

# Exhibit G

## **Supplemental Public Correspondence**

**Public correspondence received  
as of June 4, 2014**

**Lisa Evans**

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**To:** Debbie L Colbert  
**Subject:** RE: Commission will need a change in ORS to set fees in excess of \$100

**From:** Dave Wiley [<mailto:davewiley@wvi.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 20, 2014 3:48 PM  
**To:** 'Debbie L Colbert'  
**Cc:** Ron Anglin ([ronald.e.anglin@state.or.us](mailto:ronald.e.anglin@state.or.us))  
**Subject:** Commission will need a change in ORS to set fees in excess of \$100

Debbie

RE ORS 496.146 Additional powers of commission; rules; fees; penalties. See sections (10) & (14)

At the meeting with Ron and Mike this morning regarding Occupational and Private Benefit licenses and permits, it occurred to me that most of these fees are set by the Commission and some of the proposed license, permit and service fees will exceed the Commission's statutory \$100 limit. This being the case, I recommend the Department look into seeking an increase to the \$100 limit and this would of course require a change in the law.

Dave W

**Jason Bader**

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**From:** Ken Stoller <kenstoller@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 22, 2014 6:11 AM  
**To:** odfw.info@state.or.us  
**Subject:** FISHING LICENCE TOO EXPENSIVE

\$42.75 is an unreasonable price for a fishing licence. We know that this is just another tax to fund a another state system that is out of control. In light of the "Cover Oregon" fiasco, there is little if any trust in our state government. Although I can afford such a fee, I think of young men and women who just want to take their family fishing and now won't be able to afford such an extravagance as an Oregon fishing tax. Get Real. Not everyone makes as much money and have as many perks as state employees.

Ken Stoller  
Dallas, Oregon

**Lisa Evans**

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**To:** ODFW Comments  
**Subject:** RE: Fee increase

**From:** Jim Coxen [[mailto:longrider\\_1947@yahoo.com](mailto:longrider_1947@yahoo.com)]

**Sent:** Thursday, May 22, 2014 9:31 AM

**To:** [ODFW.Comments@state.or.us](mailto:ODFW.Comments@state.or.us)

**Cc:** Dan Jamison; Ken H; Jim Coxen; Randy; Ed Harrison; Yvone; Bill McMillan; Rabourne, James; Dave Comstock; Joe; Pam comstock; Renee

**Subject:** Fee increase

Oregon Hunters Association, Greg Barretto

ODFW proposed fee and license cost increase.

As Oregon hunters, anglers trappers and recreational shooters, we have determined that it is in the best interest of the conservation and recovery of our quality of life that state and federal management agencies initiate a five year research project to determine the impact of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's 2015 - 21 proposed fee increases on our businesses and personal outdoor recreational activities. If the original research determines that there may be or has been a negative impact to our economic fecundity, individual life history traits, and our societal fitness, the responsible governing agencies would immediately conduct a second five year research project to confirm the results of the first. Upon the completion of the ten years of research, a report would be generated for public discussion regarding support or non support of the proposed 2015-17 ODFW fee increases and overall budget. The final report will be submitted to the 2025-27 Legislative session for consideration regarding the need for, and validity of the administratively proposed 2015 through 2021 fee increases. Only after unanimous legislative approval would the 2015 -21 budget be presented to the Governor.

***"A man can never have too much red wine, too many books, or too much ammunition" -- Rudyard Kipling.***

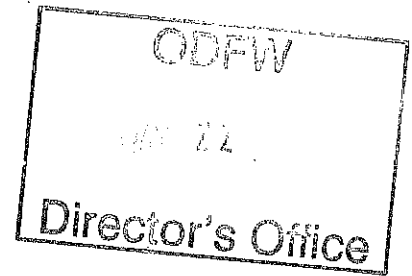


# OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 1706, Medford, OR 97501 • (541) 772-7313 • oha@ccountry.net • www.oregonhunters.org

Mr. Roy Elicker  
Director, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
4034 Fairview Industrial Dr SE  
Salem, Oregon 97302

May 17, 2014



Dear Director Elicker,

The Oregon Hunters Association is writing on behalf of its 10,000 members to voice a concern about a line item in the ODFW proposed budget for the 2015-2017 biennium. In the External Budget Committee (EBAC) materials dated April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 and entitled "Preparing for the 2015-2017 Biennium" we are concerned about an item listed under the "Shift to Other Revenue Sources" on the bottom of page five. It is there that this budget item appears: "Avian & pinniped management (\$900K)".

It is our understanding based on the EBAC presentation that this budget item has to do with the management of management of avian and pinniped fish predators. While we understand that the proposal has to do with the shifting of the funding of this program from its current revenue source (fish generated license fees) to general fund monies, it is our fear that the department will not receive an adequate amount of new general fund monies to shift this program to a new general revenue source as proposed and the program will then have to be funded by hunter license and fee dollars.

The purpose of this letter is to voice our concerns about the potential funding of a fish related program using hunter dollars. In the past ODFW has assured the hunters of Oregon that their dollars would not be used to fund fish related programs. We are adamant that this "no commingling of funding sources" philosophy be maintained through this projected budget shortfall. It is imperative to us that Oregon hunters fund only wildlife and habitat related programs. OHA is a strong advocate for this "no commingling of funds" position and will alert Oregon hunters and supporters of hunting in Oregon if ODFW should change this time tested position.

In closing we would like to say that we understand that ODFW is facing a huge revenue shortfall. But we would like to reiterate that now is not the time to change budget "philosophies" and rob one division of ODFW it's much needed monies to pay for another division's programs.

If you have any questions please contact our lobbyist Al Elkins (503-780-6824, [alvinelkins@yahoo.com](mailto:alvinelkins@yahoo.com)) or Joe Ricker, Chairman of the OHA Board of Directors (503-399-0177, [jricker1@ix.netcom.com](mailto:jricker1@ix.netcom.com)).

Sincerely,

Joe Ricker

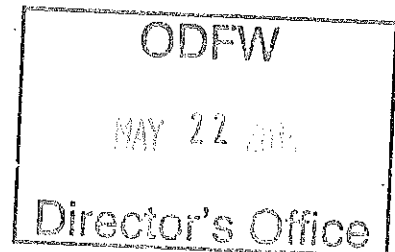


**CCA**

COASTAL CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION  
OREGON

May 16, 2014

Mr. Roy Elicker, Director  
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)  
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE  
Salem, Oregon 97302



Director Elicker,

I am writing on behalf of Coastal Conservation Association Oregon (CCA Oregon) in advance of the ODFW Town Hall meetings on its proposed 2015-2017 budget. CCA Oregon had members involved in the External Budget Advisory Committee (EBAC) process and appreciated the opportunity to better understand ODFW's budget and the challenges we all face in funding fish and wildlife management in our state. However, we do have a number of comments, questions, and concerns related to the budget request.

First and foremost, CCA members believe ODFW must focus on increasing the number of recreational fishing licenses sold, rather than the price of those licenses. The long term fiscal health of the Department hinges on reversing recent declines in licenses sales by taking concrete actions to improve and promote robust recreational fishing opportunity. Providing robust and predictable fishing seasons will fuel additional license sales, generate additional revenue for the agency, and increased revenue and state tax collections -- a true win-win proposition.

Our members would like to see a plan of action from ODFW for policies, proposals, and the funding necessary to provide more recreational fishing opportunity. As you may know, there is growing frustration in the recreational fishing community that is likely to generate significant opposition to proposed license fee increases. Recent agency actions like the adoption of an overly large and punitive Youngs Bay exclusion zone area, the barbless hook requirement in the Columbia and all tributaries, and challenges to hatcheries have created significant mistrust.

CCA Oregon has appreciated the opportunity to work with ODFW in recent years and would like nothing more than to support a license fee increase if the department outlines a compelling argument for how it will benefit recreational anglers and our fisheries. There are several key areas that we believe deserve particular attention.

**Implementation of Columbia River fishery reform plan:** There is significant frustration and cynicism around the implementation of the plan, including the recent agency actions mentioned above. This frustration will only increase as recreational anglers pay the new endorsement fee and perceive that they have little to show for it in terms of increased fishing opportunity and enhanced fisheries. We urge you to consider specific actions to enhance recreational fisheries and promote this increased fishing opportunity under the mainstem recreational priority included in the plan.

We would also like to better understand what effect the Lower Mainstem Columbia River Fisheries Management Reform agreement is having on license sales and how that will shift as the plan is fully implemented during the 2015-2017 biennium. As you know, the conservative estimate provided by ODFW-WDFW during development of the plan indicated it would generate an additional 75,000 angler trips when fully implemented. This would represent a 20-percent increase over the baseline. What does this mean in terms of increased license sales and revenue? How can we work with you to identify additional enhancement actions which can be taken to increase fishing opportunity and license sales further? What can ODFW do working with WDFW to reduce interceptions of Columbia River fish in Alaskan, Canadian, and coastal commercial fisheries to increase recreational opportunity in the Columbia?

