos@state.or.us]
Sent: Sunday, June 08, 2014 10:49 PM
To: COMMENTS ODFW
Subject: Public Comments from the Web

PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM THE WEB

Topic: Other
Name: Marty Amos
E-mail: mamos@odf.state.or.us

Comment: Proposed fee increases is the main focus of my comments. I have been fishing in Oregon for nearly 40 years. When I started fishing for steelhead at 6 years old you could plunk with eggs and catch all of the fish you wanted. I have pictures of my great uncles and grandfathers catching 20 to 30 fish a day before there was a limit. Now fishing techniques have improved 10 fold while the number of fish have decreased dramatically. When I was a little kid you could watch the salmon run over riffles in the Elk and Sixes rivers for 2 days straight after the first or second good raise in the river. Now the run might last for 2 hours: two hours compared to 48 hours - that is 1:24 the fish there use to be. Now with your Northwest species enhancement plan that you have implemented the only river on the Coquille river system that you can catch a fin clipped steelhead in will be the South fork. So now you put even more pressure on one river when before it was distributed between three.

You can hardly find a blacktail deer on public land anymore so why would I want to by a tag for something you cant find?

My point is you want to charge more to receive far less. Your director at the public meeting I attended in Roseburg made a comment that the license increase was small; he made the comparison of the cost to a pint of beer. I added it up and to fish for salmon and steelhead, go crabbing, fish in the ocean and hunt deer and elk its going to cost me \$57.50 more which is a 36% increase. That is not modest to me. You want to charge us to fish in the ocean and charge us to fish in the Columbia. I do not understand why you allow gill netting in that river anyway. It is the only fresh water river on the Pacific Northwest coast that they can do that. It is a large contributor to the decline of the sturgeon in that river. I personally knew one of the gill netters and when they weren't catching salmon they targeted sturgeon because they were allowed incidental catch. You tell us we can use two rods

in lakes and reservoirs but we have to pay for it, we have to pay to catch a crab or dig a clam. The director also kept making the reference that you look at what other states are doing and charging. Well when I apply in other states for elk and deer tags I pay for my license tag and application fee. If I do not draw a tag I get all of my money back except the \$4 to \$8 application fee, but in Oregon if I do not draw a tag, I don't get my license money back, so I have a license that is useless. To me it is a rip-off; I have to pay for a hunting license to hunt for nothing because I have no tag!

The problems with deer and elk are predators and overhunting with doe and cow tags. I wish your agency would have guts enough to stand up to special interest groups and say these are the problems and here is what we are going to do about it. If raising fish cost you too much, then turn it over to private industry or step programs because they can raise fish for about a third of the cost that you can.

Lastly, quit telling lies to the public. The whole native fish thing is a joke. You have been planting fish on some streams for over 100 years and at least 70 for the rest of them so there is no such thing as a native fish. You planted Alsea river steelhead in nearly every steelhead stream because at the time you considered them superior so just that action alone you destroyed your native steelhead runs. Here a few years ago when there were no fin clipped winter steelhead coming up the Umpqua river, your reason why was that you had a large die off in the hatchery but the truth is that you had the pens full of trout for Diamond Lake. You just didn't raise the steelhead. Another lie is at times you have said that some streams are at holding capacity so some step programs had to cut back the number of fish they were planting. Here is one thing I can promise you: if you plant too many fish, mother nature will take care of it.

Your director said that he wants to see families get into fishing and hunting more but they do not want to fish for fish that they can't keep or go hunting and never see anything to shot. Another comment he made is that he has to advertise to sell tags and licenses. The answer is simple: if you have lots of fish for people to catch and game for people to hunt they will buy the tags and licenses without having to trying and sell them.

I love to hunt and fish but I am just about ready to give it up. I can't afford to spend \$150 in fuel to go to the coast fishing and not catch anything to take home or spend \$30 to \$50 a day in fuel to go hunting and not see anything.

I could go on and on but I feel like I am beating a dead dog and nothing will be done about it.

Sincerely:
Marty Amos

Jason Bader

From: JIMCHARDY@aol.com
Sent: Monday, June 09, 2014 9:10 AM
To: odfw.info@state.or.us
Subject: considering increase in licensing/tag fees

To whom it may concern:

Unlike government, we, the people our government supposedly represents, cannot harvest money from our money trees because our government's recent implosion killed said money tree. Have you ever considered consulting the current income/wage levels when establishing your fees? I am retired, as are most of my friends and are dependent upon "our" governments increases in social security to off set increases in our cost of living. Considering this fact, I will no longer be able to buy fishing/hunting licenses/tags because "my" government decided to ignore the guidelines for cost of living increases when establishing the scale of fees for hunting and fishing.

One of my favorite fishing places used to be Diamond Lake but, due to terrible mis-management on the part of "my" government, it is no longer worth the 100 mile drive. This fact, taken together with the increases "you" are considering for the "privilege" to fish, would indicate "you" are going to require we citizens to pay you more for doing a terrible job. The definition of bureaucracy continues to become more disdainful as it goes.

I know, based upon previous experience, this letter will have no impact upon your decisions, but I also want you to know that you will have at least one less supporter of your fraudulent scheme. Maybe more is less????

James Hardy
Medford, OR

Lisa Evans

From: ODFW Commission
Sent: Wednesday, June 11, 2014 2:39 PM
To: Roy Elicker; Debbie L Colbert; Lisa Evans
Subject: FW: Klamath Fisheries Biologist Position

Public Correspondence for August Commission. - Teri Kucera

-----Original Message-----

From: Karl Wenner [<mailto:kcwenner@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, June 11, 2014 9:07 AM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Klamath Fisheries Biologist Position

Dear ODFW Commission,

I am writing to strongly support continuing the position held by Bill Tinniswood in the Klamath Basin. I serve on the OWEB board but am writing as a private citizen. My experience on that board as well on the board of the Klamath Partnership, and 25 years of involvement in environmental issues in the Klamath Basin, have given me insight into just how valuable that position and its current occupant is. Bill has been involved in a myriad of restoration projects over the years and has proven himself invaluable in making sure the right thing for the resource is done. I can't overemphasize how important his role has been in many of the good projects that have been done by OWEB and other entities in the Klamath Basin.

We are on the threshold of passage of federal legislation that will facilitate massive restoration in the Klamath Basin. It would be tragic to lose Mr. Tinniswood at this historic moment. ODF&W will lose an important seat at the table by not having a representative of Bill's caliber in the basin representing ODF&W's interests.

I strongly urge you to keep this fishery position in the Klamath Basin and keep Mr. Tinniswood in that position.

Sincerely,

Karl Wenner, MD



Hood River Soil & Water CONSERVATION DISTRICT

3007 Experiment Station Rd.
Hood River, OR 97031
541-386-4588
www.hoodriverswcd.org

June 5, 2014

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission
c/o ODFW Director's Office
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, OR 97302

Dear Commission members,

I am writing to express the Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District's concern about proposed budget and positions reductions for our ODFW district program in The Dalles.

The Hood River SWCD has had a long and collaborative relationship with our partners at ODFW. We rely on them to provide input on the myriad of development issues in our county. They are our go-to resource when reviewing county and city land use permit applications. For instance, when culverts are proposed as part of new developments, they can provide information on fish presence (or absence) and sizing appropriate for fish passage.

They also provide technical input on our restoration projects, such as riparian fencing projects, agricultural water quality complaint investigations, stream crossing projects, recreational use concerns and in-stream irrigation pump upgrades. In short, the ODFW staff from The Dalles has been an exceptional resource for the Hood River valley, responding over the phone and on site to innumerable requests for assistance.

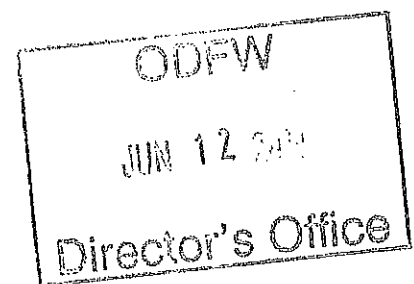
And if there is a natural resource emergency, they are literally the only state agency nearby we can call on. For instance, when hydraulic fluid drained out of some farm equipment and into a local drainage a few years back, ODFW staff came out to investigate in lieu of DEQ staff from Bend.

We know budgets are tight and cuts must be made. But please don't turn your back on our rural areas. We need boots on the ground and in the water where wildlife and fish still live. Our work to protect, conserve and restore natural resources depends on it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Nakamura".

Brian Nakamura
Board Chair



"To provide educational, technical and financial assistance to our community for the protection, conservation and restoration of natural resources."

Lisa Evans

From: ODFW Commission
Sent: Friday, June 13, 2014 10:23 AM
To: Debbie L Colbert; Lisa Evans
Subject: FW: Budget shortfall

Public correspondence for August Commission. - Teri Kucera

-----Original Message-----

From: Steven Madsen [<mailto:jassm@bendcable.com>]
Sent: Thursday, June 12, 2014 3:05 PM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Budget shortfall

At the great old age of 72 I am eligible and receive a free combination license each year. Your programs are important. I see no harm in requiring some fee for this license--perhaps half the fee for a resident fishing license. (This won't make me popular, but we receive the benefits at no cost.)

Steve Madsen
Sisters, Or

Lisa Evans

From: ODFW Commission
Sent: Monday, June 16, 2014 8:25 AM
To: Roy Elicker; Debbie L Colbert
Cc: Lisa Evans
Subject: FW: Hunting license

Comments for August 1 Commission packet. - Teri Kucera

-----Original Message-----

From: DON POSVAR [<mailto:posvarchief@msn.com>]
Sent: Saturday, June 14, 2014 8:18 PM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Hunting license

Good morning

I have a few questions about hunting license I have been behind hunting and fisherman since I was 14 I understand that the Oregon hunting and fishing licenses are going to be going up in price I understand the reason for this is because hunting and fishing licenses have been going down in the amount of people buying them Is this not punishing the people that hunt and fish raising their cost With me and my two kids that hunt and fish we are spending well over \$300 on hunting and fishing licenses If you keep raising that cost that will price me out of hunting and fishing Just a thought that this may be one reason people are not hunting and fishing anymore You have the time and want to contact me and talk by phone my cell is 503-545-5092 Thank you for your time

Sent from my iPhone



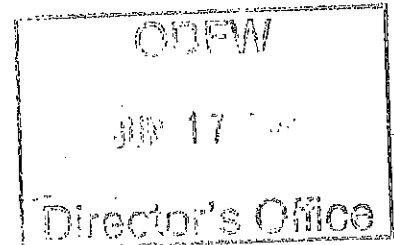
CITY OF PORTLAND
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Room 1000, Portland, Oregon 97204 ■ Nick Fish, Commissioner ■ Dean Marriott, Director

June 16, 2014

Roy Elicker, Director
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, OR 97302



Re: ODFW Budget

Dear Director Elicker:

The City of Portland understands the challenge of providing existing services in the face of rising costs and declining revenues and the difficult choices that have to be made to balance the budget. In this context, I want to emphasize some of the important partnerships the Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) has with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). We rely on some key positions that are being proposed for elimination, and face significant challenges in light of the proposed budget changes.

BES works cooperatively with ODFW on projects and permits, native fish passage, fish and wildlife recovery and conservation, and monitoring programs. Enclosed is a short summary of our cooperative work that has been invaluable in shaping city activities including restoration, Portland Harbor planning and prioritization, permitting, zoning and development, salmon recovery implementation, and Clean Water Act/NPDES compliance.

We are concerned about the ODFW 2015-2017 budget proposal which would eliminate a fish passage engineer and the assistant conservation and recovery program manager. We support the efforts by the agency to align the programs with the different sources of revenue so that hunting and fishing programs are paid by license fees and programs that support the public at large are paid by general funds. However we are concerned about the likelihood of success of ODFW's proposal to shift field staff including permit review staff, land use planning, habitat and conservation program staff, and fish conservation staff to the general fund. BES is concerned that if the proposed shift is unsuccessful or only partially funded, these programs in particular will be eliminated, significantly impacting ODFW's work in and with the City of Portland.

We encourage you to consider additional revenue generating opportunities. Unlike every other project permit BES has to secure, there is no charge for an ODFW fish passage permit. This is an opportune time to reevaluate the fish passage permit processes and associated cost recovery fees. ODFW currently charges a reasonable fee for fish salvage permits which could serve as a model for charging for a fish passage permit. ODFW could similarly consider a line item charge with the DSL permit to help cover some of the ODFW staff time reviewing and consulting on jurisdictional responsibilities with development projects that involve removal/fill. Even a nominal charge could allow these programs to continue if the general fund request is denied.

Re: ODFW Budget
June 16, 2014
Page 2

The proposed ODFW budget cuts will negatively impact the ability of BES to continue much of the cooperative work we have done with ODFW, and will have a lasting effect on conservation and restoration efforts in the Portland metro area. We would be happy to work with you on a task force or other collaborative process to explore revenue options. We are always willing to meet and discuss in more detail the impacts that the proposed cuts will have on our partnerships with ODFW.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dean Marriott". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Dean Marriott

Enclosure

cc: Commissioner Greg Wooley, Fish and Wildlife Commission
Todd Alsbury, ODFW District Biologist
Tom Murtaugh, ODFW District Biologist
Elizabeth Ruther, ODFW Habitat Conservation Biologist

BRIEF SUMMARY OF ODFW'S ROLE IN PORTLAND

JUNE, 2014

PREPARED BY SCIENCE, FISH AND WILDLIFE DIVISION
BUREAU OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

STREAMLINING TEAM

ODFW has been a valuable, reliable member of the Streamlining Team since 2003. In that time, 57 city projects were presented to the agency for review and comment, including 24 fish passage projects and 45 DSL permits that required ODFW consultation. (ODFW representatives included Jim Grimes, Mischa Connine, Todd Alsbury, Tom Murtagh and Elizabeth Ruther).

STUDIES

The City of Portland commissioned ODFW to conduct the following studies which have informed restoration prioritization and design, local regulations such as zoning, development projects, monitoring and regulatory compliance:

<i>2000-2004</i>	<i>Willamette River Fish Study</i>
<i>2000</i>	<i>Habitat surveys</i>
<i>2001-2003</i>	<i>Tributary studies</i>
<i>2008-2009</i>	<i>Tributary studies</i>

PROJECT PRIORITIZATION AND DESIGN

ODFW's participation in Streamlining has resulted in substantial value added in citywide project prioritization and design. Examples include: Culverts (helping the city prioritize Crystal Springs Creek and working with designers on each culvert replacement) and Floodplain restoration in Johnson Creek (identifying high priority sites, ensuring wildlife needs are incorporated into designs).

FISH SALVAGE

Every summer, the City conducts 2-5 instream projects that require fish salvage and relocation, some of which are very large such as the salvage last year of over 50,000 fish, 1000 crayfish and 700 native mussels from Westmoreland Park. ODFW biologists assist on these fish salvages as requested, many of which are highly visible and serve to educate the urban public of the fish and wildlife in their streams. ODFW also issues fish salvage permits for each of these projects.

CONSERVATION AND RECOVERY

The City of Portland served on the Lower Columbia River Recovery Team and Technical Team, and is currently an active member of the implementation team helping ODFW implement the federally adopted recovery plan for threatened salmon and steelhead. The City of Portland worked with ODFW on the sturgeon conservation plan which enhances our knowledge and practices in the Lower Willamette River for sturgeon, and we consult often with ODFW on lamprey issues. The City conducts annual fish monitoring which it provides to ODFW to allow ODFW to better evaluate and assist private parties, watershed councils and others doing work in other parts of the urban watersheds.

OREGON CONSERVATION STRATEGY

ODFW continues to assist on wildlife conservation issues, including OCS' applicability to large development projects like West Hayden Island, to smaller matters like managing nesting osprey in South Waterfront, working with beaver management in urban areas, and responding to human-wildlife interactions with coyotes and bears. The City works with ODFW on the OWEB Habitat Technical Team and BPA funded Willamette Wildlife Mitigation Group.

Jason Bader

From: CHAD RAGER <rager1234@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2014 9:28 AM
To: odfw.info@state.or.us
Subject: In general.

I have written several emails regarding some of the assenine decisions made by ODFW and here comes another one. Number 1 the increases in tags and licensing. When will the madness end? When will you guys realize that the significant increases over the past several years is pushing folks out of the sport, or is that the idea? You have this confusing idea that you will get more money by increasing fees because of a lack in numbers of people buying your product instead of dropping prices to lure more folks back in. Its called supply and demand economics, something the State can't seem to grasp. Now you wanna propose increases for the next 6 years, genius.

2nd, wolves. Really? We pay to keep invasive species be it plants or animals at bay, but we are letting a non native species take hold in Oregon and destroy what we as hunters and fisherman have been building for decades. Our native wolf died out decades ago and since then we have built up a sustainable population for the top predator in Oregon, hunters. Now that is being threatened by environmental groups who are hell bent on closing hunting altogether.

You folks wanna keep acting like ignorant government workers, feel free but for my family and I we are about 1 more increase away from buying any more of your B.S.

Chad Rager

Lisa Evans

From: Jose Garza <garzajrsr@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 19, 2014 11:16 PM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Again and you stand ready to ask for more !

Another yr. and another almost \$200 for the privilege to hunt or fish in Oregon, Just this week I heard a spokes-person from ODFW on OPB. Talking about the loss in revenue ODFW is having and more fees to replace the loss of funds from people refusing to or unable to pay your fees. I find another yr where disgust is my first response. Again paying extra for a chance to draw a tag in my chosen place to hunt. It said unsuccessful. Am I surprised. Do I get my \$8 fee back ? No ! I have come to expect that your system is as screwed up as the people running the show. I had told myself that this was the last yr. I would put up with this and again I fall for the tricks produced out of your office's.

