



Interest Form

Fish Restoration and Enhancement Board

This form is used to obtain general information and qualification of persons interested in serving on the R&E Board. This information is used by Oregon Fish and Wildlife to develop R&E Board appointment recommendations for the Fish and Wildlife Commission and announcements related to the appointment.



APPLICANT INFORMATION					
Name	Troy Laws				
Affiliation (if any)	Lower Columbia Gillnetter & Retired ODFW F&W Biologist				
Mailing address or PO Box	[REDACTED]				
Town/City	Seaside	State	Oregon	Zip code	[REDACTED]
Phone number	[REDACTED]	Cell number Or alternate #	[REDACTED]	Fax number	[REDACTED]
E-mail	[REDACTED]				
Applicant signature	[REDACTED]				
<p>By signing above:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ You certify that all the information is true. ➤ You certify that you are a legal citizen of Oregon and the United States. ➤ You will accept appointment to the Fish Restoration and Enhancement Board if selected by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission. ➤ You have an email address and are able and willing to check your email on a near-daily basis and conduct some Board business via email. ➤ You will you be able to make scheduled meetings across the state. 					

POSITION APPLYING FOR		
<p>Check the boxes for each of the positions you are currently applying for and check the boxes that best describe your interests or involvement that allow you to be a representative for that position.</p> <p>If you qualify for more than one position you may check the other boxes you are interested in. This information may be used to contact you for future vacancies.</p>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Sport Fishing <input type="checkbox"/> Inland -Warm water <input type="checkbox"/> Inland – Trout <input type="checkbox"/> Inland – Salmon/steelhead <input type="checkbox"/> Ocean – Salmon (sport) <input type="checkbox"/> Ocean – Other fish (sport) <input type="checkbox"/> Other –explain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Seafood Processor <input type="checkbox"/> Processing related <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gill Netter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gill Net related <input type="checkbox"/> Troller <input type="checkbox"/> Troll related	<input type="checkbox"/> Public At Large <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Watershed Council <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sportsman’s Group <input type="checkbox"/> STEP Group <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concerned Citizen <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Concerned Angler <input type="checkbox"/> Other – explain

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

Use the space below to tell us why you are interested in being a representative on the R&E Board and why you think you would make a good R&E Board member.

In my opinion there is no greater reward, or personal satisfaction within all of the ODFW programs, than seeing constituents' fishing and hunting dollars put directly back into the resources that provide the benefits. I'm interested in being a representative on the R&E Board because ODFW's R&E and A&H programs achieve these objectives.

I'm a North Coast fisherman (commercial gillnet & sport) and a recently retired 35-year ODFW Fish & Wildlife Biologist (1986-2021). I was born and raised near Seaside, and my relatives were a part of Lower Columbia River history where they worked the horse seining grounds, gillnetted, brokered fish, processed in the canneries, and were pioneers of dory fishing off of Cannon Beach and Gearhart. My roots go even deeper in Lower Columbia River history, as I'm also related to Sgt. John Ordway of the Lewis & Clark Expedition.

I have been involved with the R&E program since its inception in 1989, mostly through work at ODFW but also through helping watershed councils, landowners, and others develop projects and pursue R&E program funds. Through employment with ODFW I also served as the ODFW Northwest Access & Habitat (A&H) council coordinator where similar funds were dispersed for wildlife related projects.

A lifetime of working on both the harvest and management sides of fisheries resources, coupled with my advocacy for fishermen/hunters' rights, habitat protection/enhancement, and access, added to my working knowledge of the R&E program itself, make me a desirable candidate. I would be honored to serve and represent Lower Columbia River Commercial fisheries on the R&E board.

EXPERIENCE/ INVOLVEMENT

Use the space below to describe any work experience and/or involvement that has provided you with the knowledge, skills, or abilities to successfully represent the interests of the position you are applying for and fulfil the duties of a member of the R&E board.

