

Public Comments

**Comments Received
as of
January 21, 2011**

Alan Ritchie
Statewide Fish Screen Coordinator
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
3406 Cherry Avenue N.E.
Salem, OR 97303

Re: Fish Screen Task Force position – support for Brent Stevenson

Dear Mr. Ritchie:

I am writing to express support for the appointment of Brent Stevenson to the Fish Screening Task Force.

The Oregon Water Resources Congress (OWRC) represents non-potable agriculture water suppliers in Oregon, primarily irrigation districts. The mission of OWRC is to promote the protection and use of water rights and the wise stewardship of water resources. Our members deliver water primarily to agricultural irrigators.

Mr. Stevenson previously served on the Board of Directors of the Oregon Water Resources for several years and on our State Legislative Committee on which he continues to serve.

Mr. Stevenson has hands on experience with fish screens in his current position as the manager of the Santiam Water Control District as well as his prior position as the manager of the Walla Walla River Irrigation District. He has firsthand experience with ODFW's small fish screen program having used support from that program to install several fish screens at the Walla Walla River Irrigation District. He has experience with the intergovernmental nature of this kind of project as well as the interactions among state agencies for a fish screen project.

Mr. Stevenson has a reputation as someone who is interested in defining issues and seeking solutions while recognizing that different parties have different concerns. His reputation is that of someone who works to make sure the different parties are heard and someone who is reasonable, but willing to make decisions. He has worked with agriculture irrigators in two parts of the state, guiding the boards of directors at two different districts through diverse efforts to incorporate fish protection in the districts' respective operations.

Mr. Stevenson is respected by his peers who were pleased to have me return to OWRC and lend his experience to helping this organization in continuing to serve irrigated agriculture.

On behalf of the Oregon Water Resources I support the appointment of Mr. Stevenson to the Fish Screening Task Force.

Please feel free to call if I can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anita Stinkler". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Executive Director