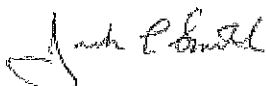
**Maintaining and enhancing responsible hatchery production:** Hatcheries fuel most of Oregon's popular salmon and steelhead fisheries. Recreational anglers are very concerned about growing threats and reductions in hatchery production, including those brought about through litigation and agency management plans. CCA Oregon supports the important role hatcheries have to play in providing harvest opportunities while conserving, sustaining, and rebuilding salmon and steelhead stocks. We also support efforts to improve the efficacy of hatchery programs to ensure that, consistent with native fish conservation, opportunities are not unnecessarily constrained.

We urge ODFW to develop a plan for maintaining our current hatchery programs and production levels while also looking for opportunities to enhance hatchery production benefiting recreational fisheries. Recreational anglers are willing to pay more for increased numbers of fish and opportunity, but are not willing to pay more for reductions in hatchery production and fishing opportunity. While this is a key priority for anglers across the state, fisheries in our coastal and southwest Oregon Rivers are heavily dependent on ODFW's leadership related to hatchery production and management.

**Taking action to address unnatural levels of predation:** Another key concern to our members is the growing impact of avian and marine mammal predation on our fisheries. While the budget proposal envisions a study related to Double-crested Cormorant predation, it offers little detail about future actions to address this and other significant predation issues. We are interested in seeing a plan of action from the Department that includes reliable funding sources to carry out predation control activities.

CCA Oregon's EBAC representative will have other comments and suggestions as you finalize ODFW's budget request. However, these comments are meant to initiate a discussion about how ODFW plans to increase recreational fishing opportunity and the resulting license sales so essential to Oregon's economy and ODFW's long term fiscal health.

Sincerely,



President CCA Oregon

cc:

Curt Melcher

Ed Bowles

Bruce McIntosh



**Lisa Evans**

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**From:** Jim Sisley <jim.sisley@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 26, 2014 8:17 AM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Public Comments from the Web

PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM THE WEB

Topic: Other  
Name: Jim Sisley  
E-mail: [jim.sisley@gmail.com](mailto:jim.sisley@gmail.com)

Comment:

Dear ODF&W,

A couple of years back, my 11 year old son has wanted to learn to fish. Well, I haven't been fishing since I was nearly his age and even then, Dad did most of the gearing up, so I had a lot to learn. I bought us some gear, learned to tie knots, and took my son out. His first time out at St. Louis Ponds, he caught three trout. Beautiful! Later that year, we were skunked fishing at the Silverton Reservoir and other places. Finally, I got my first fish. 4 fish and a lot of fun.

Last year, we planned it again. But last year, though we went out here and there, we were skunked time and time again.

Now I have read that you are raising the rates for a fishing license over the next few years. Which makes it a very easy decision for me to forgo fishing altogether. While I love getting out, and I love the thrill, I don't love paying the exorbitant prices for the opportunity to try to catch a fish.

You know, you guys organize Free Fishing Day and you act like you want new people to get into the sport, but you make it hard for beginners who may not be very good to learn. Why would I pay such a high price with so little reward?

I understand that you have your business to run and all of the bureaucracy involved with that. And I understand that you have an obligation to the fish and game of the state. But don't forget the people you serve.

My son will not grow up a fisherman, though he'd really like to.

Please reconsider the plan to raise fishing license fees so extravagantly.

Sincerely,

Jim Sisley

**Lisa Evans**

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**From:** Danny Neal <spiritlabs@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 26, 2014 1:02 PM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** New license fee increases

Well not sure if this help but I for one am oposed to these fee increases. Come on charging the kids this is really building our sport with our kids. If you are doing this to get additional funds from the feds then charge them a dollar or better yet a quarter then get your \$15 and you are good. Also pioneers most retirees have limited fuinds I know my parents do as will I in years to come. At least I didn't see the disabled vets on there did you forget about them.

If you want people to embrace these fee increase then show them that you are willing to do some serious belt tightening your self. Lower you wages or get rid of some folks. Get rid of stupid programs and only embrace those programs that give you a good return on money spent.

Like take for instance Halibut. We spend tons of money to go out and get one halibut. Washington allows you to get sea bass and lings on halibut days. if you are worried about the yellow eye and canaries then place gear restrictions that will decrease by catch it can be done.

I hear that it would be a nightmare to inforce these things. Well whats the difference if folks are going to break the law they are going to break the law. Try and make it worth our while when we go hunting and fishing because the price of gas, hotels, boats and ect.... if getting rediculas.

I personally am going to totally boycott Oregon next year and will spend my money in Washington and Canada. I am going to miss my waterfowling for sure but will find something in Washington and Canada.

By the way Washington takes care of vets I can buy my license over there for the same price a resident does.

You guys wake up and start managing your resources and tighten your belt like the rest of the world is doing. Maybe look at privatizing hatcheries.

**Lisa Evans**

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**From:** ODFW Info  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 27, 2014 8:50 AM  
**To:** Lisa Evans  
**Subject:** FW: Budget Shortfall

**From:** Jim Lepin [<mailto:jrlepin1@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 26, 2014 12:27 PM  
**To:** [odfw.info@state.or.us](mailto:odfw.info@state.or.us)  
**Subject:** Budget Shortfall

I am writing regarding the discussion about the ODFW budget concerns due to the reduction in hunting and fishing license revenue. My guess is that you are looking to increase fees and reduce services as a result. Many people I know have given up hunting and or fishing as a direct result of the continued increase in fees, which I believe is the main cause of your reduced revenue. I suggest looking at two opportunities:

1. Reduce fees for hunting and fishing licenses and tags. I strongly believe this will increase revenue through increased number of people participating. This will take some research to determine how much they should be reduced. Do this for two years and audit the results.
2. Take a hard look at what you are spending money on. Does each program result in enough value to warrant the expenditure? Would you spend the money on each project if it was your personal money?

If costs continue to climb, I will quit hunting for sure. It will be harder to stop fishing, but I will give up salmon and steelhead if those costs it continues to climb as well. Hunting and fishing should not just be a rich person's sport.

Sincerely,

Jim Lepin  
3360 Lauren AV., NE  
Albany, OR 97321

**Lisa Evans**

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**From:** Ed Ormsbee <edorm@cot.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 27, 2014 9:31 AM  
**To:** 'odfw.comments@state.or.us'  
**Subject:** proposed license fee increases

Hi,

While very few people like fee increases, it appears that the proposed license fee changes are very reasonable and affordable. I appreciate the good work accomplished by ODFW and hope the cut backs are minimal and will not be reflected in a serious reduction in services.

Thanks,

Ed Ormsbee  
Klamath Falls, OR

Bobby Levy, Chairman

Oregon Fish & Wildlife Commission

4034 Fairview Industrial Dr. SE

Salem, OR 97302

re: 5-22-14 Commission Meetings

JIM SHAW , SOUTH BEACH, OREGON

Lincoln County OHA Chapter Member

Speaking as an individual

214G SALMON RIVER ESTUARY UNIT

Master Hunter only - cow elk

17 tags available since \_\_?\_\_

Originally 14 applicants, 24 in 2013

Hunters mainly local - age 35 - 80 yrs

Hunt areas - Kernville to Cascade Head (north end of Lincoln City), about 33 sq. miles

Harvest - about 3 per year per Doug Cottam

30 elk causing damage to Chinook Winds Golf Course. Live trapped and removed. At what cost?

Hunt eliminated in 2014 - ODFW not in business of providing "recreational hunting" per Cottam

No advance notice, no hearing

Eliminated a hunting opportunity nearby for us older folks

I now have a new 20 ga slug gun/scope for sale cheap

Is the biological report to the Commissioners recommending hunt elimination available?

#### MASTER HUNTER PROGRAM

Took me 12 months to meet requirements

No more local hunting opportunity available

Depredation hunts almost non-existent

How many Master Hunters are there in Oregon?

## TURKEY

Mandatory reporting, \$ 25 fine ?

Regulations confusing - please read them

White River WMA - campsite restrictions are unnecessary. Trash is the problem, not site location.

## LAW ENFORCEMENT

48 of 50 states (except AK and OR) have Game Wardens/Conservation Officers

Work for Director of Fish and Wildlife

Work alongside biologists on surveys, tagging, habitat improvement for benefit of wildlife

I think OSP Wildlife Agents performance ratings based on citations/convictions/ penalties

Many Bills transferring enforcement from OSP & ODFW have failed

Senate Bill 355 (Roblan) recommended a study of "the feasibility of transferring the Fish and Wildlife Division of OSP to ODF&W" which died in committee. Do you know why? What is your position?

## ODFW vs ODFG

Most all states dropped "Game" and replaced the word with "Wildlife" (except Nebraska?)

The mission changed obviously

The "G" folks supported your agency for many years

Are the "W" people helping with dollars?

## SAUVIE ISLAND WMA

Purchased '50's/60's using PR funding to benefit waterfowl hunters

Uses changing from hunting to other recreation - thus creating the statewide parking fee?

Be thankful for the PR program (75% Federal). As the lands are thus protected and cannot be transferred, sold, or put to another use, they could be traded for like property but would need Federal approval.