At almost 200 hundred a year for you to tell me where to hunt or fish, when, why, how and then pull all this bull , To do this activity only at your chosen time and place. That really makes me angry. I swear now, that next yr. It will not be this way for me again. I will begin to put away my fish and hunt gear and refuse to sponsor in any manner your meager output of opportunity. I will refuse in any manner to pay another yrs license and fees. If I choose to fish and hunt I will seek out opportunity in another state. ODFW is not worth the time nor effort of putting my money into. The people on OPB waste away our monies and squandered any hope for Oregon residents to enjoy the outdoors.

Your organization disgusts me, along with allot of Oregon State and Federal programs. No one here seems to remember that it is the consumer that keeps you going. It is screwing the consumer that will eventually put you out of business. Along with having idiots like the Oriat's being part time Game enforcement. They are known as some of the biggest crooks in wildlife around. Closing forest lands to hunting or fees to hunt, closing fishing when the runs begin. This is the quality you want us to pay for. I wish Oregon sportsman and Women would just empty out ODFW and do away with all this nonsense.

Well I paid out the ass this year, Lets see if it does me any good to try to hunt or fish somewhere. Haven't caught a fish in yrs, last elk was 10-15 yrs ago and I drive 6 hrs to find a deer. Wow this is opportunity. Keep asking, I will try my best to get people to look at what you are doing to sports-people here in Oregon. I am sure more will stop this madness of unsuccessful attempts and fee's fee's.

You really STINK.....!!!! I am thoroughly disgusted and totally dislike ODFW and your commision I've had enough..

Don't come asking for more, mine and my family's vote is NO for ODFW

Jose Garza- Hillsboro Oregon..



Comment on ODFW
2015-17 Budget Development

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) seeks your comments as we develop our 2015-17 agency budget. We will add your comments to the record after you complete this form and:

- Turn it in at a locally hosted town hall meeting
- Fax it to ODFW at 503-947-6042
- Mail it to the ODFW Director's Office, 4034 Fairview Industrial Dr. SE, Salem OR, 97302
- Email to ODFW.Comments@state.or.us

Written comments must be received by July 17, 2014.

I am 64 yrs old and have been hunting in Oregon since I was 12, as over 50 yrs.

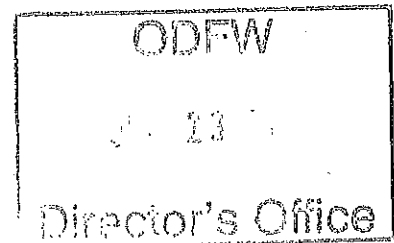
When I first started all you needed to hunt birds was a shotgun and a dog, and most of us farm kids had them. For deer you bought a Oregon deer tag good for entire state. For fish you could go down to any creek and catch fish & actually take them home and eat. No more!

Deer numbers are way down in western Oregon all the state wants to do is raise prices!

I would like to see the Pioneer license stay free, or maybe 2015 may be my last year of hunting in Oregon.

Jerry Holbrook

June 13, 2014



TO: Roy Elicker, Director and ODFW Commissioners
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

FROM: Dennis Bailey, Oregon sportsman
3440 Northridge Dr
Klamath Falls, OR 97601

RE: Comments on the proposed 2015-2017 budget

I would like to submit this letter as a formal comment regarding the proposed 2015/2017 ODFW budget and program. I attended the public meeting held in late May at Oregon Institute of Technology and listened carefully to your presentation and to the other comments. Please forward a copy of this letter to all commissioners.

Let me begin with some background on me..... I was born in Medford in 1953 to a farming family that relied on annual hunting trips for meat, recreation and continuing a long standing family tradition. I remember wandering along on deer hunts carrying my BB gun. I have tried to continue that tradition for my entire life and have raised my own children with that hunting background in mind. In addition, I have been an avid supporter of the Department (and have actually volunteered my services at times). I have close relatives who are now (and were) employed by ODFW. My uncle, Ralph Denney, was a career employee and his son, my cousin Steve, recently retired from the Roseburg office. Many, many years were spent traveling to John Day to hunt with them and a group of other biologists for deer and elk. The reason for my lengthy background description is aimed at showing that I have the knowledge, experience and interest in Oregon big game and fish management to offer my observations regarding problems and potential remedies and that I am not a "country rube" spouting off about things I know nothing about.

PROPOSED RECREATIONAL LICENSE/TAG FEES-

- license and tag fee increases- I don't have a big problem with fair and periodic increases in the fees, however in researching the cost of a general hunting license in yesteryear compared to today I have found

that, in Oregon, the cost of licenses in general have far outpaced the rate of inflation. Specifically, using the US Bureau of Labor Statistics inflation calculator, the cost of a 1989 Oregon hunting license was \$9.50 and today should be \$18.22. However, the current license fee is \$29.50. That is approximately 75% more than it should be. There are similar statistics regarding angling licenses, combination licenses and tag fees. Therefore, I am NOT in favor of any increases in license and tag fees at this time. In addition, I DO HAVE A PROBLEM when the fees continue to increase and opportunities to hunt and/or fish decrease (which is what we have been experiencing for many years now). More later on this situation.

- Pioneer License Fee- I am not quite old enough to qualify for this license but I do NOT approve of the fee.
- Ocean Endorsement-: I do NOT approve of the ocean endorsement concept. I believe this simply "opens the door" for any endorsement that the ODFW considers necessary if they spend more than a specific amount of time and/or money on a fishing water. Example: Diamond Lake was recently poisoned and the ODFW spent a lot of time and money on this project. If at the time of the work there was already an "endorsement" precedent set, I suspect you would have asked for a "Diamond Lake Endorsement".
- Multi-year hunting and fishing licenses- On the surface this sounds like a good proposal, however, after consideration I feel that this only satisfies a short term need (balance the next budget) at the expense of potential budget shortfalls in later years when sportsmen who have bought the multi-year license don't have to buy one. If enough people bought the five year license in the first year, I suspect that three years down the road there could be trouble because license revenue would be down.
- Senior combination license- I notice that currently the senior combination license fee is less than ½ of the regular combo. However, starting in 2016 the fee raises to more than 50% of the regular amount. If you kept the senior combo fee at the current ratio compared the regular combo, then I would say OK. As it is proposed I would say NO.
- Occupational/misc.- I really have no specific comment except if I was a taxidermist, fur dealer, hide/antler dealer, etc., I'd be PO'd at this proposal.

OVERALL BUDGET SCOPE AND PREPARATION

- Changes in resources (Fed, lottery, general, license/tag, etc.)- No particular comment here except I see you are showing a 7% carryover..... I believe prudent budgeting should allow for no more than 3% carryover.

This is based on my experience with local school district budgeting practices where 3% is considered the norm.

• Changes in budgeted program/scope-

1. In 1975 the Game Commission and Fish Commission were combined into the current ODFW. At that time, there were 750 employees and a biennial budget of \$40M, of which 50% was derived from user fees, 33% from the Federal government and 17% from the state general fund. There were approximately 766,000 anglers and 390,000 hunters that year. (taken from the ODFW web site under "history of the ODFW". Using the same inflation calculator as above, the proposed budget of \$349M seems awfully high to me. I realize that it may be an overly simplified notion, but the proposed budget should be approx. \$177M given the same employee numbers and overall program offering. I don't know of any specific budgetary troubles back then, but I do know that the opportunities for sportsmen to hunt and fish were outstanding compared to today. With that knowledge, I would say that, perhaps, you should be looking at going back to two separate entities, one for fish and one for game and look at the programs offered and return to those.
2. I found that in 1971 the Oregon Legislature required that the Game Commission become responsible for management of non-game species. I would suggest that this responsibility be dropped in light of severe budgetary problems.
3. Basically, I believe that the overall ODFW program has grown too much for the current budget situation and therefore I am suggesting that more severe cuts in program (and hence personnel) be implemented. When budgetary times are good we can afford to add program and staff but when times are bad (as they are NOW) the "extras" need to be removed.

THOUGHTS ON CURRENT STATE OF AFFAIRS-

I have hunted and fished this state since I was old enough to do so and have watched the evolution of hunting and fishing since the early 1960's. I cannot say that I am a satisfied sportsman. I have watched with dismay the loss of opportunity vs. the cost of participation. It wasn't that long ago that a person could hunt anywhere in the state for deer and/or elk with generous season lengths and today I am forced to choose one place to apply for, I *might be able to hunt* every 4 or 5 years in my chosen unit (Murderers Creek) for elk and for 5 days only. For deer, my chosen unit is now only available every 7-8 years (N Warner).

I once subscribed to a monthly ODFW publication called "Oregon Wildlife" and I have kept these magazines for review. In preparing for this letter I looked at hunting statistics for both deer and elk. For example, In the Warner unit in 1981, there were 3,155 hunters taking 1,428 bucks. Today, with virtually no change in private land ownership and no huge visual change in habitat, we have only 300 tags available and in the Northern part of the unit, a 7-8 years wait for a tag is the norm.

This is totally unacceptable and I am not the only person who thinks this way. Simply look at the sales of licenses..... Dropping dramatically.

OVER THE YEARS I HAVE COMMUNICATED SEVERAL TIMES WITH ODFW REGARDING BUDGET, PROGRAM, MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES AND SUCH AND HAVE FOUND MY COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS TO BE OF APPARENT NO USE. NOTHING I HAVE SUGGESTED HAS EVER BEEN IMPLEMENTED (TO MY KNOWLEDGE) AND I AM NEARLY FINISHED WITH A LONG CAREER AS AN OREGON SPORTSMAN. I FIND IT VERY DISTURBING THAT I CONTINUE TO PAY MORE AND HAVE LESS OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE.

FINALLY, INCREASED FEES WON'T BREAK ME FINANCIALLY BUT COMBINED WITH LESS AND LESS OPPORTUNITY AND REDUCED SUCCESS THREATENS TO BREAK MY SPIRIT AND SUPPORT FOR ODFW. I AM A VERY DISALLUSIONED SPORTSMAN AND YOUR PROPOSALS DON'T LOOK TO HELP THAT SITUATION.

Sincerely,


Dennis Bailey

cc- members of my hunting group

ODFW commissioners

Lisa Evans

From: Rod Moore <rod.wcseafood@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 23, 2014 10:58 AM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us; 'Roy Elicker'; 'Curt Melcher'; 'Debbie L Colbert'; 'Ed Bowles'
Cc: nancy@oregonsalmon.org; 'Hugh Link'; 'Brad Pettinger'; Joe Rohleder; Terry Thompson
Subject: Ad valorem fee increases
Attachments: EBAC_CFF support letter 2014.docx

Dear Chair Levy and Commissioners:

Please find attached a comment letter in support of proposed commercial fishing fee and ad valorem tax increases which is being submitted on behalf of the commercial fisheries members of ODFW's External Budget Advisory Committee. We appreciate your consideration of our comments. Please feel free to contact any of us if you need further information or clarification.

>}}* <:{{{<

Rod Moore
West Coast Seafood Processors Assoc.
1618 SW 1st Avenue
Suite 318
Portland, OR 97201
503-227-5076

Ms. Bobby Levy, Chair
Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, OR 97302

Dear Chair Levy:

As members of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's (ODFW) External Budget Advisory Committee and representatives of the commercial seafood industry in Oregon, we have a strong interest in ensuring that ODFW has sufficient funds to carry out its conservation and management missions. In particular, because Oregon's commercial seafood industry has committed to paying its own way via taxes and fees imposed on our industry and deposited in the Commercial Fish Fund we have been working closely with ODFW staff to achieve a delicate balance of maintaining a positive balance in the Fund without taxing our industry to the extent that economic hardship occurs or that fishermen are encouraged to land their catch in adjacent states to avoid paying Oregon landing taxes. We believe that the proposal for permit fee and *ad valorem* landing tax increases being submitted by ODFW achieves this balance.

In working with ODFW staff on this proposal, we looked carefully at projected landings over the next several years; market conditions; environmental effects such as the likely El Niño event; regulatory proposals at the state, federal, and international level; license and fee levels in adjoining states; and the costs already incurred by Oregon fishermen. We developed an equitable method of differentiating between resident and non-resident fees. We used what we believe are somewhat conservative projections for future landings and resulting revenue. We deliberately chose a set of increases that would be applied up front in the next biennium so that there would be a degree of cost stability over the next six years.

The resulting proposal which ODFW will be submitting to you builds on the positive ending balance in this biennium and maintains a positive ending balance over the next six years while minimizing disruptions to ODFW's Marine Program and its staff. It encompasses an equitable range of adjustments both to licenses and fees and to *ad valorem* landing taxes. It provides stability over a range of years and eliminates the need to seek legislative approval for higher fees and taxes each biennium. Most important, it provides funding for the critical programs that affect Oregon's marine fisheries.

This proposal was not easily arrived at – it took several face to face meetings, conference calls, and email exchanges to reach consensus – and it will not be universally supported by the public. There are those in the commercial seafood industry who – while agreeing with the concept of paying their own way – question whether higher fees and taxes are needed instead of significant additional program reductions. We raised some of those same questions in our meetings with ODFW staff, but after examining the program reductions and proposed transfers to General Fund accounts we somewhat reluctantly agreed that increases will be necessary to properly fund ODFW programs.

Again, we want to emphasize that the proposal we are endorsing is very carefully crafted and takes into consideration assumptions and projections based on the collective knowledge and experience of all of us, including ODFW staff. Significant changes – especially those that add programs back into the Commercial Fish Fund which are now slated to be transferred to the General Fund, or shifts in what we believe is an equitable sharing of the cost burden – could result in erosion of support. We urge that you move this portion of the ODFW funding package forward as proposed.

As always, we appreciate the opportunity to work constructively with the Commission and ODFW on the conservation and management of Oregon's marine resources.

Sincerely,

Nancy Fitzpatrick
Oregon Albacore Commission /
Oregon Salmon Commission

Hugh Link
Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission

Rod Moore
West Coast Seafood Processors Assoc.

Brad Pettinger
Oregon Trawl Commission

Joe Rohleder
Seafood Oregon

Terry Thompson
Lincoln County Commission

Jason Bader

From: Bruce McCune <bruce@salal.us>
Sent: Tuesday, June 24, 2014 1:01 PM
To: odfw.info@state.or.us
Subject: declining revenues

To Whom it may concern:

Please pass this suggestion along to whoever is appropriate.

A suggestion regarding declining revenues and numbers of hunting and fishing licenses: I think you could possibly raise more revenue by lowering the price on out-of-state licenses and tags. For example, I have friends and family from out of state that have expressed interest in deer hunting on my property here, but when they found out how much the license/tag costs for out-of-state, that is quickly off the table.

Perhaps historically the rates were higher partly to save the opportunities for OR residents. But it sounds like that might not be as important now.

I have been an in-state licensed fisherman and hunter in OR for over 25 years.

Thanks for considering this.

Bruce McCune

Lisa Evans

From: ODFW Comments <odfw.comments@state.or.us>
Sent: Wednesday, June 25, 2014 10:38 AM
To: Debbie L Colbert; Lisa Evans
Subject: FW: Comment on ODFW 2015-2017 Budget Development
Attachments: Lib Driver Budget Comment.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

From: Marty Smith [mailto:marty.smith@state.or.us]
Sent: Tuesday, June 17, 2014 11:23 AM
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us
Subject: Comment on ODFW 2015-2017 Budget Development

Attached please find comments made by an employee/member of the public. Thank you.

Marty Smith

Fish and Wildlife Technician Senior

Having followed the recent budget development discussions closely, and, after attending a Town Hall meeting in Newport where comments were solicited, I feel compelled to address the singular proposal of "Shift liberation from dedicated liberators to hatchery staff (5 positions, \$180K)". In all transparency, I am an ODFW employee and my position is one of three '*dedicated* liberators' from the Corvallis area that is proposed to be eliminated.

I do not believe the term '*dedicated* liberators' is an accurate description of the three drivers in the Corvallis area. This appears to me to be a generalized description statement without consideration of the full scope of our contributions to the Agency.

Examination of the program funding sources for these three drivers reveals that only 50% of our funding derives from Fish Propagation, that is, as '*dedicated* liberators'. Were these positions to be eliminated, at least five other programs would suffer as a result. These other five programs provide the remaining 50% of our funding and include specifically Habitat, Wildlife, Maintenance and Fabrication, Volunteer Recruitment, and Fish Management. A more detailed analysis of our contributions beyond liberations has been made and already submitted up the chain of command for consideration. Bottom line, the annual overall dollar benefits to the Agency made by only three of the five positions proposed for elimination far exceed the projected annual savings of \$180K.

Shifting the workload of '*dedicated* liberators' to hatchery staff does not seem to be a workable solution. ODFW records show the three Corvallis drivers have operated five agency-owned liberation trucks an average of over 53,500 miles annually for the past five years. This figure does not include the additional hours of time spent loading and unloading fish, supporting the Agency through contact with the public, and maintaining mechanical integrity of the liberation vehicles.

