



OREGON STATE SENATE  
900 Court St NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Director Curt Melcher and Chair Michael Finley,  
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE  
Salem, OR 97302

January 10, 2017

Dear Director Melcher and Chair Finley,

It has come to my attention that some members of the Fish and Wildlife Commission are attempting to undermine the Joint State Columbia River Reforms, primarily by rewriting the underlying economic baseline.

Their attempt disrespects the efforts of the Bipartisan support that passed SB 830, as well as disrespecting the 175,000 license holders who pay \$9.75 extra to support better conservation and economics of the river's fisheries, scheduled for full implementation in 2017.

I would like to have department staff model for me what commercial and sport fisheries would look like today, had the sport and conservation community not abandoned their support for the initiative to ban gill and tangle nets in Oregon waters. Former Governor Kitzhaber went much further than asking these communities to abandon their initiative for a joint state process; he requested that they actively campaign against the ban. The Sportfishing organizations did so, while the conservation community distributed "vote no" information in areas where the initiative had the most support.

Even with this impressive "vote no" effort, roughly 1/3 of the voters still voted against gillnetting in state waters. I'm convinced these same organizations and their allies would have prevailed, had they put their efforts into educating

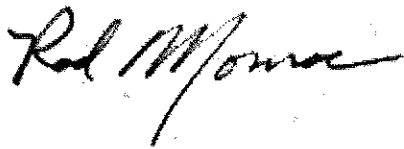
the public about the conservation and economic problems inherent in mainstem gillnetting.

I'm requesting an ODFW report outlining the conservation and economic outcomes that would be in place today, if these groups had not put their trust in the Commission and Legislature in 2012 and 2013. The report should include the effects of the ban, and model the elimination of smolt transfers from tributaries and other expenditures designed to benefit mainstem Columbia River commercial fisheries from license or tax dollars since 2013. I would like to see this analysis as soon as possible.

Additionally, I would like to see a report on what the management costs to ODFW are attached to the managing the Columbia River commercial fishery, such as enforcement, fishery management, costs of raising smolts, etc.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rod Monroe". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "R" and "M".

Senator Rod Monroe  
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503-986-1724 office