Make sure to include involvement in representing or advising organizations or interest groups, and experience related to sport fishing, commercial fishing, or fishery management.

- You may attach a resume or work history supplement, if desired.
- Please be specific and define your role.

1) Currently I'm a licensed/active Lower Columbia River Gillnetter who is versed on issues afflicting the industry. I support commercial fishing and advocate for our local salmon conservation organizations: including "Salmon For All" and our local CEDC gillnet fisheries/programs, including the SAFE areas set aside for gillnet harvest. I'm also an advocate for increasing tanglenet fishing opportunities and support reinstating mainstem traditional gillnet fisheries, where and when applicable, to achieve harvest allocations/objectives.

2) Prior to a 35 year career with ODFW that began in 1986, I commercial salmon fished and worked with a fish buyer periodically over a 10 year period. It was the collapse of coho stocks, in the ocean around 1980, that motivated me to earn a Fish & Wildlife degree and work on the other side of harvest in fisheries management.

3) I've been involved with the R&E program since its launch in 1989 and was active with the program throughout my ODFW career. I also served as a Northwest Regional Council Coordinator for the Access & Habitat (A&H) program (2007-10). Up to my retirement in 2021, I developed/implemented numerous habitat restoration projects, equipment acquisitions, access developments, stream enrichment projects, fish passage improvements, hatchery facility upgrades, and other infrastructure related needs for ODFW, watershed councils, public/private landowners, cooperating agencies, and others. My involvement also included implementing the projects I developed, sourcing materials, obtaining permits, formulating budgets, applying for grants, reviewing proposals, and writing departmental letters of support.

4) I'm active in the Oregon Hunters Association locally, where I'm currently serving as the Clatsop County chapter's interim president. In addition, in retirement, I continue to work with our local watershed councils and timber companies on monitoring past projects and developing new cooperative efforts as opportunities arise.

SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTION

- Describe what you believe are the main issues facing sport fisheries, commercial fisheries, and/or fishery management in Oregon and identify which fish management issues are important to you.

I believe the main issue(s) facing sport/commercial fisheries and/or fishery management are best explained by the 4-H's that are the primary drivers of salmonid abundance - harvest, hydro, hatcheries, and habitat. To me, each sector is equally responsible, equally important, and I fully believe management decisions/actions derived from each must be integrated with appropriate responses in order to sustain healthy salmonid populations. Programs such as R&E provide us with a venue to do just that.

I look forward to the opportunity serve on the R&E board, evaluate projects on their merits, and collectively be part of the team that allocates the resources to the projects we deem will make the difference.

REFERENCES					
Please identify three references that may be contacted in the event you are selected as a top candidate. Individuals or representatives of associations/organizations are acceptable. If you have any letters or statements of support from these references please attach them.					
Reference #1					
Name	Steve Fick				
Affiliation (if any)	Fishhawk Fisheries, Inc. (owner)				
Mailing address	[REDACTED]				
Town/City	Astoria	State	Oregon	Zip code	[REDACTED]
Phone number	[REDACTED]	Alternate #		Fax number	
E-mail					
Reference #2					
Name	Duane Bernard				
Affiliation (if any)	Former A&H Program Board Member (termed)				
Mailing address	[REDACTED]				
Town/City	Rainier	State	Oregon	Zip code	[REDACTED]
Phone number	[REDACTED]	Alternate #		Fax number	
E-mail	[REDACTED]				
Reference #3					
Name	Gene Elliot				
Affiliation (if any)	Commercial Gillnetter - Lower Columbia River				
Mailing address or PO Box	[REDACTED]				
Town/City	Astoria	State	Oregon	Zip code	[REDACTED]
Phone number	[REDACTED]	Alternate #		Fax number	
E-mail	[REDACTED]				

Please scan and send this application via email to Martin.P.Olson@odfw.oregon.gov or via mail to:

Restoration and Enhancement Program
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, Oregon 97302

Applications must be sent via email or post-marked by the posted deadline in order to be considered for the position.