Our hatcheries already operate within tight constraints of personnel and expenditure parameters. Having come from a hatchery background, I am very aware of the hustle and creativity often required to keep hatchery operations efficient and on track. To suddenly expect hatcheries to absorb the above noted time requirements in addition to their existing taxed schedules seems optimistic at best. The three Corvallis drivers have flexibility and reactivity built into our positions. We are normally able to temporarily defer our other duties in order to transport fish literally at a moment's notice. This is unlike the scheduling demands that might be imposed on a limited hatchery staff. Additionally, the existing three Corvallis drivers are licensed and experienced in operating any liberation truck to any of the many known and lesser-known liberation sites. The onus of training current hatchery staff to assume these responsibilities could be significant. None of the five trucks based in Corvallis are new and occasionally suffer mechanical breakdowns while on the road. Often, the experience level of the driver determines whether the liberation event can be completed successfully. This may be too much to expect of less-experienced hatchery staff.

I am concerned that "shifting liberation from '*dedicated* liberators' to hatchery staff" will ultimately cost the Agency many more dollars of benefit when compared to the proposed savings. The Agency mission of "...enhancing opportunities for present and future generations" will likely be negatively impacted by fewer liberation events made perhaps on a less-timely basis. Were this to happen, our already-thinning public support may dip even lower. In my opinion, reducing the professional presentation of our product will result in a deleterious effect.

Respectfully,

G. Martin Smith

OR 0173913

South Willamette Watershed District

Director - ODFW

June 13, 2014

Dewey Dietz
3126 NE Sugarpine Rd.
Prineville, OR 97754

Greetings Mr. Elicker;

I've heard that the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife have fallen on Lean times. I've got some ideas you may want to consider. For example, when I grew up in Oregon (1940's - 1980's) it was against the law to fish with two fishing rods. If you did so you were considered a game hog, also taking up twice the beach space on often time limited beach. Now for an extra \$17.00 it is legal to be a game hog and take up twice as much beach. Without the \$17.00 fee it is still a crime. Now, here is some fresh ideas, for an additional \$17.00 you could make it legal to chum and for another additional \$17.00 you could make it legal to snag fish. Don't laugh a gift horse in the face, I'm sure the game hogs will line up to pay these new fees.

Here I go again, when I grew up in Oregon if I wanted to catch a salmon in the Deschutes River I could buy a salmon tag. Your "think tank people" decided you could make more money for no investment by combining salmon-steelhead-sturgeon and halibut into one costly tag. It's been many years since we have had a good run on halibut or sturgeon up the Deschutes River so I have refused to buy your bargain bundle.

I'm not sure what the salary of a highly educated "wolf monitor" is, or what the cost of a DNA test on a wolf "turd" is, or how much money a plane or helicopter rents for per hour, or how much tracing collars cost, or if you pay prime beef and mutton prices (with hunter fees) to feed wolves. I do know this is NOT how hunters want to see THEIR money wasted. You should put up donation boxes in Lane, Linn and Multnomah counties, as these city dwellers would love to hear a wolf howl.

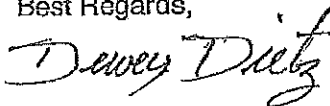
Back in the day, before your time, cougars were classified as predators in Oregon. There was a \$50.00 bounty on them. At that time Oregon had a large, healthy deer population and damn few cougars. Some "achiever" in the O.D.F.W. got the bright idea to reclassify cougar as a game animal and shut off hunting them to let their numbers build up and sell tags. This probably gained the wizard a bonus. To make matters worse, those same city dwellers that want to hear a wolf howl voted no hound dog hunting for the poor pussies. GOOD BYE DEER!

How long has it been since the O.D.F.W. was audited? How is it possible to run down the hunting and fishing, as has happened in Oregon with the exorbitant fees charged? I did some math on the non-returnable \$8.00 application fees. On one hunt alone, Hart Mountain big horn sheep - 2 tags - netted \$13,088.00.

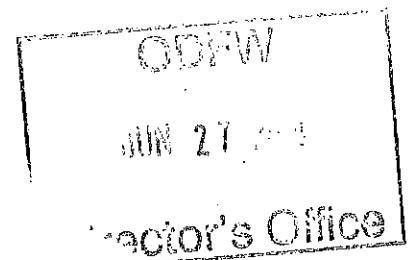
This is only the tip of the iceberg, I've got many more alternatives for your department. Ever consider a special spear season for deer and elk? These poor critters are only harassed from August to January. You could schedule it for July.

Personally I see a strong resemblance between O.D.F.W. and cancer. You don't cure cancer by feeding it, you must starve it. Suck in your belt!

Best Regards,



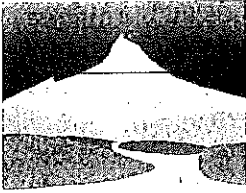
Dewey Dietz



Postscript:

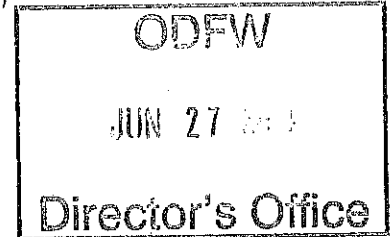
I'm mailing many copies of this letter to others, maybe it will stimulate those not too bashful to share with you their schemes for extorting money.

A combination of higher fees and less game is the formula for fewer participants. Actually this will be good, as sportsmen who refuse to support your policies are better stewards of our wildlife than your department. Like all other branches of government O.D.F.W. is greedy, wasteful and suffers from no accountability.



Hood River Watershed Group

3007 Experiment Station Road
Hood River, OR 97031
www.hoodriverswcd.org



June 24, 2014

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission
c/o ODFW Director's Office
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, OR 97302

Dear Commission members,

I am writing to express the Hood River Watershed Group's (HRWG) concern about proposed budget and staff reductions for ODFW. Like many other watershed councils across the state, the HRWG has had a long and productive partnership with local ODFW fisheries biologists. We rely particularly on their technical expertise for fish habitat restoration projects and restoration project permitting support. This leads to better projects and effective leveraging of state resources. ODFW staff are also essential in recovery planning and implementation for threatened and endangered fish species.

In the Hood River Valley, along with directly managing fish and wildlife populations, ODFW serves an important role in protecting and enhancing fish and wildlife habitat. Some examples of these efforts include:

- 1) ODFW's monitoring of fish population status and distribution. This information is essential in assisting the HRWG in directing restoration and protection efforts at key habitat attributes.
- 2) ODFW's fisheries monitoring provides critical information necessary to determine the overall success of a variety of projects implemented by the watershed group.
- 3) ODFW fisheries staff provides essential comments on a variety of land use activities that preserve and protect fish and wildlife habitat.

There was significant concern by some members that raising fishing license fees would lead to even more decline in recreational fishing. We know budgets are tight and we encourage you to find new sources of funding for ODFW's fisheries programs. One innovative suggestion was to create a new Lotto game that was specifically targeted for the ODFW fish program! Whatever the revenue source, we strongly encourage you to maintain the existing number of ODFW fish biologists in the state. They are a vital, on-the-ground resource for all Oregonians and play an important role in the restoration and recovery of fish habitat and populations.

Sincerely,

Chuck Gehling
Chair

"...to sustain & improve the Hood River Watershed through education, cooperation, & stewardship"

June 25, 2014

To the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Commission:

I am writing to comment on the 2015-17 Budget Development. I attended the Town Hall Meeting in Clackamas on May 19, 2014. I thank ODFW staff for coming to communities to describe the proposal in detail.

I am a recreational fisher from Portland who has had a license, including salmon and steelhead tag, for the last 5 years. I fish at least once almost every month of the year in Oregon.

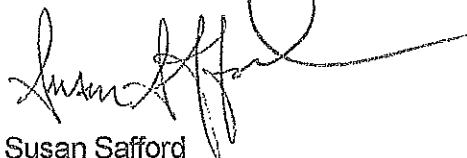
My main conclusion from listening to the budget discussion is that there is a critical need for a new model for funding wildlife (fish and game) conservation and management in Oregon that reflects the evolving nature of how Oregonians interact with wildlife species. Hunting and fishing license revenues, which have traditionally funded ODFW's activities, are down because Oregonians' and non-resident visitors' activities are less focused on consumption of wildlife species; they are increasingly focused on non-consumptive activities including wildlife viewing. ODFW's agency operating model, including methods for funding its activities, must evolve to reflect the non-consumptive emphasis of the public's wildlife activities.

Because ODFW's activities, especially species conservation and the Oregon State Police's wildlife enforcement activities, benefit Oregonians and visitors who do not purchase licenses or tags, it is entirely appropriate for part of the ODFW budget to come from the General Fund to help pay for such activities. General Fund revenues should also be used to pay for the ODFW water and conservation programs, which benefit Oregon's public interest at large. However, ODFW must develop new mechanisms for funding its activities beyond license and tag revenues.

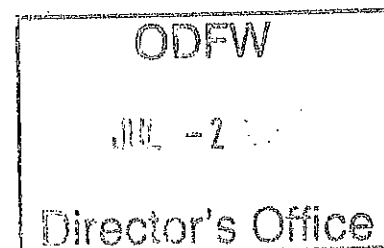
The primary emphasis of ODFW's operations and budget must be on wildlife conservation. This means preserving any district biologist or assistant district biologist positions and fully funding the ODFW Water Quantity and Water Quality Program. It also means increasing fees for commercial and recreational fishing activities in an amount sufficient to pay for all programs that benefit these user groups. In particular, the fees associated with harvesting hatchery fish must be tailored to ODFW agency costs to provide such harvestable fish, i.e. the fee associated with harvesting a fish (whether by recreational or commercial fisher) should be derived from the costs of raising the harvestable fish and operating hatcheries. There is no rational basis for keeping the license fee the same for harvesting hatchery fish versus catching and releasing wild fish. ODFW costs to conserve and maintain wild fish populations are less than operating hatcheries. License fees need to reflect these distinct costs.

There are fewer and fewer opportunities for people to interact with wildlife in their natural environments. This puts a premium on places like Oregon where there are still opportunities to do so. ODFW has a responsibility to ensure that these opportunities exist now and for future generations. Fulfilling this responsibility requires creativity, imagination and courage; ODFW must evolve its operations and budget to reflect the constantly changing nature of the public's wildlife activities and the management of wildlife.

Sincerely,



Susan Safford



Jason Bader

From: Carl <fishfreak.12@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, July 05, 2014 9:24 PM
To: odfw.info@state.or.us
Subject: Concerned citizen

I am writing this email in regards to the extremely high cost to fish and hunt in the state of Oregon. The ODFW expects us sportsman to pay way too much money for what is offered. Every year we keep losing opportunities to fish and hunt. I personally just purchases my Washington fishing license simply because they have a lot more to offer than the state of Oregon. Hopefully one day we will get some people in the ODFW that will be for the sportsmen not the environmentalists. Please enlighten me if I am wrong. Look forward to hearing from you.

Carl

Sent from my iPad

Lisa Evans

From: ODFW Comments <odfw.comments@state.or.us>
Sent: Monday, July 07, 2014 2:47 PM
To: Debbie L Colbert; Lisa Evans
Subject: FW: Proposed budget

From: Gary Koegler [mailto:gkoegler@oregonwireless.net]
Sent: Sunday, July 06, 2014 9:34 AM
To: [ODFW.comments@state.or.us](mailto:odfw.comments@state.or.us)
Subject: Proposed budget

Dear Sirs, let's go back in time when the ODFW ruined a 3 plus billion dollar hunting and fishing industry in Oregon. When you started the controlled hunt process you eliminated huge family hunting traditions. Loss of revenue. Before that, ODFW guys were in the field talking to hunters and fishermen. They were very nice and helpful. Then all that changed, I guess by leadership. They quit going into the field and interacting with the sportsman, hunting or fishing. Loss of revenue. Then the poaching started kicking into gear because a lot of hunters were not happy campers. We saw our deer populations plummet even though the ODFW were slow in comprehending this because they were no longer in the field. Then add no enforcement because Oregon is always broke. I can show you areas today where the deer were literally everywhere. Now if you are lucky enough to see a doe, she will be running to get away from the road area. Zero buck carry over. Oh, and I forgot, let's blame it on cougars. Sorry but that doesn't pull it with me. You have to spend time in the woods to learn these things and you are not.

Now to the fishing part. Catherine creek out of Union, Or used to be a wonderful place to take kids fishing for trout in summer. No more. Loss of revenue and possible future young fisherpeople. People quit camping there too because there is nothing to do. Sad.

Phillips is another lake that used to be good for trout perch, bass. I camped in there and had a ball catching perch and trout. Our grand kids loved it. The camp grounds were full and people cleaning buckets of perch and having a great time. Then ODFW decided they wanted a trout fishery only. I haven't caught a trout in there in three years, finally quit going back. Loss of revenue. Heck the retailers in Baker City don't even talk about it anymore. Sad.

Now to the Columbia river, what a joke that is. We fished for salmon this spring at the Wind and Drano. I know, that's not Oregon but what I'm getting at is the Indian fisheries is killing the salmon fishing for both Oregon and Washington. Seven poles a person below the dam at certain times. Nets in the river year around. Sustenance fishing? Not hardly. Now they have been building platforms everywhere and illegal gill netting. Oh and by the way when turned in to the tribal enforcement, nothing happens. They just pull their nets and go to net illegally another day. This fishery with all its added fees on the backs of good hard working people is getting very old very fast. Loss of revenue!

Last but not least by a long shot is wolves. What a money wasting venture that is with no positive outcome. I truly believe today that our Fish and Wolf Department has turned into a bunch of environmentalists. I am seriously contemplating stopping fishing and hunting because of Oregon's policies. Again, loss of revenue and future young people being introduced these sports.

I really don't know why I wrote this, just frustrated I guess, knowing full well you won't listen and will do what you want to do anyway.

Sincerely,

Gary A. Koegler

Lisa Evans

From: Teri Kucera
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2014 4:11 PM
To: Lisa Evans
Subject: FW: STAC Letter to ODFW Budget Process
Attachments: STAC letter for Budget - 2014 7-7.docx

From: ODFW Info
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2014 4:10 PM
To: Teri Kucera
Subject: FW: STAC Letter to ODFW Budget Process

From: Thomas VanderPlaat [<mailto:tvanderplaat@msn.com>]
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2014 3:50 PM
To: odfw.info@state.or.us; Roy Elicker; Curt Melcher; Ed Bowles; Debbie.colbert@state.or.us
Cc: Debbi Farrell; Kevin Herkamp; Ken Range; Pat Gefre; Jeff DeVore; Richard Bertellotti; Jim Phelps; Lin Howell; Brian Hudson; Keith Miller; DONALD WENZEL; Deborah Yates; David Dunahay
Subject: STAC Letter to ODFW Budget Process

Dear Director Elicker:

On behalf of STAC, please see the attached ODFW Budget Comment letter. Thank you for including STAC members on the EBAC and the opportunity to provide input to this process. We look forward to working with you and your staff on this Budget Process.

Thanks
Tom VanderPlaat
Chair, STAC

July 7, 2014

To: Director Roy Elicker - ODFW

From: Salmon Trout Advisory Committee (STAC)

Subject: ODFW 2015-17 Budget Review and Comments

Dear Director Elicker:

The Salmon Trout Advisory Committee (STAC) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments on the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's (ODFW) Budget process. STAC supports the development of a sustainable budget for continued enhancement of Oregon natural resources. The key areas of comments are fee increases, general fund allocation, youth angling licenses and staff reductions.

STAC serves as advisory committee to ODFW's Salmon Trout Enhancement Program (STEP). In 2013, STEP provided over 133,000 hours of volunteers hours, which equates to \$3.6 million dollars of resources at minimal cost to ODFW. The dedicated volunteers raise and release over 4.7 million fish for the benefit of all. These valuable volunteers assist with a wide range of activities that improve and expand the state's fisheries resources.

ODFW has a challenge to work towards right-sizing the Department and to manage a near term \$32M budget gap. STAC appreciates this challenge and would like to support a comprehensive approach to budget management and program allocation.

Fee increases are difficult to manage given the continued reduction of angler license sales. Increased costs of personnel, material and supplies remain a challenge. STAC would suggest increases should be adjusted annually based on a standard economic index, instead of making large adjustments on a six-year cycle. The average angler understands and typically accepts incremental increases, but large percentage increases raise concerns as to the level of service and value to the consumer. STAC would support modest fee increases to expand angling opportunities and program maintenance. Based on the most recent EBAC information, the increases will need to be balanced with other program budget adjustments and additional general fund allocations.

Oregon has a growing population and there is justification for increasing the General Fund allocation based on the population increase. With more Oregonians enjoying our wonderful natural resources and demanding additional services from ODFW, we support the increase of General Fund dollars to maintain key ODFW programs and the associated staff positions to serve those programs.

A key to the future of fishing in the Oregon is to recruit youth anglers to fishing and the outdoors. Recent proposals recommend changing the age of youth anglers to 12 years instead of current 14 years. Many STEP youth programs are aimed at the impressionable 12 to 14, middle school age group, where we have one of the best opportunities to encourage future fishermen and fish scientists. This change would have a detrimental impact on both STEP sponsored events and ongoing school programs, and would reduce their participation. STAC recommends that the license age be maintained at the current 14 years of age.

We would recommend that staff reductions be minimized for programs like those run by STEP, where there is a proven return in volunteer hours. A key STAC concern is that a reduction in Assistant District Biologists could reduce support to important STEP programs, or compromise the effectiveness of much-needed fish monitoring programs, both of which draw heavily on volunteer participation.

ODFW – Director Elicker

Page 2

STAC will continue to make recommendations to ODFW on this budget challenge for those elements that impact the STEP Program and Oregon's salmon and trout resources. ODFW will need to communicate with STAC and the valuable STEP volunteers as we work together to improve fish and fisheries for all Oregonians.

