

Exhibit B

**Supplemental
Public Correspondence Received as of
July 6, 2020.**



Coos County STEP Commission, Inc
PO Box 1611
North Bend, OR 97459

July 3, 2020

Mary Wahl
Chair of the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, Oregon 97302

RE: Proposed cuts in 2021 fiscal year budget including the Bandon Fish Hatchery and two Coos Watershed Fisheries Biologist in the 10% Cut List

Dear Chair Wahl:

The Coos County STEP Commission, Inc (CCSC) is a non-profit that owns the Morgan Creek Fish Hatchery in the Coos River Watershed. We work closely with the local STEP volunteers to run this facility. This facility was built with mostly private dollars in an effort to provide a world class natural resource education opportunity to local school children while also promoting sport fishing opportunities that have a significant impact on our local community. The angling effort that the fish returning to this hatchery and others in the Coos River system generates multiple millions of dollars to our local community. That is a significant contribution to the southern Oregon coast which has struggled economically to match the urban areas. Through thousands of volunteer hours, this program has become a signature event for our 5th and 6th grade elementary students. Their hands on participation is a memory that all of them carry with them for a lifetime. Parents and now even grandparents comeback and remember their experience at the hatchery as a child. This a powerful natural resource education tool that we don't want to lose.

CCSC is concerned about the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's 10% proposed cut list for the budget year beginning in July 2021 that includes the funding for the Bandon Fish Hatchery and two (2) Coos Watershed Fisheries Biologist positions out of the Charleston Office. Our best understanding is that these proposed cuts are part of the budget process that would go into effect if there is a drop in funding from one or more of the various funds that make up the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's budget and may never come to fruition if funding remains steady. We hope that these cuts do not become necessary but wanted you to be aware of our concerns.

As the Commission is likely aware, the Bandon Fish Hatchery serves multiple integral roles in the operations of the Morgan Creek Hatchery Chinook Salmon and the Millicoma Hatchery Steelhead programs. The Morgan Creek and Millicoma Hatcheries are run and managed with Coos County STEP Commission and South Coast Angler STEP Association funds. Work at the hatcheries is completed with the assistance of two ODFW Biologists each working ½ FTE on STEP related projects.

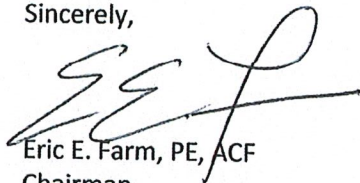
If the proposed funding cuts do come to fruition the impacts to the Coos Watershed will be dramatic. It would be nearly impossible for our hatcheries to operate without the partnership of the Bandon Fish Hatchery. The functions carried out at the hatchery are vital to the production of the salmon and steelhead raised and released by the program. The Bandon hatchery staff also provides crucial expertise on hatchery operations and best practices. Additionally that the loss of two fisheries biologists will have severe impact on the agency's ability to oversee both hatchery and wild fish improvement projects throughout the district.

The negative consequences of these actions are not limited to the Coos STEP program; closing the Bandon Hatchery and eliminating the STEP program fisheries biologist will have the same impact on the Noble Creek (Fall Chinook) and Eel/Tenmile (winter steelhead) STEP programs. We fear that the entire Coos, Eel and Coquille watershed fisheries programs will be unable to produce the numbers of fish needed to sustain this vital fishery. Additionally, the Bandon hatchery is critical to the trophy trout program that provides fish for children and family events along with local lake stocking.

These proposed changes will significantly impact our local economy. We estimate that the sports fishing supported by the work of these programs brings in millions of dollars annually to local businesses and state coffers. We understand the Commission and the Department face tough budget decisions, however we urge you to consider alternatives which will not have such a long term negative impact on the south coast and the regions salmon and steelhead fisheries.

Thank you for the opportunity to address this issue. We apologize for the timing of our comments. This year has been difficult for us to stay engaged at the level and time here we should participate and provide input. We very much want to be part of the solution to issues and not part of the problem. Therefore we will strive to stay engaged at the most beneficial levels and times in the future. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me by email at eric@farm-unlimited.com or by telephone at 458-230-0537.

Sincerely,



Eric E. Farm, PE, ACF
Chairman

Coos County STEP Commission, Inc.

CC: Chairman, ODFW STEP Advisory Committee
District Fish Biologist, Charleston Office
Regional Fish Biologist, Umpqua Watershed
President, Eel/Tenmile STEP
President, Noble Creek STEP

From: Jenny Bloom <bloompx@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 30, 2020 1:04 PM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Out of state hunters

Good afternoon and thanks for your time.