You sold your lands on Gov't Island to the Port of Portland for a runway extension (never happened). The money (\$1M?) was to be used to replace waterfowl hunting lands by acquiring additional lands at Sauvie Island. It never happened as the State refused to use condemnation. The money was used elsewhere, like the WRWMA elk fence. Not quite like replacing waterfowl hunting opportunity.

### PITTMAN ROBERTSON PROGRAM

FY 13 Appropriation \$9.8M Wildlife, \$1.9M Hunter Education, Total \$11.7M

FY 14 Appropriation \$14.6M Wildlife, \$3.5M Hunter Education, Total \$18.1M

FY 15 Expect about a 15 - 20% Increase. No money was reverted in FY 13 & 14 but FY 15 is going to give you a challenge without help from the "W" folks

### LICENSE HOLDER

Sportsman's Warehouse has green plastic

Walmart has blue plastic

AK Division of Wildlife Conservation has blaze orange plastic

ODF&W has paper

Why not follow Alaska's lead?

### HUNTING CALENDAR

The Oregonian put these out for years (no longer)

A real handy pocket sized reference

Why not ODF&W step in?

### CROSS BOWS

24 states allowed unrestricted use

I'm not a bow hunter but foresee your challenges lie ahead

### SUMMARY

The rambling above are "bullet statements". I'll be happy to discuss any further details or questions at any time (541-961-5017 cell). It's not often us "Coasties" get to meet with those who make the final decisions (except for the Legislature) affecting our favorite sport. I've asked many questions. Hopefully it will only take you 30 days to reply.

Thanks for listening and I'll await your response.

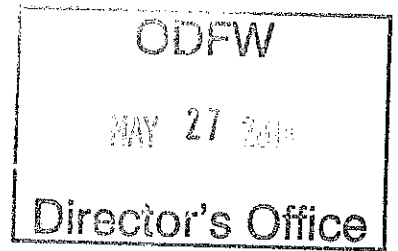
Jim Shaw, P. O. Box 128, South Beach, OR 97366



CLACKAMAS COUNTY

## Soil and Water Conservation District

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ODFW Director's Office  
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE  
Salem, OR 97302

May 22, 2014

Re: Comments on ODFW 2015-2017 Budget Development

ODFW's assistance to the Clackamas County Soil and Water Conservation District is critical in helping us move forward with our goal of keeping our farms and forest lands in production and sustainable while protecting water quality and supporting healthy fish and wildlife habitat. The technical assistance and support we receive from ODFW staff help us implement conservation practices and projects with Clackamas County landowners. As our riparian specialist exclaims, "I don't know what we would do without ODFW staff!"

### **Riparian Lands Tax Incentive Program and Wildlife Habitat Conservation and Management Program**

RLTIP and WHCMP are very important to us. There are 8 FLTIPs currently in Clackamas County, covering 41 acres. There are 18 WHCMPs covering 216 acres. We began reaching out to our constituents in 2011 and enrolled 1 landowner. In 2012, we enrolled 2 landowners. In 2013, we helped 8 landowners enroll. In 2014, we've helped 9 landowners to participate in RLTIPs and WHCMPs.

These programs provide an incentive to county landowners to manage their property for the benefit of wildlife and water quality protection. Frequently, we find that landowners who enroll in these programs become more interested in additional conservation practices as we work with them. Without these programs, we would not have as much success introducing conservation-oriented ideas to our landowners.

Cutting the Habitat Conservation Biologist position that supports RLTIP and WHCMP would be a significant blow in our efforts to improve and protect fish and wildlife habitat. The District urges ODFW to retain the Habitat Conservation Biologist position.

### **Partner on outreach events**

ODFW staff bring education and fun to outreach events by providing information on fish and wildlife species for both adults and children. They have personally attended weekend events to explain the benefits of in-stream projects for fish species while getting folks excited about the types of fish they have in their own backyards. From making fish prints with kids to



explaining how habitat features benefit native fish, ODFW staff provide critical help in our ability to reach and teach landowners.

#### **Assistance in focusing our efforts for restoration**

With the assistance of ODFW we are able to focus our efforts to improve riparian/fish habitat and upland wildlife habitat. They have assisted in upland habitat restoration projects and have always been responsive to our requests for information and technical assistance. They have collaborated on almost every habitat project the District has implemented, from identifying species and appropriate habitats to consulting on the best practices to protect viable habitat and enhance degraded habitat.

#### **Provide monitoring and required hands-on assistance**

ODFW provides fish and wildlife monitoring and assistance on a number of our projects. This helps us to know if we are being successful in our efforts to improve fish passage/spawning or habitat for upland species. Field staff have also provided fish salvage when project require temporary stream dewatering. In the process educating landowners and District staff on fish and aquatic species.

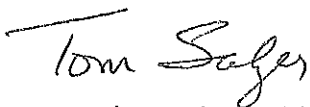
#### **Grant support**

ODFW staff not only have provided letters of support for grants applications that pay for fish and wildlife habitat, they have also provided in-kind match of the type mentioned above. It has been a joy to work with ODFW to reach the many goals that we have in common.

#### **Support for partners**

When it comes to work like removing juniper or enhancing aspen groves, the District encourages ODFW to look for partnership opportunities to leverage your limited time and money. Soil and water conservation districts, watershed councils, and tribes can often help deliver the landscape actions ODFW desires at a relatively low cost.

Sincerely,



Tom Salzer, District Manager

For Roy

Received Tues 5/27  
OHRC Advisory  
Board mtg

My comments will be directed toward the Angler part of tonight's agenda. I think that the price of an Oregon Fishing License, even with the proposed increases, is the best deal in town, and here is why: Your fishing license is good year round, when the various fisheries are available and open. If you compare the price of a fishing license with say 18 holes of golf at a nice golf course, or dinner out with a movie, or a ticket to a college, or professional, football game, these are all one-time events and not a year-long pass like your fishing license.

However, price increases in all fairness should come with added opportunities. I realize that there is limited time available here tonight, therefore, I would like to direct my comments toward the new ocean endorsement license. If there is now going to be an added cost to fish off-shore for bottom fish, the off-shore anglers deserve and expect a removal of the unfair restriction of not being allowed to fish outside the 30 fathoms line for bottom fish, April through September, which is most all of the recreational off-shore season. Thousands of square miles of ocean is closed to recreational anglers, but open to commercial hook and line bottom fishing. Does O.D.F.W. believe that commercial fishermen, fishing with hook and line, long-line gear, do not catch protected species like yellow eye rock fish; but that the recreational Anglers, fishing with rod and reels, do? So a massive part of the ocean is closed to the recreational angler. Is this fair, or does it even make sense? I am asking O.D.F. W. to remove this unneeded, unfair, restrictive regulation. O.D.F.W desperately needs to improve its public image. To change unfair, unneeded rules and policies like this, would go a long ways in improving that image.

Thank you ,

Chuck Pavlik

**Lisa Evans**

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**From:** Laurie Byerly <lbyerly@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 27, 2014 6:24 PM  
**To:** ODFW.Comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** ODFW Budget

Dear Director Elicker:

I have a very hard time supporting any fee increases, My case in point would be that I currentl live about 20 minutes from Salem where the ODFW headquarters is located yet I have to drive to Clackamas or Corvallis or Sauvies Island to get furbearers tagged or Check in a Bear or Cougar. I work in Salem but have to drive 45 minutes each way to the nearest location to get otters tagged or a bear tooth pulled?. Salem is one of the population centers of the state so what sense does it make for Hunters or Trappers to drive 1.5 hours in my case to get animals checked in which is required by law?.

There was a district office in salem for years before the headquarters was moved there. What would it take? a Biologist stopping by once or twice a week ? Just for the record as a family we have spent so far this year:

Shane- Adult Sportspak-	\$ 164.75	
Columbia Endorsement-	11.50	
Spring Bear App	8.00	
Deer App	8.00	
Elk App	8.00	
Goat App	8.00	
Antelope App	8.00	
Sheep App	8.00	
Trapping License	47.00	
Otter Card	16.50	
		\$ 287.75

Laurie- Hunt Lic.	\$ 29.50	
Deer	8.00	
Elk	8.00	
Antelope	8.00	
Sheep	8.00	
Goat	8.00	
		\$ 69.50

Travis- Juvenile Sportspak	\$ 55.00	
Columbia B.S.	11.50	
Spring Bear	8.00	
Deer	8.00	
Elk	8.00	
Anterless	8.00	

Sheep	8.00
Antelope	8.00
Goat	8.00
<hr/>	
	\$122.50

Shelby- Sportspak	55.00
Deer	8.00
Elk	8.00
Spring Bear	8.00
Antelope	8.00
Anterless	8.00
Goat	8.00
<hr/>	
	\$103.00

Family Total: \$582.75

Shane Byerly  
19538 SE Grand island Loop  
Dayton, OR 97114

Phone 503-868-7414

**Lisa Evans**

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**From:** RICHARD <varner2999@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 27, 2014 9:17 PM  
**To:** ODFW.Comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** ODFW Budget Proposal

I have reviewed the budget proposals. What I don't see is any actions to address what I believe to be the cause in the decline in license sales. The quality of the hunting and angling experience has declined substantially over the nearly 30 years that I have lived in Oregon. Finding a place to fish or hunt is more difficult. The size and quality of the big game population both appear to have decreased over this time period. Until the ODFW develops an effective plan to improve the potential for success among anglers and hunters, the numbers of people buying licenses will continue to decline and the budget issues for the department will be exacerbated.