Sincerely,

Tom VanderPlaat
Chair – STAC

Cc

Curt Melcher, Deputy Director

Debbie Colbert, Deputy Director for Administration

Ed Bowles, Fish Division Manager

Kevin Herkamp, R&E/STAC Coordinator

STAC Members

Teri Kucera

From: Bruce Eddy
Sent: Tuesday, July 15, 2014 3:18 PM
To: ODFW Commission
Cc: donnataiatsos@yahoo.com
Subject: Comments on the ODFW 2015-17 Budget Development
Attachments: 201407151426.pdf

Please find attached a cover sheet with comments and three pages of signatures submitted this date by Mr. Bill Tsiatsos.

Bruce Eddy
East Region Manager
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Office 541 962 1825
FAX 541 963 6670
Cell 541 786 4654

COMMENTS ON ODFW 2015-2017 Budget Development

The Constitution of the United States – Amendment V:

;.....nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.¹

“Government Power, if unresisted produces iniquitous sharing of other peoples’ property.”²

I. Comments In Reference To The Above Statement:

- A. Placement of woody matter in stream causes rivers and streams to breach their banks, claiming more private property and threatening county and state roads.
- B. Taking timber on private property for stream-bank set-backs (180') for shade.
- C. Private property owners are supporting excessive concentration of wildlife numbers.
 1. Inhibits land owners operation of “rest and rotation”
 2. Wildlife utilization of pastures, crops, and agriculture land creates financial hardship on private property owners.
 3. Livestock owners are being compensated for wolf predation. Ranchers and farmers should also receive financial compensation for their loss of agricultural ground production due to large numbers of concentrated wildlife habitation (specifically deer and elk), on their property.
 4. Damage: excessive damage to fencing and operational management.
 5. An Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife article states that “concentrating deer and elk can hurt habitat by encouraging excessive grazing”.³ This same article states that ODFW has deer and elk feeding sites away from human-populated areas, however it is noted that there are tours provided to the public that take wagon loads of people through the feeding site to observe the wildlife, throughout the winter months. This practice habituates the animals to the surrounding area and to human exposure.
 6. 25+ years ago, the “Starkey Experimental Forest and Range Facility” (located North of state highway 244,) constructed an 8' fence (9 miles N/S) which created disruption to the migration pattern of the elk herds onto the National Forest lands. The fencing diverts the elk migration onto private ground because it is a barrier between National Forest and private lands,

References:

- #1 Constitution of the United States
- #2 La Grande Observer – article written by George F. Will
- #3 Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife - “Don’t Feed the Wildlife”

II. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

- A. Webster's Dictionary defines predatory as ".....*plundering or robbing*".⁴
- B. 2014 Big Game Regulations publication on page 82, minimizes the definition of "*Predatory Animals that may be destructive to agricultural crops.*" Deer, Elk and others that are also destructive have been excluded.
1. "Agriculture Lands," as defined on page 81 of the above mentioned publication, is stated as being "*lands not less than 10 acres in extent that have been cultivated and planted or irrigated to domestic crops that are currently in use*".⁵
 2. Quote taken from an article in the La Grande Observer written by the Oregon Department of Agriculture "*PRESERVING OREGON FARMLAND*" states that "*Overall agricultural land -- which includes pasture and range as well as crop lands.....*".⁶
 3. "Elk Damage Tags": In the Big Game Regulations publication, within the "*Directors Message,*" it is stated that "*the ODFW can now work with landowners who are experiencing elk damage to authorize a limited number of antlerless elk tags for the property*".⁷ Versus the ELK DAMAGE TAG IMPLEMENTATION section of Exhibit B in the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission document, dated June 5-6, 2014, it states ".....elk damage program does not limit the number of tags a landowner may acquire." This remark contradicts the previous statement from above.
 4. An article published in the Observer, dated June 25, 2014, records ~~David~~ ^{Bruce} Eddy as stating "*We're excited about the project and want to do whatever we can to keep everybody happy and keep the elk from eating the farmers out of house and home*".⁸
The following day after the article was published, Bruce Eddy, manager of ODFW Northeast Region, was contacted by Bill Tsiatsos, (a local rancher) to voice his approval of the statement, however, Mr. Eddy disagreed.

References:

- #4 Webster's New World Dictionary of the American Language, College Edition
#5, #7 2014 OREGON BIG GAME REGULATIONS publication
#6, #8 La Grande Observer article by Oregon Dept. of Agriculture, "PRESERVING OREGON FARMLAND"

III. INTERESTING FACTS:

- A. Referencing page 83 of the Big Game Regulations publication, the "Interesting Facts" column states that *"Elk use declines in areas with adjacent roads open to motorized vehicles".⁹*
 - 1. Contradicting Comment #1: A long term resident, Bill Tsiatsos, who lives in a rural area divided by Oregon State Highway 244 and county roads, McIntyre and Baseline Lane, states *"numerous vehicles travel this area to view the huge elk herds that are resident to the area. The traffic obviously has little to no effect on the elk herds."*
 - 2. Contradicting Comment #2: Wallowa Mountain Wilderness roadless areas have very little wildlife compared to the lower elevation of private ground.

- B. ODFW provides numerous devices and methods (orchard guns, sirens, flares, hazing and ammunition) to reduce the number of animals which impact the private land.
 - 1. Comment #1: The animals become accustomed to the devices and methods.
 - 2. Comment #2: The ODFW has agreed that the devices are inefficient.

IV. M.O. (Management Objective) 5,300 Animals Within 800+ Square Mile Area

- A. Majority of M. O. congregate on private acreage.
- B. ODFW is unable to manage the concentrated herds in these areas, causing financial loss and physical damage to personal operation; fence damage, inability to manage crop rotation and maintain healthy plants, impact on ground and damage to forage.
- C. Recruitment: Deer and elk offspring numbers are down due to road-kill and predation such as bears, cougars and most recently introduced, wolves.
- D. The current M.O. has created unmanageable herds on private property without just compensation to land owners.

Reference:

- 1. #9 2014 OREGON BIG GAME REGULATIONS publication


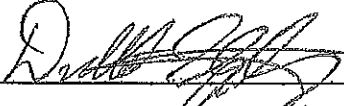
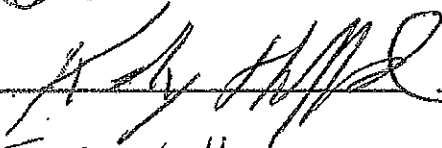
We, the undersigned, endorse the above comments:

NAME (printed)	SIGNATURE	COUNTY	DATE
1. James A Murchison	James A Murchison	Union	7-9-14
2. Terry D Puckett	Terry D Puckett	Union	7-9-14
3. Ronald Puckett	Ronald Puckett	Union	7/9/14
4. Betty Puckett	Betty Puckett	Union	7-9-14
5. Dana Murchison	Dana Murchison	Cove ^{Union}	7-9-14
6. Darrin Hansen	Darrin Hansen	Union	7-9-14
Lisa Murchison	Lisa Murchison	Union	7-9-14
8. Charles Koenig	Charles Koenig	Union	7-9-14
9. Sonny Johnson	Sonny Johnson Conley Farms	Cove	7-9-14
10.	123 years continuous land & cattle operation		
11. Elizabeth E. White	Elizabeth E. White	Union	7-9-14
12. FOREST R. BRIDGEMAN	Forest R. Bridgeman	UMATILLA	7-10-14
13. Jack Paluso	JACK PALUSO	UMATILLA Co	7/9/2014
14. James Kleinknecht	Jim Kleinknecht	Union	7-10-14
15.	On behalf of the 124 Union County Cattleman and members we fully support these comments. We urge you to consider these comments carefully &		
16.	help resolve this issue. Parhamson, Secretary 7/11/14		

We, the undersigned, endorse the above comments:

NAME (printed)	SIGNATURE	COUNTY	DATE
16. Randy Hampton	Randy Hampton	Union	7-8-14
17. Austin Bingaman	Austin Bingaman	Union	7-8-14
18. Teri Barnes	Teri Barnes	La Grande	7-8-14
19. Robert T. Teeter	Robert T. Teeter	Union	7-8-14
20. William F. Howell	William F. Howell	Union	7-8-14
21. Dale Wagner	Dale Wagner	Union	7-8-14
22. Ross Bingaman	Ross Bingaman	Union	7-8-14
23. A. Wade Bingaman	A. Wade Bingaman	Union	7-8-14
24. Howard W. Elmer	Howard W. Elmer	Union	7-8-14
25. Sage C Elmer	Sage C Elmer	Union	7-8-14
26. Greg Barreto	Greg Barreto	Union	7-8-14
27. Mike Bedue	Mike Bedue	Union	7-9-14
28. Roben W. Arnoldus for TRICO Farms	Roben W. Arnoldus	Union	7-9-14
29. Brett Rudd	Brett Rudd	Union	7-9-14
30. Dale Case	Dale Case	Union	7/9/14
31. Todd Livingston	Todd Livingston	Union	7/14/14

We, the undersigned, endorse the above comments:

	NAME (printed)	SIGNATURE	COUNTY	DATE
1.	Bill Tsiatsos	Bill Tsiatsos	Union	7-8-14
2.	Darrell Dyke	Dyke, Darrell	Baker	7/8/14
3.		Dyke, Kevin	Baker	7-10-14
4.	Janet R. Dyke	Janet R. Dyke	Baker	7-10-14
5.	Jan Kerns <i>endorse</i>	Jan Kerns	Baker	7-10-14
6.	Delbert Stephens		Baker	7-10-14
7.	Scott Hartell	Scott Hartell	Baker/Union	7-10-14
8.		Kody Hufford	Baker/union	7-10-14
9.	Tosh Keller	Tosh Keller	Baker/union	7/10/14
10.				
11.				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				
16.				

Teri Kucera

From: ODFW Comments
Sent: Tuesday, July 15, 2014 4:02 PM
To: Teri Kucera; Debbie L Colbert (debbie.l.colbert@state.or.us)
Subject: FW: Comment on License Fee Increases

-----Original Message-----

From: Eric Brawner [mailto:ericbrawner@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 15, 2014 1:33 PM
To: ODFW.Comments@state.or.us
Subject: Comment on License Fee Increases

I am writing to submit a public comment on ODFW's proposal to increase license fees.

Has ODFW taken into consideration the price elasticity of demand for licenses? It is possible that raising fees may actually reduce total revenue by causing a decrease in demand for licenses. Conversely, lowering fees might actually increase total revenue by increasing license sales. Depending on the price elasticity, increasing fees may not have the desired effect.

On a personal level, the current cost of a fishing license and tags are a significant factor in my deciding whether to buy them. An increase in prices would make me less inclined to buy them in the future. In the years that I have purchased a license and tags, I fished rather infrequently and rarely caught anything, so I would think my actions probably did not contribute relatively much to the department's costs. This increase may inordinately drive away the more casual participants like myself who are probably the least impactful on the department's resources.

Also, has ODFW considered having licenses last for a year from their date of purchase, rather than for the remainder of the calendar year? I do feel less inclined to buy a license later in the year when it will only be good for a short time.

Lastly, the fishing regulation booklet (and regulations in general) can be rather convoluted and not very user friendly—probably especially so for people new to fishing. Perhaps making the regulation booklet as user friendly as possible would reduce an impediment to fishing and increase participation.

Thank you for the consideration.

Eric



Comment on ODFW
2015-17 Budget Development

ODFW
JUL 16 2014
Director's Office

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) seeks your comments as we develop our 2015-17 agency budget. We will add your comments to the record after you complete this form and:

- Turn it in at a locally hosted town hall meeting
- Fax it to ODFW at 503-947-6042
- Mail it to the ODFW Director's Office, 4034 Fairview Industrial Dr. SE, Salem OR, 97302.
- Email to ODFW.Comments@state.or.us

Written comments must be received by July 17, 2014.

DEAR GOV. KITZINGER, & MR. DIRECTOR

Please accept my comment on ODFW Budget 2015-17.

I live in Klamath County. I own a property that received in stream restoration 9 yrs ago. The project reestablished Red Bank Rainbow Trout spawning habitat, in Tecumseh Spring a Hwy 62. Trout aggressively spawn here Nov. thru Feb. 24-year. Without the aid of biologist the project may not have succeeded, as they know the field best. Budget cuts should not be at ground level.

The state of OR. has no better advocate than William Tenniswood (Biologist).

Please retain his position to ensure quality sewerage that people of Oregon deserve.

Ref 412

4034 Fairview Industrial Dr. SE

Salem, OR 97302

Thank You

WILLIAM TENNISWOOD

son Bader

From: fishermand@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2014 12:50 PM
To: odfw.info@state.or.us; odfw.comments@state.or.us
Subject: My License Fee Increase Comments

License Fee Increases

I would like to comment on the proposed license fee increases.

I attended the Tillamook presentation, thank you for having it in my area.

I would like to say that I am happy with the proposed youth emphasis and feel that getting kids out into the wild is of utmost importance if we want to have a future for our fish and wildlife.

But, I think Oregon is missing the "boat" in advertising our fishing possibilities. Currently we have more chinook/king salmon than Alaska. People around the country don't know that and they need to. If there were more tourists fishing ODFW would be selling more licenses.

Even with the great fall runs of chinook on the Columbia and Oregon coast we need more SUCCESSFUL fishing.

There has been a huge push to "sell" opportunity to fish. That doesn't cut it though. Opportunity doesn't mean success. And successful catches are what brings people back for more, and by more licenses.

To make repeat anglers they have to catch fish! Not just going through the motions. We need more fish stocked into our rivers. Without that we are sunk.

I have talked to hundreds of anglers that are tired of paying more and getting less.

And lastly, by increasing one day licenses up to \$25 per day is not going to be very beneficial. Anglers going on guided trips and charter trips are not going to want to be hit with a \$25 increase and the moms and dads who take the family out for that once a year trip are not going to swallow this. Talk about a kick in the gut.

Thank you for your time,

David Johnson

Tillamook

Teri Kucera

From: Don and Fara <faraquilts@charter.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2014 12:53 AM
To: ODFW
Subject: Tag fees unnecessary regulation.

ODFW

I understand you want to raise license and tag fees. I'm opposed. Only a out of control, government agency, could consider raising fees, while providing less opportunities to hunt and fish successfully.

There is a tremendous amount of waste in the ODFW. Example. In the mid 1980's you implemented road closures on the Rogue National Forest during elk season. This was to increase escapement, because clear cuts were plentiful, sight distance was good, and hiding cover was "limited." Now thirty years later those clear cuts have grown up. A hunter is lucky to see his hand in front of his face, let alone an elk. You don't need the road closures any more. Hunter success has plummeted, as has the elk population. The cause is poor habitat. Elk don't have anything to eat. Road closures do not address the primary problem of poor forage for elk, but it makes the Federal eggheads believe they are "managing" big game. It's time to address the real problem and put Federal resource managers feet to the fire. Besides that it's a big waste of time to have Game Wardens enforcing a regulation that is outdated and no longer necessary.

Back in the 1970's you closed the North Umpqua River to trout fishermen. This was supposed to help bring back the cutthroat trout. It's time to evaluate the effectiveness of that regulation. Has the cutthroat trout population rebounded. I think not, so is it possible that trout fishermen were not a problem, It appears that you have eliminated a recreational opportunity, and hurt the economy of the north Umpqua area.

You have closed the South Umpqua River to all fishing in May, and then again in June and September until November. Why? The river has been taken over completely by small mouth bass. I love fishing for them although the small ones are so aggressive it's hard to catch anything worth keeping. Even small small mouths eat

young salmon. I've caught a couple dozen bass over the last few years that had what looked like either trout, baby salmon, or steelhead in them. There are so many bass in the Umpqua and South Umpqua that I don't know how any salmon or steelhead make it to the ocean. Why not allow bass fishing in May and September? The bass are killing more salmon and steelhead than anglers.

Times have changed. In the "old" days people hunted and fished to help fill the freezer. Now it's a recreational opportunity. Today's anglers want trophy type animals. Good luck trying to manage for that with the lousy forage conditions of our National Forests. As I see it the only way you can attract more hunters and anglers is to work with private timber companies, and land owners, to provide better habitat there. For example timber companies might be willing to reduce herbicide use, and burn more after timber harvest to improve forage conditions. I don't like what Weyerhaeuser is doing, but in the long run it may be the best thing that's happened to the ODFW.

For what it's worth I'm against raising tag fees. I don't see how increasing tag and license fees is going to increase the number of hunters and anglers. You need to work on habitat, look at your regulations to see what is really necessary, because some of what you have now is not helping big game, hunters, fishermen, or fish. I guess you guys might get some revenue by busting some fool on the wrong road on the wrong day, but all that does is alienate sportsmen.

Don Wilson.

Teri Kucera

From: mark houston <mh61127@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2014 2:14 PM
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us
Subject: fee increases

I am all for fee increases as needed , as long as ODFW can hold up their end of the deal. Cutting back hatchery plants and hoping native stocks recover is bad science. We need high quality hatchery fish and increased opportunities, not less. Oregon should and could be a destination Salmon fishery that could be as good as anywhere. If the ODFW worked on that goal they would sell more licenses and need less increases. As a fisherman I would gladly pay more for an increase in opportunities and more fish in the river to catch. Also it is time for the non fishermen and women and non hunters to pay their own way . It's time for new management in the ODFW and a change of direction. That would be working for the hunters and anglers who fund the department and not the elitist special interest groups.

