

**From:** Stan Steele <@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 24, 2022 10:52 PM  
**Subject:** Opportunity to Respond!

Jamie Damon,  
Beaver Management Work Group Facilitator  
Kerns and West,

Near the end of today's Beaver Management Work Group meeting a statement was made that **it is up to the trappers to provide data and scientific research that supports** ODFW's current regulated beaver harvest management program. It is the position of the Oregon Trappers Association that ODFW's current beaver harvest management program and applicable administrative rules are in compliance with Oregon Revised Statute, ORS 496.012, Oregon's Wildlife Management Policy.

As the Oregon Trapper's Association's representative on the work group, I raised my hand to respond and due to time constraints was told by the facilitator that there was not time for me to respond!

The Oregon Trappers Association respectfully requests that all sides of controversial statements be given adequate time to factually respond. We fully understand that meeting agenda/timelines need to be adhered to, but also do not feel that responses should be stifled just to make sure a meeting ends on time.

OTA's brief verbal response, if allowed, would have been:

The statement that attempts to shift the burden of proof to defend the state's current beaver harvest management program onto the shoulders of regulatory compliant trappers from the anti-trapping activists seeking a scientifically unsupported, landscape scale regulatory change is disingenuous at best. However, with that being said, ODFW's fisheries and wildlife biologists have on several occasions during previous meeting presentations told the work group that data and past and present stream surveys do not support the hypothesis that Oregon's current regulated beaver trapping/harvest program is negatively impacting beaver colony expansion, dam building activities, beaver population persistence/abundance, the efficacy of federal lands habitat restoration projects or wild salmonid recovery efforts.

The Oregon Trappers Association respectfully requests that the above response be added to the record of today's meeting.

Stan Steele, Oregon Trappers Association  
Beaver Management Work Group