## Lisa Evans

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**From:** Teri Kucera on behalf of Roy Elicker  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2014 8:39 AM  
**To:** Debbie L Colbert  
**Cc:** Lisa Evans  
**Subject:** FW: ODFW proposed budetary changes

Supplemental correspondence for your Exhibit G.

Teri Kucera

**From:** Richard Siemens [<mailto:resiemens@centurytel.net>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 27, 2014 12:11 PM  
**To:** [Curt.Melcher@state.or.us](mailto:Curt.Melcher@state.or.us); [Roy.Elicker@state.or.us](mailto:Roy.Elicker@state.or.us)  
**Subject:** ODFW proposed budetary changes

Curt Melcher, Deputy Director-Natural Resources, ODFW  
Roy Elicker, Director, ODFW

Gentlemen;

It has come to my attention that you propose to eliminate the positions of Assistant Fish Biologist statewide in the next biennium. This decision is of great concern to those interested in the numerous and outstanding fisheries in Klamath County. This area is large and yet is staffed with only one Assistant Fish Biologist, William(Bill) Tinniswood. The fly fishing club to which I belong, Klamath Country Fly Casters, has responded to many requests from Bill for restoration work and have provided funds and labor to complete the projects. Bill has personally guided our efforts and has followed up to be sure that they were effective. I have talked to several rancher friends who have property along important spawning areas. They told me that they have not liked the approaches of other Fish and Wildlife officials but have gladly provided funding, equipment, and labor to accomplish restoration projects on streams through their property in response to requests from Bill. Bill has established a great relationship with land owners in Klamath County and has their respect and complete support. Bill "walks the talk"- makes good proposals and follows up on obtaining funding, equipment, and labor. He also provides timely monitoring to ensure that the projects were effective. As you know, such follow-up is critical to obtaining grants. Progress on restoration of the fisheries in Klamath County have been substantial but there is a lot of work yet to be done. Bill's great relationships with landowners and fishermen in this area along with his expertise and leadership are critical to the success of ongoing restoration efforts. We all hope that you will maintain the important position that Bill holds in the Klamath Basin.

Thank you for your consideration,

Richard E. Siemens  
Director, Klamath Country Fly Casters

**Lisa Evans**

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**From:** Maximo Platiro <mplatiro@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2014 9:08 AM  
**To:** ODFW.Comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Proposed price hike with license fees?

Times are tough for your department and my family, you have less of a budget and we have less income also in these trying times. Between your proposed hunting & fishing fee hikes and our overall cost factor of what the bottom line is to enjoy Oregon's outdoor activities and bring home occasional food to feed us a few times a year it has added up to a unjust cost factor within our family's budget for many years now. My wife and myself both purchase a hunting license every year, with the knowledge we will only draw a tag every other year and fill that tag once every 5 years on average. We own a boat and fish on average 1 week a year, not because we do not want to get out more, but because of the bottom line for most residents in Oregon (Cost-\$). Between Insurance, fuel cost, parking fees & license fees, it is cheaper to get one's meat & fish from a supermarket. Just like many individuals & families are eating out less in this nation to balance their budgets, they are also cutting back on other activities to also balance their own bottom lines. Please be mindful that your decisions as an organization will affect many individuals and set a pretense that will have a impact on future hunters & fisherman within Oregon in the future. I suggest to forgo the price hikes with license fees and ride out these hard economical times with internal adjustments, or possibly face a worse future prospect by pricing out the average person in this State out of all outdoors activities within this great State.

Respectfully submitted, Maximo Platiro

## Lisa Evans

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**From:** Debbie L Colbert  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2014 2:18 PM  
**To:** zuludar@aol.com  
**Cc:** Lisa Evans  
**Subject:** FW: EBAC Meeting Scheduled for Tuesday, April 8 from 1 pm to 4 pm

I'll include this comment in my packet on Aug 1 to address your concerns about the EBAC meeting recap.

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**From:** ZULUDAR@aol.com [mailto:ZULUDAR@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 02, 2014 3:45 PM  
**To:** lisa.d.evans@state.or.us; debbie.l.colbert@state.or.us  
**Cc:** ZULUDAR@aol.com  
**Subject:** Re: EBAC Meeting Scheduled for Tuesday, April 8 from 1 pm to 4 pm

Error in understanding a comment: Peggy Lynch – Don't charge other agencies for services. HB 4015 – Regional Solutions legislation may not allow user pay.

**I did say "Don't charge other agencies...." But there is a misunderstanding about HB 4015 portion: The requirement under 4015 is for ODFW to develop a "plan" to participate in Regional Solutions. SO...I was encouraging ODFW to be sure and include any staff time/\$\$ for that expected work. 7 agencies not already officially involved in RS are required to do this....and it was put in the legislation to be sure that these agencies did NOT take resources from their current work to accommodate RS work. That's why the "plan" is due July 1. I did NOT say "may not allow user pay".....) Sorry.**

**Also, just an FYI.....regarding an all-agency parking pass: WA doesn't have a M76-type funding for parks so I'm sure the Discover Pass was over weighted to their parks system. But that doesn't have to be true. We have some info on the \$\$ now being collected under each separate program today.**

**Thanks for the extensive report. Will go back thru and read it in entirety before April 8. I thought you all were going to present us with a proposal or a set of proposals based on our past work and your (ODFW staff) expertise? Peggy Lynch, LWVOR NR Action**

In a message dated 4/2/2014 3:17:00 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time, [lisa.d.evans@state.or.us](mailto:lisa.d.evans@state.or.us) writes:

EBAC Members,

Our next meeting of the full EBAC is scheduled for Tuesday, April 8 from 1 pm to 4 pm. The primary focus of this meeting will be on recreational licenses. The Department will present its proposal for balancing fee adjustments, program reductions, shifts to other revenue sources, and efficiencies to create a sustainable budget for its recreational license funded programs.

I am attaching a recap of the break out discussions at the March 25 EBAC meeting. We are using this feedback to craft our proposal and will highlight areas where our proposal aligns with the broad feedback in these sessions and where we might deviate from EBAC's input.

**You have several options for participating in the April 8th meeting:**

- 1) Join us at the ODFW Headquarters, Classroom, 4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE



**Lisa Evans**

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**From:** Debbie L Colbert  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2014 2:18 PM  
**To:** zuludar@aol.com  
**Cc:** Lisa Evans  
**Subject:** FW: EBAC Meeting Scheduled for Thursday, May 1 from 1 pm to 4 pm

I'll also include this comment in my packet on Aug 1 to address your concerns about the EBAC meeting recap.

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**From:** [ZULUDAR@aol.com](mailto:ZULUDAR@aol.com) [mailto:[ZULUDAR@aol.com](mailto:ZULUDAR@aol.com)]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 23, 2014 12:16 PM  
**To:** [lisa.d.evans@state.or.us](mailto:lisa.d.evans@state.or.us)  
**Cc:** [debbie.l.colbert@state.or.us](mailto:debbie.l.colbert@state.or.us)  
**Subject:** Re: EBAC Meeting Scheduled for Thursday, May 1 from 1 pm to 4 pm

Notes continue to be incorrect regarding the Regional Solutions bill. It's HB 4015 (2014):

<https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2014R1/Measures/Text/HB4015/Enrolled>

That bill states: SECTION 4. **On or before July 1, 2014**, natural resource agencies as defined in section 1 of this 2014 Act shall collaborate to develop and deliver a plan to the Governor that describes how natural resource agencies shall participate in regional solutions teams.

Here's the agencies in Section 1: (4) "Natural resource agency" means the State Department of Agriculture, the Water Resources Department, **the State Department of Fish and Wildlife**, the State Forestry Department, the Department of State Lands, the State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries and the State Marine Board.

This bill provides ODFW an opportunity to quantify the staffing needs in order to deal with various permit issues, including pre-application conferences. It opens the door to GF ask for this work.

Peggy Lynch, LWVOR

In a message dated 4/17/2014 3:07:44 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time, [lisa.d.evans@state.or.us](mailto:lisa.d.evans@state.or.us) writes:

EBAC Members,

I am attaching a recap of the April 8 EBAC meeting.

**Our next meeting of the full EBAC is scheduled for Thursday, May 1 from 1 pm to 4 pm.**

The May 1 meeting will cover the following:

- 1) Revisiting the department's proposal on balancing the budget related to recreational licenses
  - 2) Presentation of the department's proposal on balancing the Commercial Fish Fund based on the work of the CFF Subgroup of EBAC
- 3) 2015-17 Agency Requested Budget

**Lisa Evans**

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**From:** ODFW Comments <odfw.comments@state.or.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2014 8:45 AM  
**To:** Debbie L Colbert; Lisa Evans  
**Subject:** FW: 2015-17 Budget and Fee Proposal

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**From:** Dan Burke [mailto:burkedanus@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 28, 2014 9:52 PM  
**To:** [ODFW.Comments@state.or.us](mailto:ODFW.Comments@state.or.us)  
**Subject:** 2015-17 Budget and Fee Proposal

ODFW Commission,

I am writing this email in hopes to convince you not to raise fee's in the coming 2015-17 budget. An increase in fee's will just lead to less people paying into the system and budget shortfalls. I believe the lack of hunters in past years is due to cost and complexity of the system.