Mark Houston

Teri Kucera

From: cbhalva@frontier.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2014 2:51 PM
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us
Subject: proposed license fee increases

ODFW Commission

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to comment on the proposed license fee increases.

For the record, I'm completely okay with hunters and anglers paying the freight for ODFW, as long as ODFW is both demonstrative of its commitment to the needs of their core customers and delivers to the best of its ability.

But increasingly, that's not the case.

ODFW has initiated a whole new entity within ODFW, the Conservation and Recovery Program. From layers and layers of labor-intensive studies and monitoring, we're developing reams of reports and insight. ODFW even built a world-class research facility in the Oregon Hatchery Research Center and funded it with license dollars. The only problem these efforts are they cost a fortune and none of it is putting any more anglers on the water or fish in those waters.

ODFW has created recovery plans for salmon that, in cases like the Willamette system, are laughable.

There are too many conservation biologists where we need managers. We have biologists who have no understanding of anglers or hunters.

If the ODFW commission wants to balance a fish and wildlife budget only anglers and hunters dollars, then the commission needs to embrace fish for catch and keep fishing.

Anglers see ODFW looking for more money and ODFW providing increasingly less in the way of fish. I have to agree.

ODFW manages hatcheries and harvest, and have chosen to reduce the hatchery component though it doesn't define the status of wild populations, and that cut immediately impacts harvest.

ODFW is trending further and further away from those who fund its mission. You take our money with very little in return. The ODFW Commission and ODFW staff need to make a stronger and renewed commitment to their core customers, the sportsmen and women of Oregon.

For the record, I am vehemently opposed to any license fee increases in the current ODFW environment.

Regards,

Charles Halva
Aloha Oregon

Teri Kucera

From: Lavin Neang <lneang@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2014 3:05 PM
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us
Subject: "License Fee Increases"

I would like to comment on the proposed license fee increases.

I would like to say that I am happy with the proposed youth emphasis and feel that getting kids out into the wild is of utmost importance if we want to have a future for our fish and wildlife.

But, I think Oregon is missing the "boat" in advertising our fishing possibilities. Currently we have more chinook/king salmon than Alaska. People around the country don't know that and they need to. If there were more tourists fishing ODFW would be selling more licenses.

Even with the great fall runs of chinook on the Columbia and Oregon coast we need more SUCCESSFUL fishing.

There has been a huge push to "sell" opportunity to fish. That doesn't cut it though. Opportunity doesn't mean success. And successful catches are what brings people back for more, and by more licenses.

To make repeat anglers they have to catch fish! Not just going through the motions. We need more fish stocked into our rivers. Without that we are sunk.

I have talked to hundreds of anglers that are tired of paying more and getting less.

And lastly, by increasing one day licenses up to \$25 per day is not going to be very beneficial. Anglers going on guided trips and charter trips are not going to want to be hit with a \$25 increase and the moms and dads who take the family out for that once a year trip are not going to swallow this. Talk about a kick in the gut.

Thank you for your time,
Lavin Neang

Teri Kucera

From: Bob Paladeni <bpalade@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2014 3:22 PM
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us
Subject: License Fee Increases

"License Fee Increases

I would like to comment on the proposed license fee increases.

I would like to say that I am happy with the proposed youth emphasis and feel that getting kids out into the wild is of upmost importance if we want to have a future for our fish and wildlife.

But, I think Oregon is missing the "boat" in advertising our fishing possibilities. Currently we have more chinook/king salmon than Alaska. People around the country don't know that and they need to. If there were more tourists fishing ODFW would be selling more licenses and tourists would flock to Oregon to fish. The resulting economic boost to those Cities, Counties AND the State would be substantial.

Even with the great fall runs of chinook on the Columbia and Oregon coast we need more SUCCESSFUL fishing.

There has been a huge push to "sell" opportunity to fish. That doesn't cut it though. Opportunity doesn't mean success. And successful catches are what brings people back for more, and by more licenses.

To make repeat anglers they have to catch fish! Not just going through the motions. We need more fish stocked into our rivers. Without that we are sunk.

EVERY angler or hunter I talk with are tired of paying more and getting less, monies being spent on fishing, hunting, licenses and tags are on a downward spiral because of continued lost opportunities, either in the field with reduced public access and reduced tags, reduced numbers of catchable fish or seasons that make little of any sense to the sportsman who are paying for these services. This complaining is being passed on to the younger generation that you are so desperately trying to target...good luck with your approach.

And lastly, by increasing one day licenses up to \$25 per day is not going to be very beneficial. Anglers going on guided trips and charter trips are not going to want to be hit with a \$25 increase and the moms and dads who take the family out for that once a year trip are not going to swallow this. Talk about a kick in the gut.

Thank you for your time,
Robert Paladeni
1755 NW Michelbook Ln
McMinnville, Or 97128

Teri Kucera

From: David Speakman <speakman.david@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2014 7:04 PM
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us
Subject: Raising license prices

Hello,

Raising prices is a horrible idea at this time. The economy has not recovered and people do not have the money to support the increases. Instead I suggest you focus on keeping the prices the same while increasing the sales volume.

Thanks,

Dave Speakman

Sent from my iPad

Teri Kucera

From: Paul Mikesch <Paul.Mikesch@pgn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2014 7:29 PM
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us
Subject: Fees

I hear through ifish.net that you are considering upping the daily fishing license fee to \$25. That's ridiculous...keep it affordable and more people will take advantage of it and possibly buy an annual license. Consider what you have to sell to earn that business. Winter steelhead fishing is dismal at best. I started fishing in the late 50's and have something to compare today's fishing with. Willamette spring runs have been poor in the last few years and there is little or no sturgeon retention. If fishing was better you could probably get by with increasing the fee. The Willamette could be world class Springer fishing attracting fisherman from all over the country, but not with the paltry numbers of fish you guys are putting in it. Seems to me a lot more people would come from out of state to catch a Springer than to catch hatchery trout that aren't even fit to eat.

IMO you guys have done a miserable job on big game in this state (I do all my deer hunting in VA) and not doing much better with fish. Granted we have had some big Fall runs in recent years but I can't see where ODFW can take any credit for any of it.

I see where the Corps has finally made some headway on the Cormorant issue. Shame on ODFW for not dealing with the issue themselves, years ago. Many other states in this country have permits and most of what they are saving didn't cost them anything in the first place. I shudder to think how many smolts those predators have consumed over the years and at what cost to taxpayers and ratepayers. I would be interested in knowing why ODFW hasn't tackled this issue itself. Were you afraid of the potential litigation? Well that's your job.

P. Mikesch
US Army (Ret)

Teri Kucera

From: Greg Engelgau <greg@statewidesurveying.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2014 8:00 PM
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us
Subject: License increase

This email is regarding the fee increase for next year. First, I am a business owner of land surveying company in Gresham Oregon. My business is land development based company and in the economic down turn when we had no money and we were forced work tighter, harder, and diversify are work loads to make it, not charge my clients to make up for the loss of income. Please make note I'm still in business.

Second I would like to ask you, let's say 30 years ago or so when hatchery production was in full swing, how many employees did you have? My guess would be a lot less and you got the job done! So, how does a company with less hatcheries have more employees? Maybe a little less in data research? I know it's all about the so called scientific data.

I know one thing if my company was in trouble and could not afford my employees I would not force it on my clients but would look for better business practices.

Just my opinion..

Thank you,

eg

Sent from my iPhone

Teri Kucera

From: Carey Caldwell <careylc@netzero.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2014 9:00 PM
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us
Subject: Fishing license fee increase proposals

The proposal to increase license fees to cover a projected budget shortfall is short sighted. In the last decade, there have been more and more restrictions on sports fishing in Oregon. This upcoming Buoy 10 season is another example with the newly-imposed Young's Bay bubble exclusion zone. You cannot expect sports fishermen and women to pay more for less.

The fee increase proposal mimics the cigarette tax. The higher the cigarette tax, the fewer packs of cigarettes are purchased. Your proposal will achieve the same result, although unlike the cigarette tax, your goal is not to reduce sales of licenses.

You should be focusing on initiatives that will increase license sales, not reduce them. You should be focusing on expanding "fish catching" opportunities (through increased hatchery production), not "fishing" opportunities by setting seasons to start before the fish arrive and end before the fishing gets good. You should want every person who buys a license to have a very good chance to catch a fish on their trip on the water. Improve your product (fish catching opportunity) then you can increase your price without suffering a reduction in license sales. It's simple economics.

I have been an avid fisherman for about 10 years now. When I started, I bought a complete set of an angling license, tag and shellfish license each January for myself, my wife and my two kids, even though they rarely fished with me. Since the last fee increase, I cut back to only buying what I needed when I needed it. Even though my income went up, I found it difficult to justify buying the whole package when the quality of the fish catching opportunity seemed to decline over time. If you increase the fees again without addressing the quality of the product you are selling, I and others like me will continue to cut back.

The increase in the one-day license to \$25 is particularly egregious. So far in 2014, I have purchased two one-day licenses for my son who is at school out of state so that we could fish together when he is in town. At \$25/day, I will no longer do that. It will be cheaper for me to fish with him out of state when I visit him.

I know that budgeting and financing programs isn't easy. I hope you realize that increasing fees at a time when many folks cannot afford it and when many perceive that the product has declined in value will result in decreased support for ODFW programs.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Carey Caldwell
46 year resident of Oregon



BC's finest fishing

Discussion Board | Photos | Blogs | Videos | Directory | Kilchis Weather | Tides | Marine Info | AUP | Contact/Advertise | Ifish Decals/Store

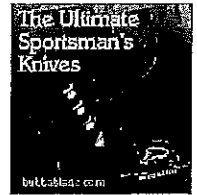
The Oregonian's Bill Monroe!

SYNCHRONY BANK
optimizer+plus
Bank of America
Bank of America
Bank of America

Big Plus Offer: 1.20% APY
on balances of \$1,000 or more

15-Month CD
Open on account today

Google Custom Search Search



www.ifish.net > Ifish Fishing and Hunting > Ifish Community
Voice your opinion on fee increases

User Name Remember Me?
Password

Register FAQ Calendar Chat Room Gallery Today's Posts Search Advertise

post reply

Thread Tools Display Modes

07-16-2014, 12:10 PM #1

David Johnson

Voice your opinion on fee Increases



Tomorrow is the last day to submit your comments about the proposed fee increase ODFW is asking for. odfw.comments@state.or.us

Join Date: Nov 2000
Location: Oregon Coast
Posts: 7,763

Here is my letter:

"License Fee Increases

I would like to comment on the proposed license fee increases.

I attended the Tillamook presentation, thank you for having it in my area.

I would like to say that I am happy with the proposed youth emphasis and feel that getting kids out into the wild is of utmost importance if we want to have a future for our fish and wildlife.

But, I think Oregon is missing the "boat" in advertising our fishing possibilities. Currently we have more chinook/king salmon than Alaska. People around the country don't know that and they need to. If there were more tourists fishing ODFW would be selling more licenses.

Even with the great fall runs of chinook on the Columbia and Oregon coast we need more SUCCESSFUL fishing.

There has been a huge push to "sell" opportunity to fish. That doesn't cut it though. Opportunity doesn't mean success. And successful catches are what brings people back for more, and by more licenses.

To make repeat anglers they have to catch fish! Not just going through the motions. We need more fish stocked into our rivers. Without that we are sunk.

I have talked to hundreds of anglers that are tired of paying more and getting less.

And lastly, by increasing one day licenses up to \$25 per day is not going to be very beneficial. Anglers going on guided trips and charter trips are not going to want to be hit with a \$25 increase and the moms and dads who take the family out for that once a year trip are not going to swallow this. Talk about a kick in the gut.

Thank you for your time,
David Johnson
Tillamook"

If you haven't read Carmon's blog on this subject read it here: <http://www.ifish.net/board/blog.php?a=4358&b=40>
Read it again even if you have.
Thanks!

Guided Fly Fishing Trips

© crystallflyshop.com

Roaring Fork, Frying Pan, Colorado. From Aspen to Glenwood Springs CO



NOW BOOKING SUMMER AND FALL SALMON TRIPS!

One of the original "ifish" guides.

https://www.facebook.com/pages/David...5297?ref=br_rs

www.davidjohnsonsguideservice.com

fishermand@aol.com

503-201-4292

Guiding in the NW for 20 years

Last edited by David Johnson; 07-16-2014 at 12:26 PM.



07-16-2014, 05:28 PM

#2

Cookie
Steelhead

Re: Voice your opinion on fee Increases

Good for you David!

Guns don't kill people, and you can't change STUPID ! PETA = People eating tasty animals!



Join Date: Feb 2010
Location: Ridgefield, Wa
Posts: 249



07-16-2014, 08:03 PM

#3

rcarey1c
Steelhead

Re: Voice your opinion on fee increases

I just sent the following message to ODFW:

The proposal to increase license fees to cover a projected budget shortfall is short sighted. In the last decade, there have been more and more restrictions on sports fishing in Oregon. This upcoming Buoy 10 season is another example with the newly-imposed Young's Bay bubble exclusion zone. You cannot expect sports fishermen and women to pay more for less.

The fee increase proposal mimics the cigarette tax. The higher the cigarette tax, the fewer packs of cigarettes are purchased. Your proposal will achieve the same result, although unlike the cigarette tax, your goal is not to reduce sales of licenses.

You should be focusing on initiatives that will increase license sales, not reduce them. You should be focusing on expanding "fish catching" opportunities (through increased hatchery production), not "fishing" opportunities by setting seasons to start before the fish arrive and end before the fishing gets good. You should want every person who buys a license to have a very good chance to catch a fish on their trip on the water. Improve your product (fish catching opportunity) then you can increase your price without suffering a reduction in license sales. It's simple economics.

I have been an avid fisherman for about 10 years now. When I started, I bought a complete set of an angling license, tag and shellfish license each January for myself, my wife and my two kids, even though they rarely fished with me. Since the last fee increase, I cut back to only buying what I needed when I needed it. Even though my income went up, I found it difficult to justify buying the whole package when the quality of the fish catching opportunity seemed to decline over time. If you increase the fees again without addressing the quality of the product you are selling, I and others like me will continue to cut back.

The increase in the one-day license to \$25 is particularly egregious. So far in 2014, I have purchased two one-day licenses for my son who is at school out of state so that we could fish together when he is in town. At \$25/day, I will no longer do that. It will be cheaper for me to fish with him out of state when I visit him.

I know that budgeting and financing programs isn't easy. I hope you realize that increasing fees at a time when many folks cannot afford it and when many perceive that the product has declined in value will result in decreased support for ODFW programs.

Thank you for your time and consideration.



07-17-2014, 05:49 AM

#4

bird dog bob
Tunal

Re: Voice your opinion on fee Increases

This is a total waste of your time , they wont listen to any of us anyway ! They all ready have this set in motion no matter what you have to say about it . I have seen this many many times before . They just want to make you feel like you have something really important to say that will change what they have set in motion . Waste of time guys waste of time



07-17-2014, 06:59 AM

#5

SYNCHRONY BANK
optimizer^{plus}

Big Plus Offer:
15-Month CD
1.20% APY
on balances of \$2,000 or more

Open an account today

Member FDIC
Equal Housing Lender
Member of Synchrony Bank

Jerry Dove



Join Date: Jan 2002
Location: Tillamook or
Posts: 4,375

Re: Voice your opinion on fee increases

Quote:

Originally Posted by careylc
I just sent the following message to ODFW:

The proposal to increase license fees to cover a projected budget shortfall is short sighted. In the last decade, there have been more and more restrictions on sports fishing in Oregon. This upcoming Buoy 10 season is another example with the newly-imposed Young's Bay bubble exclusion zone. You cannot expect sports fishermen and women to pay more for less.

The fee increase proposal mimics the cigarette tax. The higher the cigarette tax, the fewer packs of cigarettes are purchased. Your proposal will achieve the same result, although unlike the cigarette tax, your goal is not to reduce sales of licenses.

You should be focusing on initiatives that will increase license sales, not reduce them. You should be focusing on expanding "fish catching" opportunities (through increased hatchery production), not "fishing" opportunities by setting seasons to start before the fish arrive and end before the fishing gets good. You should want every person who buys a license to have a very good chance to catch a fish on their trip on the water. Improve your product (fish catching opportunity) then you can increase your price without suffering a reduction in license sales. It's simple economics.

I have been an avid fisherman for about 10 years now. When I started, I bought a complete set of an angling license, tag and shellfish license each January for myself, my wife and my two kids, even though they rarely fished with me. Since the last fee increase, I cut back to only buying what I needed when I needed it. Even though my income went up, I found it difficult to justify buying the whole package when the quality of the fish catching opportunity seemed to decline over time. If you increase the fees again without addressing the quality of the product you are selling, I and others like me will continue to cut back.

The increase in the one-day license to \$25 is particularly egregious. So far in 2014, I have purchased two one-day licenses for my son who is at school out of state so that we could fish together when he is in town. At \$25/day, I will no longer do that. It will be cheaper for me to fish with him out of state when I visit him.

I know that budgeting and financing programs isn't easy. I hope you realize that increasing fees at a time when many folks cannot afford it and when many perceive that the product has declined in value will result in decreased support for ODFW programs.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

I hope you signed your name.



post reply

SYNCHRONY BANK
optimizer PLUS

Big Plus Offer: **1.20%** APY* 15-Month CD
Open on account today

*APY based on \$2,000 or more

<< Previous Thread | Next Thread >>

Posting Rules

- You may not post new threads
- You may not post replies
- You may not post attachments
- You may not edit your posts

BB code is On
Smilies are On
IMG code is On
HTML code is Off

Forum Rules

Cast to [dropdown] Go Fish!