I know that ODFW like all of state government is in need of \$\$\$, even before Corvid. Got me thinking about our of state fees for license and tags. My brother is a out of state hunter and is impacted in the pocket book and I get impacted due to out of state quota on controlled hunts.

So, not to be self serving, but shouldn't we hope for more out of state hunters? The department and our wildlife need the \$\$\$\$. I believe the legislature gets involved here regarding quotas but....

Keep the limit on guides as it is.

Out of state hunters are already penalized by out of state fees. Keep the fees where they are and either increase out of state limits or remove limits all together. Still takes the same number of points for a particular controlled hunt. They can always purchase general tags but I doubt rather many do. The result is more revenue for ODFW, same amount of access for everyone just penalties for out of state via fees. Oregon hunters still protected by points system. If the out of state hunter has the points, lets get the \$\$\$

Removes double penalty and penalty for Oregon hunters hunting with out of state hunters and increases revenue for ODFW.

Thank you again.

Mark Bloom
265730 Hunter ID#



WaterWatch of Oregon

Protecting Natural Flows In Oregon Rivers

June 9, 2020

Mary Wahl, Chair
Members of the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, OR 97302-1142

RE: Support of proposed POP 114 and 115 Water Quality Water Quantity Program and POP 112 Habitat Division.

Dear Chair Wahl and Members of the Commission,

WaterWatch of Oregon is a nonprofit river conservation group that has been working for 35 years to protect and restore streamflows across Oregon. In looking at the ODFW budget through the water lens, we offer the following brief comments.

We would urge the Commission to not only support additional POPs for ODFW's Water Quantity Water Quality Program (Water Program) as requested in the Draft 2021-2023 Agency Budget, but, importantly, to protect the Water Program from cuts as the state adjusts agency budgets to account for the effects of COVID-19. The Water Program is ranked #10 in the Agency's listing of program prioritization, a ranking that WaterWatch strongly supports. We ask the Commission to help ensure that critical work continue to be funded.

In terms of securing a sustainable water future for Oregon, recovering imperiled salmon and ensuring the health of Oregon's rivers, adequately funding ODFW's Water Program is of paramount importance. It is not possible to overstate the importance of this work. ODFW's Water Program plays a vital role in protecting water in our state's iconic rivers. Whether it's reviewing new water right applications to ensure that they won't harm our rivers, securing new instream water rights to legally protect streamflows forever, prioritizing restoration streamflow restoration efforts statewide, working in basin collaborative groups, building climate resiliency or helping set water policy in river basins statewide, ODFW's Water Program is the single most important program across agencies for protecting and restoring water in our streams – and provides an invaluable service to all Oregonians.

Specific to the draft agency budget documents before the Commission relating to ODFW's Water Program, WaterWatch urges the Commission to support POP 114 and 115.

- **POP 114** will expand ODFW's Water Program so that the agency can fully participate in "place based planning" and other water conversations across the state. Place based plans are required, by statute, to address both instream and out-of-stream needs. But because this ODFW package has remained unfunded in past legislative sessions, ODFW has not had a seat at the table in these critically important discussions. This short changes Oregon's rivers and stream decades into the future.

WaterWatch of Oregon
Main Office: 213 SW Ash St. Suite 208 Portland, OR 97204
Southern Oregon Office: PO Box 261, Ashland, OR, 97520

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- As to **POP 115**, WaterWatch does not support the Willamette Reallocation Plan in its current form and believes the plan should wait until further studies are complete. However, we recognize that if the plan does go into effect ODFW's work on related streamflow issues will be critical. Some of that work also should be done regardless of the status of reservoir reallocation. Thus, we urge the Commission to support POP 115 as well.

In addition to our support of ODFW's Water Program, WaterWatch also urges the Commission to support **POP 112**, which would fund the Habitat Division establishment. It is our understanding that, if established, the Water Program will likely be moved to this Division. Thus, robust funding of the Division is key to both the continued work of the Water Program as well as additional habitat work needed to protect Oregon's fish and wildlife. This Division will also be critical to ensuring ongoing climate change work.

In conclusion, expanding the Water Program is not only critical to Oregon's water future, but is important in achieving the Agency's Strategic Planning Goal #1 of demonstrating effective stewardship of Oregon's fish, wildlife and their habitats. And protecting the Water Program from cuts is critical to ensuring that there is capacity for Oregon to meet many of the instream elements of the State's Integrated Water Resources Strategy (Strategy), a consensus blueprint for the future of Oregon's economically important waters, rivers and fisheries.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "K. Priestley", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kimberley Priestley
Senior Policy Analyst
WaterWatch of Oregon