I spoke with a clerk at a local vendor and she has noticed the decline in sales over the last 5 years. When I asked her why she felt cost was the issue. Recently when I went down to purchase a fishing tag for family who was out of state it took nearly an hour and half to get things figured out. I also now of a young hunter who can no longer afford to hunt due to cost once he turned 18.

I commend ODFW for looking at alternate methods to fund the overall budget. Costs should have been in the general fund years ago taking some of the burden from hunters/fisherman and applying it to all tax payers. Cutting \$8 million and 35 positions is a start but in a budget of 355,455,787 this only amounts 2.2%. This just isn't enough and I believe more cuts can be made.

Simplify the system, keep costs low and watch as more families start to hunt again. Keep complicating the system and raising costs and watch as numbers continue to decline.

Sincerely,

Dan Burke

Proud Lifelong Oregonian  
Local City Council Member  
Local School Board Member

## Jason Bader

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**From:** Linda Lytle <linda.r.lytle@state.or.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2014 4:13 PM  
**To:** odfw.info@state.or.us  
**Subject:** non resident fees for fishing

Just got off the phone with a person from New Mexico that will be visiting later this year and had planned to fish the Umpqua. Once he found out the non-resident fees he's rethinking that idea. He asked that I pass that along, so I am.

Linda Lytle  
Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife  
West Region, Clackamas Office Manager  
17330 SE Evelyn St.  
Clackamas, OR 97015  
971-673-6002  
Fax 971-673-6070

**Go Ducks!!**

## Lisa Evans

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**From:** ODFW Info  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2014 4:14 PM  
**To:** Lisa Evans  
**Subject:** FW: non resident fees for fishing

**From:** Linda Lytle [<mailto:linda.r.lytle@state.or.us>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2014 4:13 PM  
**To:** [odfw.info@state.or.us](mailto:odfw.info@state.or.us)  
**Subject:** non resident fees for fishing

Just got off the phone with a person from New Mexico that will be visiting later this year and had planned to fish the Umpqua. Once he found out the non-resident fees he's rethinking that idea. He asked that I pass that along, so I am.

Linda Lytle  
Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife  
West Region, Clackamas Office Manager  
17330 SE Evelyn St.  
Clackamas, OR 97015  
971-673-6002  
Fax 971-673-6070

**Go Ducks!!**

## Lisa Evans

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**From:** ODFW Commission  
**Sent:** Friday, May 30, 2014 8:12 AM  
**To:** Debbie L Colbert; Lisa Evans  
**Subject:** FW: Discusted with ODFW

FYI – Teri Kucera

**From:** Buckles [<mailto:peteinor@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 30, 2014 7:02 AM  
**To:** [odfw.commission@state.or.us](mailto:odfw.commission@state.or.us)  
**Subject:** Discusted with ODFW

I have come to another realization that government just doesn't know how to control expenses. While your department continues to grow, you implement regulations to drive the hunters and fishermen out of the forest. Why don't you pay for your own retirement instead of charging the citizens?

Fishing regulations are so strict and voluminous that most fishermen suffer from citations they didn't even know existed.

Hunters are now charged a parking fee while others are allowed to access the forest free of charge. Your campgrounds are open most of the year, but when hunting season starts, you close them down. You close many of the roads to center-fire elk hunters because you don't want to disturb the elk, yet these same roads are open during deer season and you don't seem to mind if the elk are disturbed. What kind of mentality thinks the elk don't inhabit the same areas as the deer?

You are concerned about the deer and elk populations, yet you introduce the wolf. Don't you think the wolf will reduce the herds of game more than the poachers? It is estimated that a full grown wolf will consume 24 elk a year. What is your thinking and where is your department going with the expansion of the wolf?

Instead of raising the rates for fishing and hunting, why don't you reduce your retirements and get rid of the unions that escalate the cost of government.

How can normal human beings that work for government turn against their own people and become so greedy that they only become concerned for them selves and their personal benefits.

When you have succeeded in driving the hunters and fishermen out of the forest, government won't be needing you any longer and that would be a joyous moment for the citizens that once enjoyed hunting and fishing.

The answer to your money problems can be solved by terminating people until your department doesn't exist any longer. I'm beginning to think the citizens can do a better job of managing the forest without you.

**Lisa Evans**

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**From:** Teri Kucera on behalf of Roy Elicker  
**Sent:** Friday, May 30, 2014 2:22 PM  
**To:** Debbie L. Colbert; Lisa Evans  
**Subject:** FW: Pertinent but brief follow-up to Klamath Falls ODFW town hall meetings on proposed 2015-17 budget

FY I - Teri Kucera

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Marshal Moser [<mailto:marshalmoser@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 30, 2014 12:02 PM  
**To:** [Roy.Elicker@state.or.us](mailto:Roy.Elicker@state.or.us)  
**Cc:** [Curt.Melcher@state.or.us](mailto:Curt.Melcher@state.or.us); Marshal Moser  
**Subject:** Pertinent but brief follow-up to Klamath Falls ODFW town hall meetings on proposed 2015-17 budget

Dear Director Elicker,

It was very good to see and hear you at the ODFW Town Hall meeting in Klamath Falls last night. I found it informative and helpful.

Just a special note to you that, unlike what you pointed out, more people show up at such meetings because of fee increases. That was not completely true last night; there was a large turnout of people there concerned about the reduction of field staff, especially Bill Tinniswood, the Assistant District Fish Biologist. He has made lots of good things happen for the fish and people in SE Oregon. I hope you will find a way to keep the position, or similar duties for him in this part of the state. Thanks!

Most sincerely,  
Marshal

\*\*\*\*\*

Marshal A. Moser, Jr., C.W.B.  
Certified Wildlife Biologist  
Manager-Naturalist, Lonesome Duck Ranch  
EcoServices Biological Consulting  
32965 Highway 97 N  
Chiloquin, Oregon 97624-9725  
Personal Cell Phone: 541/880-4629  
Personal E-mail: [MarshalMoser@gmail.com](mailto:MarshalMoser@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.lonesomeduck.com](http://www.lonesomeduck.com)  
Lonesome Duck Reservations & Info: 541-783-2783  
Blog: [www.lonesomeduckblog.blogspot.com](http://www.lonesomeduckblog.blogspot.com)

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**Lisa Evans**

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**From:** ODFW Comments <odfw.comments@state.or.us>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 30, 2014 3:52 PM  
**To:** Debbie L Colbert; Lisa Evans  
**Subject:** FW: Budget 2015

**From:** crystal mcMahon [<mailto:crymcm@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 29, 2014 4:19 PM  
**To:** [ODFW.Comments@state.or.us](mailto:ODFW.Comments@state.or.us)  
**Subject:** Budget 2015

Dear ODFW,

I'm surprised by the poor judgment shown in the proposed 2015-17 budget. Cutting positions of biologists who tend to native fish is the last thing you should do. Field biologists are hard working, provide real time interface with the public, and should be considered a top priority.

Oregon and Washington DFW both have been sued over release of hatchery fish. Why would you continue down this course? To ensure the ultimate demise of the agency?

The state workers union has fought repeatedly and won the battle to ensure a reasonable ratio of managers to workers. Yet ODFW can hardly seem to have more than a couple of employees per manager. If you have to make cuts, better look at your administration and look hard at who you are keeping. Good old boys and self serving ladder climbers should not be who you focus on protecting. The native species and and hardworking people of Oregon deserve better.

You should reconsider your proposed staffing cuts and further contemplate on what the future holds regarding hatcheries. It's hard to see how ODFW has much of a future by pursuing activities that invoke lawsuits, while the agency itself grows bloated and moribund.

--  
Crystal

## Lisa Evans

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**From:** Teri Kucera on behalf of Roy Elicker  
**Sent:** Monday, June 02, 2014 8:35 AM  
**To:** Roy Elicker; debbie.l.colbert@state.or.us; Lisa Evans  
**Subject:** FW: Making money for ODFW  
**Attachments:** Proposal No 1.doc

Comments for Exhibit G this week. – Teri Kucera

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**From:** Michael J Morris [mailto:mjmorris50@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 01, 2014 12:41 AM  
**To:** roy.elicker@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Making money for ODFW

Roy,

I have to tell you, I have never worked so hard in my life trying to get a supposedly intelligent, dedicated, group of people (your staff) to move out of their comfort zone, and take advantage of some tremendous opportunities to completely turn around the finances of the big game department, and change the way Oregon is perceived as a potential hunting destination by hunters from around the country. Given the 30 year history of failure when it comes to deer and elk populations in this state, one would think this would be relatively easy to do, but that has not been the case, and, frankly, I just don't understand why we are in this position at this late date. It would be one thing if my proposals had been rejected for other proposals or ideas that would be more effective or easier to implement, but that is certainly not the case. How anyone with even the slightest knowledge of what is going on around the west, and the desperate financial shape the department is in, could recommend more of the same failed policies and financing schemes going forward is literally beyond belief.