[input] Search

All times are GMT -8. The time now is 07:36 AM.



www.ifish.net - Archive - Privacy Statement - Top

All information and pictures on ifish.net are © www.ifish.net
CONTACT IFISH.NET | ifish directory of sponsors

Bait and Specialty Tackle Shops | Oregon and Washington Guides | Alaska Fishing
Oregon Charters | Accommodations | Custom Rods

The ALLCOAST MEDIA NETWORK

www.2coolfishing.com

noreast.com

fishers247.com

allcoast.com

www.ifish.net

Teri Kucera

From: Kelly Miles <kelly_miles@frontier.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 17, 2014 12:36 PM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Cc: Michael Gray
Subject: Comments - 2015-17 Budget Proposal
Attachments: CWA-Budget-Comments_Commissioners.pdf

Dear ODFW Fish and Wildlife Commission Members,

I was unable to attend the North Bend Town Hall regarding the upcoming biennium budget, so please accept the attached comments from the Coquille Watershed Association. Our ODFW biologists are very important to us, and I want to let the Commission know how hard they work and all they do to help us accomplish the restoration of our watershed.

Best Regards,
Kelly

Kelly N. Miles
Director, Coquille Watershed Association
223 N Alder, Suite D
Coquille, OR 97423
O: 541.396.2541
F: 541.396.2545



**Working Together to Promote Resource Conservation
and Economic Stability in the Coquille Watershed**

July 17, 2014

ODFW Fish and Wildlife Commission Members

RE: ODFW's 2015-2017 Budget

Dear Mr. Levy, Mr. Finley, Mr. Wolley, Ms. Anderson, Mr. Webber and Ms. Akenson,

The Coquille Watershed Association, and most watershed councils in Oregon, depend strongly on the engagement and support of state natural resource agency staff from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and we realize that the current budget discussions revolve mainly around increases in license fees and less on conservation programs, but please allow me to account for the importance of ODFW staff and ODFW Restoration Programs to our organization and to the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds.

ODFW is the most important partner in our conservation and restoration projects, and ODFW staff provide technical expertise and support that would otherwise be difficult or prohibitively costly to access. The value they bring as a partner to our restoration projects is immeasurable; ODFW is our first contact on every project we embark upon, from riparian fencing & planting to tidegate & culvert removal, and, of course, our instream restoration projects. ODFW staff sit on our Technical Advisory Team, assisting in selecting projects that will have a positive ecological impact in the watershed, gathering necessary information, providing technological expertise and data for grant applications. We are also about to complete the South Fork Action Plan, an important reference document that will be utilized for years to come by organizations in the restoration of the South Fork Coquille River, home to 60% of the salmonids in our system. Once this report is published, we will begin work on the third update to the Coquille Watershed Action Plan, a monumental undertaking that will need ODFW's input and expertise to make it the reputable and technical reference it needs to be. We have also had many very successful projects partially funded through the R & E and STAC Programs, from wetland restoration to student-run native species propagation, projects that wouldn't have happened without ODFW support.

The Coquille Watershed Association relies heavily on the ODFW Umpqua Watershed District fish habitat biologists to implement our restoration projects, and these positions are integral to the effectiveness of all the watershed councils on the Southern Oregon Coast. Watershed councils in this region of the state are small organizations, many with a one-person staff, and we depend on ODFW staff members to assist with design, permitting and implementation of our restoration projects. They provide valuable technical expertise during project implementation, contribute to pre- & post-project monitoring, habitat design, fish salvage and large wood placement. Without their expertise, the number of projects we would be able to implement would be severely affected. In addition, we would have to rely upon hired consultants for the skills currently provided by the ODFW staff, significantly increasing costs and reducing greatly the financial match we are able to bring to restoration projects.

We understand that the \$32M budget shortfall in the next biennium is distressing to everyone, and that staff support is on the chopping block given that general fund dollars are already stretched thin, but I cannot express to you enough the value these positions bring to our work, and the resulting projects that support healthy habitat and wildlife populations. When Oregon coastal wild/natural coho salmon populations reached their lowest recorded abundance in the early 1990's, the State of Oregon developed The Oregon Plan to provide the framework for recovering this species. The Oregon Plan is recognition that Oregon's coastal watersheds have been impacted by human activity over the past 150 years and impetus for actions that can be implemented to

recover the overall health of coastal watersheds. The Oregon Plan benefits a number of aquatic organisms including coho, fall Chinook and coastal cutthroat trout. These species bring millions of dollars in revenue to coastal communities annually through recreational and commercial fisheries. Continued recovery of wild/natural fish populations will further increase the economic benefits to the coastal region.

The Coquille Watershed Association will be strictly hampered in our ability to implement the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds and to get projects on the ground in a cost-effective and timely manner if these ODFW positions are cut. Of all the strategically important aspects of watershed recovery that ODFW biologists are involved with, none is more important than the biological assessment. Through their assessment of proposed individual projects, these biologists give direct guidance on where monies should be spent to maximize benefits to the watershed, what materials will best accomplish the restoration, and what quantity of positive impact the project is likely to have. I would specifically like to thank our ODFW Biologists, Christopher Claire and Jeff Jackson, who are heavily involved in all of our restoration projects, and without them we would not be able to accomplish the great amount of work we have completed over the past few years. We also tragically lost our Program Manager in early 2013, and depended on Chris and Jeff more than ever as we recovered from the loss. We just passed the 20th anniversary of our restoration work and would not be as effective or successful without ODFW's support. I'm sure that other Councils feel the same as we do about their biologists.

In the current financial climate it is understood that funding is limited, but the watershed health improvements that have been initiated are expected to expand recreational and commercial fishery income captured by coastal communities as salmon populations continue towards full recovery. Recreational fisheries for wild coho salmon were re-opened in the Coquille and Coos River watersheds in 2009 after being closed for 16 years. It has been the efforts of those involved in watershed restoration that have directly resulted in the recovery of coastal coho salmon populations. Without the efforts of ODFW fishery habitat restoration field biologists, a critical link in the chain for coho & Chinook salmon recovery, and the future economies of Oregon's coastal communities, will be broken. Please consider these important positions when determining the 2015-17 budget. Thank you for your time and support.

Sincerely,

Kelly

Kelly Miles

Kelly N. Miles
Director, Coquille Watershed Association
223 N Alder, Suite D, Coquille, OR 97423
(541) 396-2541
kelly_miles@frontier.com

Jason Bader

From: Lori Harris <jlharrisfamily@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 17, 2014 3:19 PM
To: odfw.info@state.or.us
Subject: Fwd: License Fee Increases

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Lori Harris** <jlharrisfamily@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Jul 17, 2014 at 3:12 PM
Subject: License Fee Increases
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed fee increases for sports fishing licenses. I just wanted to suggest doubling or tripling whatever license fees there are for fishing guides and charter services. It has always bothered me that they are using a general sports fishing quota for their commercial businesses. It would be like the lumber companies getting trees from the city parks. They either need a commercial quota, or regulate the guides somehow by fishing location or number of guides. Thanks Jeff Harris [503-579-7524](tel:503-579-7524)

Teri Kucera

From: Bruce Eddy
Sent: Thursday, July 17, 2014 4:37 PM
To: ODFW Commission
Cc: donnatsiatsos@yahoo.com
Subject: Comments on the ODFW 2015-17 Budget Development: Additional Comments from Mr. Bill Tsiatsos
Attachments: 201407171537.pdf

Please find attached a cover sheet with comments, two pages with signatures and one additional page of comments submitted this date by Mr. Bill Tsiatsos.

Bruce Eddy
East Region Manager
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Office 541 962 1825
FAX 541 963 6670
Cell 541 786 4654

July 17, 2014

1/2

Comments for ODFW 2015-2017 Budget Development Meeting

The following are suggestions generated by farmers and ranchers in Baker, Umatilla, Union, and Wallowa counties. The sector of people who have made these comments are dedicated farmers and ranchers who attempt to live by regulations and laws, yet are continually experiencing financial loss due to the direction of local ODFW being unrealistic and ineffective.

- Reduce the wildlife numbers by cutting bear and cougar numbers and stop encouraging wolf numbers.
- ✓ You wouldn't need as many deer and elk to satisfy predator appetites.
- ✓ Open a cow season to reduce resident elk and to recreate a sense of wildlife apprehension toward humans.
- ✓ Stop the feeding sites and tours which encourage the habitation of the wildlife in lower elevations.
- ✓ Work together with farmers and ranchers to implement a plan that works and reduces financial burden to landowners.
- ✓ Implement tax credits to offset the financial loss to land owners.
- ✓ Recognize and Sensitivity to the spreading of weeds via wildlife migration and habitation.

July 17, 2014 (continued)

2/2

- ✓ Encourage logging which develops natural feed sites for wildlife -

The following people endorse the above comments on page 1 and page 2.

We, the undersigned, endorse the above comments:

	NAME (printed)	SIGNATURE	COUNTY	DATE
1.	Lisa Eisiminger	Lisa Eisiminger	Union	7/9/14
2.	Dale Eisiminger	Dale Eisiminger	Union	7/9/14
3.	Carrie Burgaman	Carrie Burgaman	Union	7-9-14
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				
11.				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				

Damage involves fences, wheeltraces, and crop ground.

Dale & Lise Estiminger

Elk causes contamination to crops, fences & leaves an imprint in the fields.

Carrie Singaman

We, the undersigned, endorse the above comments:

NAME (printed)	SIGNATURE	COUNTY	DATE
1. <i>Harry Richard Snow</i>	<i>Harry Richard Snow</i>	<i>Yalson</i>	<i>9-12-19</i>
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
13.			
14.			
15.			

Teri Kucera

From: Opdahl, Patrick G <patrick.g.opdahl@intel.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 17, 2014 9:40 AM
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us
Cc: Opdahl, Patrick G
Subject: comments regarding proposed fee increase for ODFW

To Whom it may concern,

I am again disappointed at the proposal to increase license fees. The new Columbia River Basin endorsement has made my family and I very frustrated, in that the increased \$ do not have any clear benefit to our state or our activities.

If this new fee increase does occur, my family and I will no longer purchase fishing licenses nor catch tags. I have 7 children, and while this loss of revenue will not dramatically impact the ODFW, I will do all in my power to influence my extended family and friends to stop buying Oregon Fishing Licenses. We will pay the extra \$ for out-of-state licenses to another state.

Furthermore if fees continue to increase, I will no longer license my boat and trailer, and encourage family and friends to do the same. There are many other opportunities for recreation in nearby states.

For more than 10 years now we have hunted in other western states – while slightly more expensive, the hunting is dramatically better, and we have not even considered hunting locally since then.

Increasing fees without clear benefit to the customer is poor business, and poor governance.

Any feedback is appreciated. My inputs are not threats in any way, simply feedback to indicate disappointment and a personal course of action based on (in my humble opinion) poor management of public resources.

Regards
Pat Opdahl

Teri Kucera

From: Bryant, Kerry <Kerry.Bryant@xerox.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 17, 2014 11:28 AM
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us
Subject: Fishing Licence increase

Oregon Dept of Fish and Game,

Please reconsider increasing your fee's. I have lived and fished in Oregon my entire Life, 57 years, I fish weekly, sometimes more.

I am a member of a small church and I have a large family. I regularly take people fishing for one or 2 days a year and really enjoy doing it. These people do not have the means or knowledge or money to be able to do this themselves.

I have been the culprit in getting a lot of people hooked on the sport, which in turn gets your dept. more revenue. I have to work at making ends meet as fishing is already very expensive. I have had to cut way back on the invited guests because of the expense.

Please don't make it harder, My grandkids are just coming of an age when they will be able to join me on a regular basis. Grandpas going to have to fork over the money or find another avenue to spend time with them.

Put more hatchery fish in the rivers, good runs increase exponentially will help your need for more money. Fee increases will only cut your revenue.

Thank you for listening, Please consider the families of this Great State, you advertise take a kid fishing, Don't make it harder

Kerry Bryant

Teri Kucera

From: <cty77265@centurytel.net>
Sent: Thursday, July 17, 2014 12:13 PM
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us
Subject: Cost Increase

Short and sweet, we are too pay more for less?

Can't catch a fish, no Deer, no Elk just Cougars, empty rivers and now Wolves!

I quit hunting two seasons ago due to lack of opportunity of harvest and now Fishing will be next.

Josh James
Lebanon Oregon.

Teri Kucera

From: Allen Swanson <allen-swanson@charter.net>
Sent: Thursday, July 17, 2014 12:30 PM
To: ODFW.Comments@state.or.us
Subject: Comment on ODFW 2015-2017 Budget Development

I was at the Town Hall meeting in North Bend. I was not in favor of the \$10.00 Ocean Endorsement, I could support it if the Trout & Warm Water people were charged also. I can not support the FEE increases for Fishing License & Tags, people that fish should not BEAR the COST of budget problems. As was stated license & tag sales are down, how can increasing fees help that. I have been looking forward to get a FREE Pioneer License and now you want to charge me. I would support the nominal fee if it was applied to all Free Licenses. Another thing I would support is spread the fee increases evenly to all parties both Fishing & Hunting. Every buddy has their HAND OUT wanting FEE increases, as I told The Marine Board maybe it's time to sell our Boats and give up Fishing. THANKS Allen Swanson

Teri Kucera

From: aussiegail@gmail.com on behalf of Gail Snyder <gail@centraloregonlandwatch.org>
Sent: Thursday, July 17, 2014 12:44 PM
To: ODFW.Comments@state.or.us
Cc: Paul Dewey
Subject: ODFW 2015-2017 Budget Request
Attachments: ODFW budget comments 7-17-14.docx.doc

Please find attached, and included below, comments from Central Oregon LandWatch re the ODFW 2015-2017 Budget Request.

Gail Snyder
Central Oregon LandWatch



July 17th, 2014

To: Chair Bobby Levy
Members of the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission

Re: ODFW 2015-2017 Budget Requests

Central Oregon LandWatch (LandWatch) is a nonprofit land use group based in Bend, Oregon. We strive to achieve a balanced and integrated approach to land use planning in Central Oregon that safeguards our natural resources and environment while fostering socially and economically thriving communities.

LandWatch supports ODFW's proposed increase in its general fund request. We understand and appreciate that ODFW does work that benefits the public at large, not only specific user groups. As such, it is appropriate that the general fund contributes to the work done by ODFW on behalf of all Oregonians. Programs that directly benefit fishing and hunting interests should be shifted from general funds and instead be included with programs paid for by license revenues and fees.

We would like to see more opportunities for the public to support ODFW through funding mechanisms such as a surcharge on bird feed. Further, we would like to see stronger promotion of optional funding opportunities such as the Habitat Conservation Stamp.

We urge the Commission to request full funding for all district biologist and assistant district biologist positions. We recommend prioritizing these staff positions and related programs over funding for hatcheries and administrative staff.

LandWatch strongly supports retaining these core positions of district and assistant district staff. They are indispensable "boots on the ground" personnel who carry out the bulk of the agency's core mission of supporting recreation and conservation programs.

District staff handle a tremendous work load including: sampling fish and wildlife populations for input into the Commission's regulation setting; doing habitat restoration; and commenting on federal, state, county and city projects that impact habitats. These are the people who interact on a daily basis with ODFW's customers and work in the community doing education and outreach.

We urge the Commission to fully fund water quality/quantity and habitat protection/restoration programs and related staff positions. ODFW District biologists and their assistants, along with biologists in ODFW's Water Resources Program, are critical for working with irrigators and municipalities to find creative solutions to return water to Deschutes Basin rivers and other rivers in Central and Eastern Oregon.

We concur with the League of Women Voters of Oregon that it is vitally important that ODFW staff are able to participate in Regional Solutions meetings. Funds should be allocated for such inter-agency coordination so that ODFW staff can help with permitting and ensure that Oregon's fish and wildlife, and their habitats, are protected.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment. We are deeply appreciative of the invaluable work done by ODFW and, in summary, support funding for fish and wildlife habitat conservation and restoration programs, and the staff who perform this critical work.

Sincerely,

Gail Snyder

Program Director



CENTRAL OREGON LANDWATCH

50 SW BOND ST., STE. 4

BEND, OR 97702

PHONE: (541) 647-2930

WWW.CENTRALOREGONLANDWATCH.ORG

*Protecting Central Oregon's natural environment
and working for sustainable communities.*

July 17th, 2014

To: Chair Bobby Levy
Members of the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission
Re: ODFW 2015-2017 Budget Requests

Central Oregon LandWatch (LandWatch) is a nonprofit land use group based in Bend, Oregon. We strive to achieve a balanced and integrated approach to land use planning in Central Oregon that safeguards our natural resources and environment while fostering socially and economically thriving communities.

LandWatch supports ODFW's proposed increase in its general fund request. We understand and appreciate that ODFW does work that benefits the public at large, not only specific user groups. As such, it is appropriate that the general fund contributes to the work done by ODFW on behalf of all Oregonians. Programs that directly benefit fishing and hunting interests should be shifted from general funds and instead be included with programs paid for by license revenues and fees.

We would like to see more opportunities for the public to support ODFW through funding mechanisms such as a surcharge on bird feed. Further, we would like to see stronger promotion of optional funding opportunities such as the Habitat Conservation Stamp.

We urge the Commission to request full funding for all district biologist and assistant district biologist positions. We recommend prioritizing these staff positions and related programs over funding for hatcheries and administrative staff.

LandWatch strongly supports retaining these core positions of district and assistant district staff. They are indispensable "boots on the ground" personnel who carry out the bulk of the agency's core mission of supporting recreation and conservation programs.

District staff handle a tremendous work load including: sampling fish and wildlife populations for input into the Commission's regulation setting; doing habitat restoration; and commenting on federal, state, county and city projects that impact habitats. These are the people who interact on a daily basis with ODFW's customers and work in the community doing education and outreach.

We urge the Commission to fully fund water quality/quantity and habitat protection/restoration programs and related staff positions. ODFW District biologists and

their assistants, along with biologists in ODFW's Water Resources Program, are critical for working with irrigators and municipalities to find creative solutions to return water to Deschutes Basin rivers and other rivers in Central and Eastern Oregon.

We concur with the League of Women Voters of Oregon that it is vitally important that ODFW staff are able to participate in Regional Solutions meetings. Funds should be allocated for such inter-agency coordination so that ODFW staff can help with permitting and ensure that Oregon's fish and wildlife, and their habitats, are protected.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment. We are deeply appreciative of the invaluable work done by ODFW and, in summary, support funding for fish and wildlife habitat conservation and restoration programs, and the staff who perform this critical work.

Sincerely,

Gail Snyder
Program Director



Central Oregon LandWatch

50 SW Bond St., Ste. 4, Bend, OR 97702
Phone (541) 647-2930 Fax (541) 383-3470

Teri Kucera

From: Jeff Wang <fishlips4007@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 17, 2014 3:29 PM
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us
Subject: Fee increase proposal

I feel that the price hike for a one-day license to \$25 is the worst decision you could make. Why would you prevent tourists or occasional fishermen from wanting to fish while in our state? I take some friends and family fishing who only go a couple times a year, so the one-day license is the best way to make this happen. Now, I am not sure I could convince them it is worth it to do so. You need to consider on top of that license fee, they are paying for lodging, food away from home, pitching in for boat/truck fuel or guides fees. You WILL price yourselves out of sales if you go through with it!

Jeff Wang

Teri Kucera

From: C.R. <toolboxchev@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 17, 2014 4:37 PM
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us

To whom it concerns,

I see your management of a great species in need of further help nothing more than a legalized PONZI SCHEME. 100 or more years of screwing up the fishery for Salmon has proved you are in it for nothing more than the money.

Keep raising the fees, and the police have already testified the largest group of violators is the ones who do not purchase a license. I paid, have watched the environmental political terrorists exploit the law and sue the state for its practices.

Who is to blame? The legal users of the resource?

I THINK NOT, THIS WILL NOT END HERE!

Chris

Teri Kucera

From: fishermand@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, July 17, 2014 4:57 PM
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us
Subject: fee increases

Some discussion on your fee increases

<http://www.ifish.net/board/showthread.php?t=760025&highlight=>



Kent Irving
 2395 12th Street SE, Salem, OR, 97302
 503-378-1509

State Farm
 Contact Me
*Not available in all states.

Discussion Board | Photos | Blogs | Videos | Directory | Kitchis Weather | Tides | Marine Info | AUP | Contact/Advertise | ifish Decals/Store

The Oregonian's Bill Monroe!

Jim Witt
 4350 Commercial SE, Salem, OR, 97302
 503-399-7347

State Farm
 Contact Me
*Not available in all states.

Google Custom Search Search



www.ifish.net > Ifish Fishing and Hunting > Ifish Community
 Voice your opinion on fee increases

User Name User Name Remember Me?
 Password Log In

Register FAQ Calendar Chat Room Gallery Today's Posts Search Advertise

post reply

View First Unread Thread Tools Display Modes

07-16-2014, 12:10 PM #1

David Johnson

Voice your opinion on fee increases



Tomorrow is the last day to submit your comments about the proposed fee increase ODFW is asking for.

odfw.comments@state.or.us

Join Date: Nov 2000
Location: Oregon Coast
Posts: 7,784

Here is my letter:

"License Fee Increases

I would like to comment on the proposed license fee increases.

I attended the Tillamook presentation, thank you for having it in my area.

I would like to say that I am happy with the proposed youth emphasis and feel that getting kids out into the wild is of upmost importance if we want to have a future for our fish and wildlife.

But, I think Oregon is missing the "boat" in advertising our fishing possibilities. Currently we have more chinook/king salmon than Alaska. People around the country don't know that and they need to. If there were more tourists fishing ODFW would be selling more licenses.

Even with the great fall runs of chinook on the Columbia and Oregon coast we need more SUCCESSFUL fishing.

There has been a huge push to "sell" opportunity to fish. That doesn't cut it though. Opportunity doesn't mean success. And successful catches are what brings people back for more, and by more licenses.

To make repeat anglers they have to catch fish! Not just going through the motions. We need more fish stocked into our rivers. Without that we are sunk.

I have talked to hundreds of anglers that are tired of paying more and getting less.

And lastly, by increasing one day licenses up to \$25 per day is not going to be very beneficial. Anglers going on guided trips and charter trips are not going to want to be hit with a \$25 increase and the moms and dads who take the family out for that once a year trip are not going to swallow this. Talk about a kick in the gut.

Thank you for your time,
David Johnson
Tillamook"

If you haven't read Carmon's blog on this subject read it here: <http://www.ifish.net/board/blog.php?a=4358&b=40>

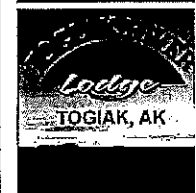
Read it again even if you have.

Thanks!

Womenomics in Japan

goldmansachs.com/Womenomics

How do you change gender attitudes in the economy? Start at home.



NOW BOOKING SUMMER AND FALL SALMON TRIPS!

One of the original "ifish" guides.

https://www.facebook.com/pages/David...5297?ref=br_rs

www.davidjohnsonsguideservice.com

fishermand@aol.com

503-201-4292

Guiding in the NW for 20 years

Last edited by David Johnson; 07-16-2014 at 12:26 PM.



Teresa Lulay

890 Commercial Street SE, Salem, OR, 97302

503-378-1100

Contact Me

*Not available in all states.

07-16-2014, 05:28 PM

#2

Cookie
Steelhead

Re: Voice your opinion on fee increases

Good for you David!

Guns don't kill people, and you can't change STUPID ! PETA = People eating tasty animals!



Join Date: Feb 2010
Location: Ridgefield, Wa
Posts: 249



07-16-2014, 08:03 PM

#3

careylc
Steelhead

Re: Voice your opinion on fee increases

I just sent the following message to ODFW:

The proposal to increase license fees to cover a projected budget shortfall is short sighted. In the last decade, there have been more and more restrictions on sports fishing in Oregon. This upcoming Buoy 10 season is another example with the newly-imposed Young's Bay bubble exclusion zone. You cannot expect sports fishermen and women to pay more for less.

The fee increase proposal mimics the cigarette tax. The higher the cigarette tax, the fewer packs of cigarettes are purchased. Your proposal will achieve the same result, although unlike the cigarette tax, your goal is not to reduce sales of licenses.

You should be focusing on initiatives that will increase license sales, not reduce them. You should be focusing on expanding "fish catching" opportunities (through increased hatchery production), not "fishing" opportunities by setting seasons to start before the fish arrive and end before the fishing gets good. You should want every person who buys a license to have a very good chance to catch a fish on their trip on the water. Improve your product (fish catching opportunity) then you can increase your price without suffering a reduction in license sales. It's simple economics.

I have been an avid fisherman for about 10 years now. When I started, I bought a complete set of an angling license, tag and shellfish license each January for myself, my wife and my two kids, even though they rarely fished with me. Since the last fee increase, I cut back to only buying what I needed when I needed it. Even though my income went up, I found it difficult to justify buying the whole package when the quality of the fish catching opportunity seemed to decline over time. If you increase the fees again without addressing the quality of the product you are selling, I and others like me will continue to cut back.

The increase in the one-day license to \$25 is particularly egregious. So far in 2014, I have purchased two one-day licenses for my son who is at school out of state so that we could fish together when he is in town. At \$25/day, I will no longer do that. It will be cheaper for me to fish with him out of state when I visit him.

I know that budgeting and financing programs isn't easy. I hope you realize that increasing fees at a time when many folks cannot afford it and when many perceive that the product has declined in value will result in decreased support for ODFW programs.

Thank you for your time and consideration.



07-17-2014, 05:49 AM

#4

bird dog bob
Tunal

Re: Voice your opinion on fee increases

This is a total waste of your time, they won't listen to any of us anyway. They all ready have this set in motion no matter what you have to say about it. I have seen this many many times before. They just want to make you feel like you have something really important to say that will change what they have set in motion.

Waste of time guys waste of time

Join Date: Jul 2007
Posts: 1,877



07-17-2014, 06:59 AM

#5

Jerry Dove



Join Date: Jan 2002
Location: tillamook or
Posts: 4,380

Re: Voice your opinion on fee increases

Quote:

Originally Posted by careylc
I just sent the following message to ODFW:

The proposal to increase license fees to cover a projected budget shortfall is short sighted. In the last decade, there have been more and more restrictions on sports fishing in Oregon. This upcoming Buoy 10 season is another example with the newly-imposed Young's Bay bubble exclusion zone. You cannot expect sports fishermen and women to pay more for less.

The fee increase proposal mimics the cigarette tax. The higher the cigarette tax, the fewer packs of cigarettes are purchased. Your proposal will achieve the same result, although unlike the cigarette tax, your goal is not to reduce sales of licenses.

You should be focusing on initiatives that will increase license sales, not reduce them. You should be focusing on expanding "fish catching" opportunities (through increased hatchery production), not "fishing" opportunities by setting seasons to start before the fish arrive and end before the fishing gets good. You should want every person who buys a license to have a very good chance to catch a fish on their trip on the water. Improve your product (fish catching opportunity) then you can increase your price without suffering a reduction in license sales. It's simple economics.

I have been an avid fisherman for about 10 years now. When I started, I bought a complete set of an angling license, tag and shellfish license each January for myself, my wife and my two kids, even though they rarely fished with me. Since the last fee increase, I cut back to only buying what I needed when I needed it. Even though my income went up, I found it difficult to justify buying the whole package when the quality of the fish catching opportunity seemed to decline over time. If you increase the fees again without addressing the quality of the product you are selling, I and others like me will continue to cut back.

The increase in the one-day license to \$25 is particularly egregious. So far in 2014, I have purchased two one-day licenses for my son who is at school out of state so that we could fish together when he is in town. At \$25/day, I will no longer do that. It will be cheaper for me to fish with him out of state when I visit him.

I know that budgeting and financing programs isn't easy. I hope you realize that increasing fees at a time when many folks cannot afford it and when many perceive that the product has declined in value will result in decreased support for ODFW programs.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

I hope you signed your name.



07-17-2014, 08:23 AM

#6

crabbait
King Salmon



Join Date: Oct 2003
Location: San Jose, Costa Rica
Posts: 30,581

Re: Voice your opinion on fee increases

Quote:

Originally Posted by bird dog bob
*This is a total waste of your time, they won't listen to any of us anyway! They all ready have this set in motion no matter what you have to say about it. I have seen this many many times before. They just want to make you feel like you have something really important to say that will change what they have set in motion.
Waste of time guys waste of time*

And nothing could be further from the truth than BDB's comments.

Setting license fees (and other rule making) require that public comments are solicited and that their recommendations are considered. If you can show that the comment process was bypassed or that the ruling was "already set in motion no matter what you have to say about it" then you have the perfect opportunity to derail their plans.

Ignoring public comment would make the decision "arbitrary and capricious" and those are grounds to halt the process and overturn the ruling. They certainly wouldn't want that.

Goin' where the sun keeps shinin' through the pouring rain
Goin' where the weather suits my clothes...
Pura Vida



07-17-2014, 08:32 AM

#7

uhmw
Sturgeon

Join Date: Oct 2003
Location: westlinn
Posts: 3,650

Re: Voice your opinion on fee increases

JACK UM UP. Way up. ☹️ all these rich fisherman with big fancy boats and top "o" the line Lamiglass rods need to pay more than just their fair share. It's what most of you vote for so why the belly aching. Just consider it a progressive tax for wealthy fisherman and their family's and a lot of folks who fish and hunt also tend to be less progressive country dwellers who are not rich and always forgotten by those that pretend to care about their welfare and the welfare of their family ☺️

Last edited by uhmw; 07-17-2014 at 08:40 AM.



07-17-2014, 08:46 AM

#8

tear-a-bite
Tunal



Join Date: May 2009
Posts: 1,211

Re: Voice your opinion on fee increases

thanks David for the reminder.

my input to ODFW was that my family (extended and immediate), friends, and I are very disappointed by the new fees, endorsements, and license increases over recent years without clear benefit to the community or resource.

so... my plan is to pay more \$ and buy out-of-state licenses in other states. we will stop fishing in Oregon, and in the next year or so stop licensing our boats and trailers. there are many other recreational activities nearby to pursue.

we quit hunting in Oregon 10 years ago and have never looked back. It is more \$, however the hunting in Idaho and Wyoming is DRAMATICALLY better and seems to be managed better, too. We have legal animals in our property every year... and last year my son got a deer tag because he was seeing so many animals. At the end of a good season he was still disappointed.

so... not a big deal to the state - I figure a loss of ~25 licenses and ~7 boats/trailers. I do feel like we are doing something constructive and 'voting with our feet.'

I've proposed it before - If we organize a boycott, even for just 4 months every spring, it would get more attention in Salem. I'm willing to skip a Springer season and not buy my license until April or May, to send a fiscal message.

my oh, yeah need to add this

<http://nwpodcast.blogspot.com>



07-17-2014, 08:57 AM

#9

Krijack
Coho

Join Date: Jul 2005
Location: Tacoma, WA
Posts: 91

Re: Voice your opinion on fee increases

My wife's family is from Portland and we often visit of just a day or two. Often I have 2 to 3 hours I can sneak out in the afternoon and wet a line. The prospects are not always great as the timing is usually off. This year I just skipped it as the fee was already a bit high. At \$25 a day, I will probably just skip it or run over to the Kalama or Lewis or jump across the bridge of the Gods and fish from the Washington side. The gas probably offsets a lot of the savings, but it just seems wrong to pay the state \$10 an hour or more to fish and then not catch something.



07-17-2014, 10:31 AM

#10

DataFish
Steelhead

Join Date: Jul 2007
Posts: 141

Re: Voice your opinion on fee increases

I added my I hope it ends up saving me more than that because it is really getting harder to fish all the time. Here's what I sent to the fish and game.

Oregon Dept of Fish and Game,

Please reconsider increasing your fees. I have lived and fished in Oregon my entire life, 57 years, I fish weekly, sometimes more.

I am a member of a small church and I have a large family. I regularly take people fishing for one or 2 days a year and really enjoy doing it. These people do not have the means or knowledge or money to be able to do this themselves.

I have been the culprit in getting a lot of people hooked on the sport, which in turn gets your dept. more revenue. I have to work at making ends meet as fishing is already very expensive. I have had to cut way back on the invited guests because of the expense.

Please don't make it harder, My grandkids are just coming of an age when they will be able to join me on a regular basis. Grandpas going to have to fork over the money or find another avenue to spend time with them.

Put more hatchery fish in the rivers, good runs increase exponentially will help your need for more money. Fee increases will only cut your revenue.

Thank you for listening, Please consider the families of this Great State, you advertise take a kid fishing, Don't make it harder

Kerry Bryant



07-17-2014, 10:45 AM

#11

Bait Bucket
King Salmon





Join Date: Jul 2003
Posts: 9,350

Re: Voice your opinion on fee increases

According to the chief game cop who briefed at the Clackamas meeting, fishing without a license is their biggest violation encountered. Raise the fees and they ain't seen nothin' yet.

I'm with David. Give me fish. Do you think that with the fee increase they will allow more than 20 on your salmon tag? Dollar says they don't.

07-17-2014, 12:00 PM #12

Slow and Low



Join Date: May 2003
 Location: Hood River, OR
 Posts: 3,062

Re: Voice your opinion on fee increases

I'm not sure how they can justify that with fewer and fewer fish to retain. Seems to me most of these fisheries are going to become catch and relaes based on the new agenda and the forces in motion. Why should we pay anything for that?

Guided Fly Fishing- Deschutes River Trout & Steelhead
www.steelheadoutfitters.com
 Sam Sickles 541-521-9054

[reply](#)

07-17-2014, 01:10 PM #13

bird dog bob
 Tunal

Join Date: Jul 2007
 Posts: 1,877

Re: Voice your opinion on fee increases

Quote:

Originally Posted by [crabbait](#)
And nothing could be further from the truth than BDB's comments.

Setting license fees (and other rule making) require that public comments are solicited and that their recommendations are considered. If you can show that the comment process was bypassed or that the ruling was "already set in motion no matter what you have to say about it" then you have the perfect opportunity to derail their plans.

Ignoring public comment would make the decision "arbitrary and capricious" and those are grounds to halt the process and overturn the ruling. They certainly wouldn't want that.