To be honest, if I was not convinced that you recognize how dire the situation is, and the absolute certainty that things will only get worse under the proposed financing scheme going forward, I would not have bothered to submit this again. Or maybe I am wrong about that, and doomed by my eternally optimistic nature to waste some of the best years of my life on this stuff. Either way, here is what I am sending you, and my thoughts on how you should proceed.

First, this is one of those times where you have to take control, and override your staff, and their issues, whatever they might be. I have managed people my entire professional career, and certainly understand that allowing your people in positions of authority to proceed as they see fit is the preferred management method in this day and age. Having said that, there are times in the life of every organization where the guy at the top has to step up and do what needs to be done, regardless of the impact on staff. In my opinion, this is one of those times for the Oregon Dept of Fish and Wildlife. I think you know that the chances of getting general fund dollars are slim at best, with at least a half a dozen events on the horizon that would wipe out any perceived surplus that could be added to agency budgets. I would not be the least bit surprised to see that option never make it out of the governor's budget process. And, you certainly have to know that the projections used by staff in calculating income from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses/tags, are completely unrealistic. In 2008, I think you and your staff really did believe if you got the increases you requested things would be okay. I was the lone voice in the wilderness saying that hunter numbers would drop at a level that would overwhelm those fee increases. I was right, of course, but even I failed to see the dramatic decrease that would occur. Here is my prediction for the next 6 years IF the proposal you presented at the meetings goes forward, with or without the general fund dollars: Hunting/fishing license and tag sales will continue to decline, at an accelerated rate compared to the last 6 years, reserves will be completely depleted by the end of 2017, and severe cuts in programs will



have to implemented, for all practical purposes guaranteeing the end of the hunting heritage and North American wildlife model in Oregon within a generation. I could be off on the timing, I suppose, but there is little doubt this is where we are going if things don't change, and I think you know that.

So, what do we do? I have spent no time on the fishing side of things, so have no expertise to bring to that, although I have thought up a couple of things that might be worth trying, more on that later. For hunting, however, your staff flat out blew it. When we talked at the Sept commission meeting, you told me that ODFW realized that simply raising fees would not get the job done. I was actually optimistic that things had finally gotten so bad your staff was finally ready to face reality and work on solutions. I happily sent my three proposals to the staff in rough draft form, assuming that someone would call me, and we would get together, and discuss in detail the problems and challenges associated with those proposals, and improve them, and by January, have a workable set of new proposals that would invigorate the hunting community both in Oregon and around the country, and finally provide the level of additional funding that would allow the big game division to actually do their job and start the long, hard work of improving deer and elk populations. Boy was I wrong. Month after month went by. No phone call. No request to attend a meeting. Nothing. Finally in April, a staff person emailed me, and we set up a phone conversation, but the purpose of that conversation was to basically tell me none of my proposals would be included in the proposed budget. I deserved better than that from your staff, and so did you.

Now we are basically out of time, with you scheduled to present your plan to the commission this coming Friday. I have been in sales/marketing for a long time, and I know beyond a shadow of a doubt that when you are putting new ideas together at the last minute and asking for approval, the key is to keep things simple and easy to understand, and as non controversial as possible. For that reason, I have only attached Option 1 of the three proposals I submitted back in September. That is the once in a lifetime proposal for two tags being made available in every deer and elk unit in the state. Here are my reasons for submitting that one, and not the others.

1. This proposal will not impact in any way the existing hunting program in Oregon. No opportunity will be lost, no hunter will be displaced. It is a completely voluntary program that has the potential to raise 3 million dollars a year without impacting anyone's current hunts, or costs.
2. This program should be relatively easy to implement, given that it does not impact any existing program, or require any changes to an existing program. It is an add-on program, with plenty of time to implement prior to a start date of Jan 1 2016.
3. It will completely change the image Oregon has with non-resident hunters around the country. Currently, Oregon is regarded as the least friendly state to non-residents in the west, for good reason. Implementing this program, giving 25% of the available tags to non-residents, would send a clear, unequivocal message that Oregon recognizes the unfairness of the current program, and is moving to fix it. We live in a time when organizations such as Huntin Fool, Eastman's, Cabela's tag service, and various hunting forums have great influence over the number of hunters who participate in various draw/preference point systems, and there is absolutely no question they will love this proposal.
4. The proposal itself is ground breaking, outside the box thinking that will fire up a substantial portion of the hunting community around the country. I wish I had thought of it, but I didn't, I stole it from an Oregon hunter, and hopefully made it better. Nothing like this has ever been done in the west, and it is impossible to overstate the positive publicity enacting this proposal would generate. In essence, this gives every hunter in the country who has dreamed about winning the lottery and buying an auction tag, or lucking out in the draw and getting a great tag, or drawing a raffle tag despite the terrible odds, a fair and equal chance to draw a great tag, and hunt for 90 days for a great animal, just like the rich guys get to do. It is impossible to overstate the frustration that exists throughout the west with declining populations and decreasing quality hunting opportunities. Enact this proposal, and Oregon automatically becomes the leader in providing an opportunity to the average hunter to go on a truly once in a lifetime hunt, at a cost that is more than affordable. Put this in place, and the money will flow, as well as a ton of positive publicity and accolades.
5. Unfortunately, this proposal will do absolutely nothing to address the underlying causes of the decline in populations. It is about the money, and the perception of Oregon, and nothing else. My other two proposals were also about the money, and would have raised a pile of it, in addition to what this proposal would raise, but

they also involved setting up pilot projects to test some potential theories for improving populations. They also would have made changes to existing opportunities and tag numbers, and would have been more difficult and complicated to implement, which is why I don't believe they can be included in your package for 2015. The likely result of moving forward at this late date with those proposals would be the rejection of all three, and that is not a risk worth taking.

I can't state this strongly enough. This proposal needs to be enacted EXACTLY AS I HAVE WRITTEN IT. If there are problems with parts of it, we need to solve those problems without changing the framework of the proposal. I think you recognize that I have extensive knowledge of what is happening in other states, and particularly of what is attractive to hunters and what isn't. Every piece of this proposal was designed with one goal in mind: Maximize the number of applicants who will apply for these tags, and buy preference points, thus generating maximum dollars to the department. As one example, the reason the draw has to occur prior to March 15 is that multiplied thousands of non-resident hunters can only take time to go on one out of state hunt each year. These tags will be very tough to draw, and hunters will not be able to predict when they draw them. If you put them in the regular draw in June, it will be too late to apply in other states when they don't draw this tag. The result will be thousands of hunters who were perfectly willing to give Oregon significant dollars won't apply. Put the draw in early March, they find out they don't draw, and they are then free to apply in Montana, and Wyoming, and Colorado, and Arizona, and Nevada, and even the regular draw in Oregon. It is an absolutely critical component of generating maximum funds from this program. The same is true of every single piece of the proposal I have put together. As far as I am concerned, it is all or nothing. Change it in any way, and I will do everything in my power to keep it from being enacted. Having said that, I am perfectly willing to sit down with whomever and work out details to make the proposal better, or easier to implement, but if the idiots who failed to move forward with these proposals mess with this one without working with me on it, I will do whatever it takes to stop it. You can probably tell that I am more than a little irritated with your staff, OHA, RMEF, Oregon Bowhunters and everyone else who talk big about really caring about big game populations and the future of hunting in this state while they sit on their butts doing nothing except to take potshots at those of us who are actually trying to get something done. Like I said, nothing is going to change unless you step up, take charge, and tell those people to get it done, or shut up.

I suppose it is possible that I am wrong, and you actually believe your proposed budget has a chance in hell of solving your funding problems. If that is the case, I am wasting my time, and I would appreciate it if you would let me know that. In that case, I will stop beating my head against this wall, and spend my time building my business, fishing in Oregon, hunting in other states, and chasing wild women. (Probably won't have any more luck chasing women than I have had getting ODFW to do the right thing, but it will be a hell of a lot more fun.

As always, I am available pretty much anytime, anyplace to meet and discuss this stuff. In person, phone conference call, carrier pigeon, I really don't care, let's get to it and get something done.

Oh yeah, fishing. This is what I don't get. You apparently have lost 15% of the licensed fishermen over the past few years. I don't really have much to offer as to why, and I think there are societal influences that are much bigger factors here than they are on the hunting side. Here is what I do know. Regardless of what your business is, when your customers are leaving in droves, you absolutely have to develop some new approaches or products or services to keep the ones you have, hopefully win back some of the ones you lost, or gain new first time customers. This is what I find so frustrating about your staff, and the various so called hunting and fishing organizations in this state. Where are the new ideas? Where are the new approaches? There aren't any.

I was driving back from East Lake last week, had a very successful fishing day, by the way, thinking about this stuff. In the hour it took me to get home, here are a couple of ideas I came up with. I don't know if they would work, but isn't it time to try something new, see if you can generate some enthusiasm and publicity? Seems to me it is way past time.

1. Create a new fishing license for both non-residents and residents. I call it the lake fishing only license. Charge considerably less than the existing license costs. Whoa, you say, collect less money? I think so, in this case. Unlike hunting, lots of Oregonians from the lower income strata are potential fishing customers. For

them, the current fee, when applied to an entire family is a burden. So, charge the adults \$ 20.00 bucks, and the kids \$ 5.00, and get them out there fishing. Why lakes only? Because that is the easiest place for them to catch fish, and get hooked on fishing, and it is the easiest venue for you to manage. The vast majority of these casual fisherpeople don't have the skills or equipment to be successful fishing streams, or fishing for salmon and steelhead. They don't understand the rules, or have an appreciation for the fragile habitats of our streams, both large and small. Then build a very user friendly, detailed, website with great information about certain lakes and ponds that are easy to fish. Spell out techniques and equipment, where and when to fish, stock them much more heavily than you do now. In essence, set yourself up for success instead of failure. Low cost to start, high success when they go fishing, and you create at least the opportunity for them to become lifelong fisherpeople, move into other types of fishing, get hooked. Don't send them to places like East lake or Crane Prairie, where you need a boat, or the fishing can be difficult. Use the easy lakes, like South Twin, or Walton, and the ponds like Bend Nursery, and see if you can't generate some enthusiasm. Obviously you are doing this with the free fishing days, but your exposure is terrible, and you are not reaching very many people. Or another idea along this line. Make it a regional license. For \$ 20.00 bucks you can fish the NW zone lakes only, or the SW zone lakes only, or the Central Zone lakes only. If you want to fish the whole state, you buy the regular license.

2. I love this one. Take 6-8 lakes around the state, 1-2 in each zone, and introduce an entirely new concept. Close them to all fishing, except by special permit. Go to barbless single hook lure and fly fishing, with a one fish per trip limit, with the fish being less than 20 inches. There would be 2 permit periods each week, sat and sun and Tue through thurs. Permits would be issued through a limited entry draw, or I guess you could do first come first served, but that won't work for long. Design the stocking program to develop large trout. Limit the number of permits for each period. Let's assume you choose North Twin Lake as one of these lakes. Given the size of the lake, set the number of permits at 10 per session, or 20 per week. Assuming each person fished every day allowed on their permit, that would equal 50 fisherman days per week. Monday and Friday would be closed to fishing. The permits would cost \$ 50.00 bucks for residents, and \$ 100.00 bucks for non-residents. There would be a \$ 8.00 dollar application fee to cover the administrative cost of administering the program. Also charge a \$ 10.00 per trip site fee, and use that to put a retired couple on site to explain the rules, check permits, chase off poachers, etc. Assuming a normal snow year, the lake could be open from May 1 through Nov 30, seven months. Assuming full subscription, that would generate \$ 30,000.00 in permit fees to the department, an unknown amount in administrative fees at 8.00 an applicant, depending on how many apply, and \$ 6,000.00 to the camp host. Nobody would pay that you say? Hmm....I don't have an accurate count, but there are at least 30 private lakes and ponds here in Oregon that charge from \$ 100.00 to \$ 250.00 per day, and generate enough business to continue to operate and buy fish to stock, and presumably make a profit. What is the attraction? Big fish. You really think there are not a pile of Oregonians who would be willing to pay \$ 17.00 to \$ 25.00 per day to fish for big fish where the number of fisherpeople is limited? Now that I think about it, that is too low. It should be \$ 100.00 per session, which would generate \$ 60,000 from my example.

I don't know if these are good ideas are not, although I am pretty certain the second one is a winner. That is really not the point. The point is, where are these kinds of ideas from your staff? Or the fishing organizations? Am I the only person in Oregon who recognizes we have to start doing things differently? Apparently.

All right, it is late, and that's all I've got. The ball is in your court. I will be coming through Salem about 1 pm on Monday, the 2nd and can certainly stop by for a meeting or chat, assuming you have even read this by then. Or I can come back any day next week starting Tuesday. I do feel sorry for you. In the overall scheme of things, big game hunting makes up a very small part of your overall responsibilities, and I recognize the difficulties of having to wade into this with all the rest of the crap you have to get done. I don't feel sorry enough to cut you any slack, though. It is pretty obvious that nothing is going to get done unless you push it forward. I am volunteering to help, for whatever that is worth.

Good Luck

Mike Morris  
503-317-7576

[mjmorris50@comcast.net](mailto:mjmorris50@comcast.net)



This email is free from viruses and malware because avast! Antivirus protection is active.

**Lisa Evans**

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**From:** Debbie L Colbert  
**Sent:** Monday, June 02, 2014 8:38 AM  
**To:** Lisa Evans  
**Subject:** FW: Budget Statement for Fish & Wildlife Commission Meeting  
**Attachments:** ODFW Revenue Distribution Formula Proposal.docx; ODFW GF Expenditures 13-15.docx; GF Funding Discussion Memo.docx; ODFW Proposed Agency Budget Testimony June 2014.doc

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**From:** Jim Myron [<mailto:myrons@canby.com>]  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 31, 2014 1:47 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission  
**Cc:** Bobby Levy; Mike Finley; Holly Akenson; [laura@localocean.net](mailto:laura@localocean.net); [greg.woolley@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:greg.woolley@portlandoregon.gov); Debbie L Colbert  
**Subject:** Budget Statement for Fish & Wildlife Commission Meeting

Please distribute the attached information to the Fish & Wildlife Commission in preparation for the meeting on June 5th.

Thank you,  
Jim Myron, Lobbyist  
The Native Fish Society

## **A REVENUE DISTRIBUTION FORMULA FOR THE OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife receives revenue for its operations from a variety of different sources, including the general public, the state of Oregon, the federal government and from private sources. This income supports over fifty separate programs within the agency.

The purpose of this proposed revision to ODFW's revenue distribution formula is to more closely align these various programs with the sources of revenue that fund them. The intended outcome is to have each program funded by the most logical and appropriate source of revenue. This will help to assure that those who are picking up the tab are getting what they pay for and will help to identify who the agency needs to make their case to anytime they need additional revenues. Conversely, in years when budget cuts are required, the impacts will be clearly connected and transparent.

Some examples of the various contributors to the agency's operation include:

### Private Sources

- The general public in the form of license revenues
- The commercial fishing industry through licenses and fees
- Private utilities through mitigation agreements

### State Sources

- General Fund (income tax revenues)
- Lottery Fund

### Federal Sources

- Income tax revenues through various mitigation programs
- Excise taxes on the sale of certain sporting equipment
- Electric ratepayer dollars through the Bonneville Power Admin.

To the greatest extent possible, those who fund the operation should have a direct connection to the programs they are paying for. Fishing and hunting license revenues should be spent on agency programs that support and benefit fishing and hunting activities (which is currently the case). General Fund and Lottery revenues should go toward programs that benefit the public in general and the wildlife resources that all of us enjoy (which is not necessarily the case now). Utility ratepayer funds and certain federal taxpayer dollars should fund mitigation programs that they are obligated to fund.

Here are just a few examples of how ODFW programs could be more closely tied to the appropriate funding sources:

- \* Fishing and hunting license dollars, as well as commercial fishing license and poundage fees, would continue to be allocated to programs that directly benefit those user groups, as is currently the case. Fish propagation activities and the associated management activities related to the development, authorization and prosecution of the various recreational and commercial fisheries would be paid by license and poundage fees as well as certain federal appropriations.

- \* Activities that primarily benefit the public at large would be paid for with state general fund dollars and certain federal allocations as well as with Lottery funds. These activities include the implementation of the Oregon Conservation Strategy and other conservation programs which do not currently receive license revenues.

- \* Fish and Wildlife enforcement activities should be funded by any available revenue sources because these activities benefit all groups, including non-consumptive users. But primarily, they benefit all of Oregon's wildlife, not just those species that are fished for or hunted.

- \* Federal funds dedicated to certain mitigation activities would continue to be spent on those programs, however a regular review of those programs should occur to determine if those expenditures continue to represent the best use of those funds. Mitigation agreements can be renegotiated when it makes sense to consider other activities, such as funding conservation efforts.

**JIM MYRON**

Natural Resource

Policy/Planning/Advocacy

P. O. Box 675

Canby, OR 97013

503.819.5589

myrons@canby.com

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5.1.14

Memo to: ODFW Executive Staff

Subject: Fund Shifts to General Fund

As you develop your agency recommended budget for 2015/17, the Native Fish Society would like you to carefully review all proposed fund shifts to the general fund to assure that those programs legitimately belong in the GF funding category. We suggest that you use NFS' proposed Revenue Distribution Formula to assist you in this process. We want to be assured that programs which are more appropriately funded by recreational and commercial licenses and fees not be placed in the GF funding category.