What do you know about it ? You dont even live here your just a old government worker that moved out of country (our 50 states) you never talk of how great the fishing is where you live or how much you fish there . So what makes you so sure they (odfw) wont raise our rates ? If they are discussing a possibilty of even raising them then mark my word its a done deal and if you know so much (as always then why' dont you live here and fish here? Enough is enough already

Last edited by bird dog bob; 07-17-2014 at 01:12 PM. Reason: Spelling

[reply](#)

07-17-2014, 02:46 PM #14

Siwash
 Ifish Nats

Join Date: Dec 2003
 Location: Eugene, OR
 Posts: 3,321

Re: Voice your opinion on fee increases

I see multiple comments about not wanting to pay more fees when harvest opportunity is generally diminishing, and predicting they'll lose more revenue with fewer people continuing to buy licenses. That seems reasonable enough, but at the same time most of the same comments also include calls for increased hatchery plants. So, let's flip the chicken/egg ~ if they were to listen, then shouldn't we realistically expect to pay more for that, or did hatchery fish suddenly get a lot cheaper to produce? I can see the argument that it **could** leading to increased license sales, but where/when are they supposed to initiate funding it? Just about everything else I buy is getting more expensive, too (don't even get me started on my cable bill). I don't like paying that any more than I like paying ODFW extra either, but it seems silly to act like ODFW is immune from the same inflationary pressure; they gotta buy gas, paper, data storage, etc, just like we do.

The one-day increase does seem disproportionately steep, though ~ If they were to raise the annual fee by even more but come back with a smaller increase in the daily fee, at what point would that be more equitable? I can think of a buddy that fishes w/ me only 1-2X/yr, so it's still not enough to make it more cost-effective to buy the full year+tag, and it does make me wonder if he'll keep coming back. Does anyone know what the approximate % is of annual vs daily licenses sold for an avg year?

Just one more point of irony to add... The biggest bump in opportunity to draw out several of our 1-day license-buying friends & family (both last year and with the upcoming forecast this year) is the fall URB run, which of course is mostly non-hatchery origin. There was saltwater bottomfishing as well. So you could spin that either way: they shouldn't have to charge a bunch more since those fish were largely 'free' to produce, but also it sorta defeats the idea that we need to be sucking harder on the hatchery teat.

[reply](#)

07-17-2014, 04:04 PM #15

Finsalong
 Fry

Join Date: Jun 2014
 Posts: 14

Re: Voice your opinion on fee increases

I have done my part also. I kept it nice and to the point. David, I invite all to take a look at the Hatchery and Wild video movement again.

Lets keep it going.

[reply](#)

07-17-2014, 05:39 PM #16

drturl
 Cutthroat

Re: Voice your opinion on fee increases

Quote:



Join Date: Aug 2010
Location: In a house
Posts: 27

Originally Posted by **Bait Bucket**
According to the chief game cop who briefed at the Clackamas meeting, fishing without a license is their biggest violation encountered. Raise the fees and they ain't seen nothin' yet.

I'm with David. Give me fish. Do you think that with the fee increase they will allow more than 20 on your salmon tag? Dollar says they don't.

I agree. By the time one pays thousands of dollars on a boat, a vehicle to pull it, equipment, tackle, bait, gas, food, ice, sometimes lodging, then have to pay for a base license, a two rod stamp, that often isn't good in most waters, a Discovery pass, other family members licenses, a Salmon/Steelhead stamp... (getting tired), then are allowed a fish or two (if you're lucky) that has to be clipped, don't forget to lose the barbs... .. tell you what... I don't blame anyone for fishing without a license. I always have a license. But I've never experienced it like here before. I've fished Salmonids all my life in the Great Lakes and a couple guys can put 8 lines in the water, catch a bucket of fish with a single license. I know that fishery is quite different than the Columbia.. but man... give the little Ol' Fisherman a break Man....

We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them

Last edited by [drturl](#); 07-17-2014 at 05:43 PM.



07-17-2014, 06:41 PM

#17

codeman

Chromer

Join Date: Mar 2009
Location: st. helens
Posts: 981

Re: Voice your opinion on fee increases

Most of the operating cost of ODFW is not producing hatchery fish, or enforcement, or anything we would want our money to go to. Like all government agencies, the amount of waste is incredible. You can thank PERS for most of it. Almost all government agencies actually pay more for their retired force than they do for the force that is actually working. they need to do away with guaranteed retirement payments, and go the route of most of us, and just contribute to an employees 401K. Once someone retires, the government should not be supporting them anymore. Just like everyone else..... If you were to privatize the ODFW, it would be run lean and efficient, and the tax payer would get 2 or 3 times the bang for their buck.....



07-17-2014, 07:43 PM

#18

Moniker

Chromer

Join Date: Jul 2012
Posts: 842

Re: Voice your opinion on fee increases

Quote:

Originally Posted by **codeman**
Most of the operating cost of ODFW is not producing hatchery fish, or enforcement, or anything we would want our money to go to. Like all government agencies, the amount of waste is incredible. You can thank PERS for most of it. Almost all government agencies actually pay more for their retired force than they do for the force that is actually working. they need to do away with guaranteed retirement payments, and go the route of most of us, and just contribute to an employees 401K. Once someone retires, the government should not be supporting them anymore. Just like everyone else..... If you were to privatize the ODFW, it would be run lean and efficient, and the tax payer would get 2 or 3 times the bang for their buck.....

Can you post their budget to substantiate your claim about PERS? Or is this simply your best jab at anything run by the gov?



07-17-2014, 07:45 PM

#19

Jerry Dove



Join Date: Jan 2002
Location: tillamook or
Posts: 4,380

Re: Voice your opinion on fee increases

they could get a lot more done if they did away with the union. I know I'm bad.



07-17-2014, 08:00 PM

#20

bird dog bob

Tunal

Join Date: Jul 2007
Posts: 1,877

Re: Voice your opinion on fee increases

Quote:

Originally Posted by **codeman**
Most of the operating cost of ODFW is not producing hatchery fish, or enforcement, or anything we would want our money to go to. Like all government agencies, the amount of waste is incredible. You can thank PERS for most of it. Almost all government agencies actually pay more for their retired force than they do for the force that is actually working. they need to do away with guaranteed retirement payments, and go the route of most of us, and just contribute to an employees 401K. Once someone retires, the government should not be supporting them anymore. Just like everyone else..... If you were to privatize the ODFW, it would be run lean and efficient, and the tax payer would get 2 or 3 times the bang for their buck.....

Amen brother amen

Sorry to say if you just mention the word PERS in any post here you will get jumped on real quick there are just too many people on here that are getting paid by the government
You and I are the minority here but you are totally correct



07-17-2014, 08:01 PM #21

gbsmallie
Steelhead

Join Date: Mar 2012
Location: Central Or
Posts: 477

Re: Voice your opinion on fee Increases

Quote:
Originally Posted by **codeman**
Most of the operating cost of ODFW is not producing hatchery fish, or enforcement, or anything we would want our money to go to. Like all government agencies, the amount of waste is incredible. You can thank PERS for most of it. Almost all government agencies actually pay more for their retired force than they do for the force that is actually working. they need to do away with guaranteed retirement payments, and go the route of most of us, and just contribute to an employees 401K. Once someone retires, the government should not be supporting them anymore. Just like everyone else..... If you were to privatize the ODFW, it would be run lean and efficient, and the tax payer would get 2 or 3 times the bang for their buck.....

And this folks, is a man who gets it....on the money, despite the flaming to come...and Crabby, we shall soon see who is right, you or the Bird Dog...



07-17-2014, 08:43 PM #22

skpeatsht
Tuna!

Join Date: Dec 2009
Location: Tigard
Posts: 1,018

Re: Voice your opinion on fee increases

Thanks for the reminder David. I took the opportunity to let the ODFW know that I would gladly pay increased fees, as long as they could provide increased opportunities and put more catchable fish in the river! I still consider my license , tag and endorsement fees a bargain by todays standards (and I buy all in at least two states every year). That isn't to say I think the ODFW is doing a good job. Still ,when a round of golf can run \$25.00 to \$100.00 or more and a movie with the family can cost \$75.00 the enjoyment from my fishing license seems cheap by comparison. I also commented that the non fishing and hunting public need to pony up and pay their fair share also. I think the Department needs to be more aware of who supports them (hunters and fishermen) and serve those who pay their wages and not the special interest groups who spend most of their time in court instead of on the river.

Not all who wander are lost



07-18-2014, 07:40 AM #23

DAB
King Salmon
Join Date: Jan 2002
Location: Sandy Oregon
Posts: 9,906

Re: Voice your opinion on fee increases

Sent my comments.

Team WE GOT DYN-O-MITE
John Chapter 3 Verse 16
Grandpa Don, not an old model but a classic.
AT MY AGE I DON'T EVEN BUY GREEN BANANAS
Once a PARENT always a PARENT.

WB7SRR just another ham radio dweeb General class



Kent Irving
2395 12th Street SE, Salem, OR, 97302
503-378-1509

State Farm
Contact Me

*Not available in all states.

<< Previous Thread | Next Thread >>

Posting Rules

You may not post new threads
You may not post replies
You may not post attachments
You may not edit your posts

BB code is On
Smilies are On
[IMG] code is On
HTML code is Off

Forum Rules

Cast to Go Fish!

Search

All times are GMT -8. The time now is 08:14 AM.



Bait and Specialty Tackle Shops | Oregon and Washington Guides | Alaska Fishing
Oregon Charters | Accommodations | Custom Rods



[Terms of Service](#)

Page generated in 0.37751 seconds with 43 queries

Teri Kucera

From: Donna Tsiatsos <donnatsiatsos@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 17, 2014 9:07 PM
To: ODFW.comments@state.or.us
Cc: donnatsiatsos@yahoo.com; bruce.r.eddy@state.or.us
Subject: Comments on ODFW 2015-2017 Budget Development
Attachments: 20140715205329063.pdf

Attached please find comments on the the 2015-2017 Budget Development.

Bill Tsiatsos

COMMENTS ON ODFW 2015-2017 Budget Development

The Constitution of the United States – Amendment V:

.....nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.¹

“Government Power, if unresisted produces iniquitous sharing of other peoples’ property.”²

I. Comments In Reference To The Above Statement:

- A. Placement of woody matter in stream causes rivers and streams to breach their banks, claiming more private property and threatening county and state roads.
- B. Taking timber on private property for stream-bank set-backs (180') for shade.
- C. Private property owners are supporting excessive concentration of wildlife numbers.
 1. Inhibits land owners operation of “rest and rotation”
 2. Wildlife utilization of pastures, crops, and agriculture land creates financial hardship on private property owners.
 3. Livestock owners are being compensated for wolf predation. Ranchers and farmers should also receive financial compensation for their loss of agricultural ground production due to large numbers of concentrated wildlife habitation (specifically deer and elk), on their property.
 4. Damage: excessive damage to fencing and operational management.
 5. An Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife article states that “concentrating deer and elk can hurt habitat by encouraging excessive grazing”.³ This same article states that ODFW has deer and elk feeding sites away from human-populated areas; however it is noted that there are tours provided to the public that take wagon loads of people through the feeding site to observe the wildlife, throughout the winter months. This practice habituates the animals to the surrounding area and to human exposure.
 6. 25+ years ago, the “Starkey Experimental Forest and Range Facility” (located North of state highway 244,) constructed an 8' fence (9 miles N/S) which created disruption to the migration pattern of the elk herds onto the National Forest lands. The fencing diverts the elk migration onto private ground because it is a barrier between National Forest and private lands,

References:

- #1 Constitution of the United States
- #2 La Grande Observer – article written by George F. Will
- #3 Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife - “Don’t Feed the Wildlife”

II. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

- A. Webster's Dictionary defines predatory as ".....**plundering or robbing**".⁴
- B. 2014 Big Game Regulations publication on page 82, minimizes the definition of "**Predatory Animals that may be destructive to agricultural crops.**" Deer, Elk and others that are also destructive have been excluded.
1. "Agriculture Lands," as defined on page 81 of the above mentioned publication, is stated as being "**lands not less than 10 acres in extent that have been cultivated and planted or irrigated to domestic crops that are currently in use**".⁵
 2. Quote taken from an article in the La Grande Observer written by the Oregon Department of Agriculture "**PRESERVING OREGON FARMLAND**" states that "**Overall agricultural land – which includes pasture and range as well as crop lands.....**".⁶
 3. "Elk Damage Tags": In the Big Game Regulations publication, within the "**Directors Message,**" it is stated that "**the ODFW can now work with landowners who are experiencing elk damage to authorize a limited number of antlerless elk tags for the property**".⁷ Versus the ELK DAMAGE TAG IMPLEMENTATION section of Exhibit B in the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission document, dated June 5-6, 2014, it states ".....elk damage program does not limit the number of tags a landowner may acquire." This remark contradicts the previous statement from above.
 4. An article published in the Observer, dated June 25, 2014, records David Eddy as stating "**We're excited about the project and want to do whatever we can to keep everybody happy and keep the elk from eating the farmers out of house and home**".⁸
The following day after the article was published, Bruce Eddy, manager of ODFW Northeast Region, was contacted by Bill Tsiatsos, (a local rancher) to voice his approval of the statement, however, Mr. Eddy disagreed.

References:

- #4 Webster's New World Dictionary of the American Language, College Edition
#5, #7 2014 OREGON BIG GAME REGULATIONS publication
#6, #8 La Grande Observer article by Oregon Dept. of Agriculture, "PRESERVING OREGON FARMLAND"

III. INTERESTING FACTS:

- A. Referencing page 83 of the Big Game Regulations publication, the "Interesting Facts" column states that *"Elk use declines in areas with adjacent roads open to motorized vehicles".⁹*
1. Contradicting Comment #1: A long term resident, Bill Tsiatsos, who lives in a rural area divided by Oregon State Highway 244 and county roads, McIntyre and Baseline Lane, states *"numerous vehicles travel this area to view the huge elk herds that are resident to the area. The traffic obviously has little to no effect on the elk herds."*
 2. Contradicting Comment #2: Wallowa Mountain Wilderness roadless areas have very little wildlife compared to the lower elevation of private ground.
- B. ODFW provides numerous devices and methods (orchard guns, sirens, flares, hazing and ammunition) to reduce the number of animals which impact the private land.
1. Comment #1: The animals become accustomed to the devices and methods.
 2. Comment #2: The ODFW has agreed that the devices are inefficient.

IV. M.O. (Management Objective) 5,300 Animals Within 800+ Square Mile Area

- A. Majority of M. O. congregate on private acreage.
- B. ODFW is unable to manage the concentrated herds in these areas, causing financial loss and physical damage to personal operation; fence damage, inability to manage crop rotation and maintain healthy plants, impact on ground and damage to forage.
- C. Recruitment: Deer and elk offspring numbers are down due to road-kill and predation such as bears, cougars and most recently introduced, wolves.
- D. The current M.O. has created unmanageable herds on private property without just compensation to land owners.

Reference:

1. #9 2014 OREGON BIG GAME REGULATIONS publication

3/3

Scott Skun
Wallowa County President

Teri Kucera

From: Richard Zettervall <razduck52@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 17, 2014 9:22 PM
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us
Subject: License Fee Increase

Dear ODFW,

The proposal to increase license fees to cover a projected budget shortfall is short sighted. In the last decade, there have been more and more restrictions on sports fishing in Oregon. This upcoming Buoy 10 season is another example with the newly-imposed Young's Bay bubble exclusion zone. You cannot expect sports fishermen and women to pay more for less!

The fee increase proposal mimics the cigarette tax. The higher the cigarette tax, the fewer packs of cigarettes are purchased. Your proposal will achieve the same result, although unlike the cigarette tax, your goal is not to reduce sales of licenses but to breach a budget gap. This is most definitely the **WRONG** way to do it!

You should be focusing on initiatives that will increase license sales, not reduce them. You should be focusing on expanding "fish catching" opportunities (through increased hatchery production), not "fishing" opportunities by setting seasons to start before the fish arrive and end before the fishing gets good. You should want every person who buys a license to have a very good chance to catch a fish on their trip on the water. Improve your product (fish catching opportunity) then you can increase your price without suffering a reduction in license sales. It's simple economics.

As an Oregon Native, I have been an avid fisherman all my life. When I started fishing at age 4,

I caught my first Salmon on the Siletz River in 1956. I have struggled with most recent license Columbia River endorsement, but decided to buy my 2014 license anyhow. I find it increasingly difficult to justify buying my Resident Fishing License when the quality of the fish catching opportunity seems to decline over time. If you increase the fees again without addressing the quality of the product you are selling, I and others like me will continue to cut back and stop buying their licenses. What a shame that my Grandchildren will never see the great fishing opportunities that I have been blessed with in my 62 years as a Native Oregonian. Now that I am going into retirement and wanting to spend a lot more time fishing I see that I may be faced with another difficult decision in the near future. OMG!!

The increase in the one-day license to \$25 is particularly egregious. With an increase of that magnitude, how do expect to encourage Tourism surrounding some of the

Great Fishing opportunities that still exist in our Glorious State? At \$25/day, I don't know too many people willing to pay that price on top of their guided trip, or just visiting their Family in Oregon and want to go fishing with them.

I know that budgeting and financing programs isn't easy. I hope you realize that increasing fees at a time when many folks cannot afford it and when many perceive that the product has most declined in value will result in decreased support for ODFW programs. When are going to learn your lesson? Haven't your noticed the decline in license sales over the past few years? I can tell you for sure that I like others await your decision, I hope you make the right choice, No More Increases, PLEASE!!

Sincerely,

Richard Zettervall
1122 Swale Ridge Loop
Creswell, OR 97426-4501
(541) 521-5040