In addition, we would like you to look closely at existing general fund expenditures to assure that they are also in the correct category. There are a number of items on the attached list of current GF allocations that appear to us to be more appropriately funded by license and fee revenues. One of the more striking examples is the nearly five million dollars of taxpayer funds that are spent on fish propagation, an activity that should be paid for by commercial and recreational anglers.

The Native Fish Society will support an increase in general fund dollars to the agency during the next biennium once we are convinced that those funds will be allocated to programs in the agency that are in the public interest and that benefit the public at large, not any particular group or groups of resource users.

Jim Myron, Lobbyist

The Native Fish Society



5.1.14

ODFW 2013/15 General Fund Allocations  
 Source: Program Prioritization Document (5.1.14)

#2	Game Management	7,791
#5	Hatchery Management	4,968,378
#7	Wildlife Management	500,000
#9	Game Research	10,173
#10	Fish Research/Monitoring	3,565,312
#14	Ocean Salmon Management	2,001,099
#15	Marine Sampling	122,621
#16	Fish Screening/Passage	1,734,023
#19	Statewide Policy Coordination	234,652
#22	Capital Improvements	142,694
#24	Predator Management	50,000
#26	Commercial Shellfish Management	2,324
#28	Ground Fish Research	11,729
#29	Water Quality/Quantity	294,123
#39	Predator Control (Wildlife Services)	408,890
#40	Hydro Program``	65,752
#42	Marine Reserves	1,236,323
#45	Watershed Council Liaisons	37,471
	Administration	1,290,610
	Debt Service	354,775
	Wildlife Management	118,673
	Total GF Expenditures	17,157,413



# NATIVE FISH SOCIETY

*Advancing the Recovery of Native, Wild Fish in Their Homewaters*

6.5.14

## TESTIMONY TO THE OREGON FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION

**Exhibit G: 2015-17 Proposed Agency Budget**  
**Jim Myron: Native Fish Society Lobbyist**

Over the past three months the Native Fish Society (NFS) has been working in good faith as a member of the External Budget Advisory Committee to provide positive input into the budget development process. Our goal has been to assist the department in getting on a sustainable budget trajectory for the future. Examples of our contributions to this process include:

- \* NFS was one of the first organizations to publicly support a sizeable increase in recreational angling license fees.
- \* NFS developed and proposed a new Revenue Distribution Formula for the agency that would help to align the various agency programs with the most appropriate funding source for those individual programs.
- \* NFS offered support for an increased general fund allocation for the agency if the expenditure of all future general fund receipts are guided by this new distribution formula.

The agency's current business plan is not working, as evidenced by continually increasing costs and continued declines in fee revenues. Major changes to this plan must occur if the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is to fulfill its conservation mission while providing sustainable levels of consumptive use of Oregon's wildlife resources.

Following are some specific details on the Native Fish Society's analysis of the budget situation:

### Angling Fee Increase Proposal

Presently, the cost of an annual adult fishing license for an Oregon resident is \$33.00, about 9 cents per day. Under the proposed angling fee increase, that cost would increase over the next six years to \$43.00 or 12 cents per day. That would continue to be an amazing bargain.

The Native Fish Society (NFS) supports increasing the annual angling license fee to an amount that would adequately pay for all of the services that the angling community desires, including the continually increasing costs of the fish propagation program. If anglers are unwilling to support a license fee increase, the department should make cuts to the appropriate fish

production and management programs that support recreational fisheries, not to other unassociated programs.

#### Program Fund Shifts to and from the General Fund

The Native Fish Society supports the shift of certain programs from being funded by license dollars to be paid for in the future by general funds from Oregon's taxpayers instead. Programs that would qualify for this fund shift would be those that support the general public interest in the wildlife resources of the state and programs that do not currently receive funding from licenses and fees. Programs that support fishing and hunting activities would not qualify for this shift to general funds.

The programs and activities of the department that are currently being funded by general fund dollars would also be reviewed to determine which of those expenditures would continue to qualify to receive taxpayer funding under this revised allocation formula. Any programs directly benefiting fishing and hunting interests would be shifted from general funds and reprogrammed to license revenues and fees.

#### Some General Suggestions for Program Reductions/Eliminations

- \* Fund existing field staff positions and fill vacancies at field offices
- \* Fund currently authorized positions in OSP Fish & Wildlife Division
- \* Provide sufficient funding to the OHRC for critical research projects
- \* Suspend the implementation of the 25 year Recreational Fishing Plan
- \* Be guided by ODFW's Program Prioritization list when considering cuts
- \* Fully fund the water quantity/quality program

Thank you for this opportunity to provide continuing input into the budget process. Attached are copies of some of the previous documents that the Native Fish Society has provided during the EBAC process.

## Lisa Evans

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**From:** Teri Kucera on behalf of Roy Elicker  
**Sent:** Monday, June 02, 2014 8:39 AM  
**To:** Roy Elicker; debbie.l.colbert@state.or.us; Lisa Evans  
**Subject:** FW: Trout Stamp  
**Attachments:** Nevada State Trout Stamp.docx

Comments for Exhibit G. – Teri Kucera

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**From:** Stan Steele [<mailto:riverrunguide@yahoo.com>]  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 01, 2014 10:47 AM  
**To:** Joe Rohleder; Ed Bowles; Roy Elicker  
**Cc:** Marc Davis; Jack Smith; Steve Mealey  
**Subject:** Trout Stamp

Trout angling is the most popular form of angling in Oregon. I am not in favor of raising current fees or arbitrarily adding additional stamps, tags or license endorsements but in the light of ODFW's current budget situation and the constant clamoring for fiscal accountability by the likes of the NFS, coupled with the angling public's perception that the Governor's office doesn't seem to understand or endorse the biological, social or economic importance of Oregon's hatchery production, this concept has **protective potential for Oregon's hatchery trout programs.**

Just an idea - I am not sure of it, but I feel the concept needs to have a reasonable discussion about its merits and pitfalls during this weeks extended EBAC meeting!

Stan

## Lisa Evans

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**From:** Teri Kucera on behalf of Roy Elicker  
**Sent:** Monday, June 02, 2014 10:28 AM  
**To:** debbie.l.colbert@state.or.us; Lisa Evans  
**Cc:** Roy Elicker  
**Subject:** FW: Buy your Alaska fishing license online!

For Exhibit G. – Teri Kucera

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**From:** Scott Starkey [<mailto:ssstarkey@campbellglobal.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 02, 2014 8:17 AM  
**To:** [roy.elicker@state.or.us](mailto:roy.elicker@state.or.us)  
**Subject:** FW: Buy your Alaska fishing license online!

Hello Roy

Maybe Oregon should try something like this to pick up sales. Also the lifetime license like California sells. Good day

**From:** [c.swanton@alaska.gov](mailto:c.swanton@alaska.gov) [<mailto:c.swanton@alaska.gov>]  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 31, 2014 5:24 AM  
**To:** Scott Starkey  
**Subject:** Buy your Alaska fishing license online!

Hello SCOTT,

Summer is coming and with it comes the chance to get out and enjoy all Alaska has to offer, including world-class fishing! THANK YOU for purchasing an Alaska sport fishing license in the past. Whether you've recently moved here or were enjoying a visit to our great state, I hope that you had a great time fishing.

Don't miss out on any of the action in 2014! Whether you're looking to fish salt or freshwater, remote or urban locations, challenging experiences or something easy enough to enjoy with the kids, Alaska has something for everyone. You can get started on planning your fishing adventures at our [sport fishing website](#).

Please keep in mind that "Conservation is not free" and that license fees pay for sustainable fisheries management programs. Purchasing a license online is fast and easy at the [ADF&G online store](#)

To improve our service to anglers, ADF&G is considering changes to our website. If you can take 1-2 minutes to complete our [online survey](#), you'll be entered to win a FREE Fishing and Hunting license valid for 2014 or 2015. We value your input!

Best Fishes,  
Charlie Swanton, Director  
ADF&G Sport Fish Division

## Lisa Evans

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**From:** ODFW Commission  
**Sent:** Monday, June 02, 2014 4:55 PM  
**To:** debbie.l.colbert@state.or.us; Lisa Evans  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed ODFW personnel changes  
**Attachments:** NWFF BDR 1-2, 2013.pdf

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**From:** Gregory Bulkley [mailto:gregbulkley@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 02, 2014 12:11 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission  
**Cc:** Roy.Elicker@state.or.us; Curt.Melcher@state.or.us; 'Klamath Country Fly Casters'; 'Mattenberger, Sue'; SEN Whitsett  
**Subject:** Proposed ODFW personnel changes

Dear ODFW Commission Members:

I am writing to address one unfortunate aspect of your proposed personnel changes for the upcoming ODFW biennial budget: ODFW's proposal to eliminate their Assistant Fish Biologists in general, and to eliminate the single such field operator in the Klamath Basin in particular:

While the citizens of Oregon are greatly appreciative of the services provided by ODFW in general, there is nothing more important to the health of the fishery than the work that is actually carried out by your boots on the ground. In this way, the priorities of the citizens you serve is the same as your publically stated departmental priority. Moreover, we are deeply sympathetic to your need to align your budget with the funds you will have available. However, it is a serious misallocation of priorities and resources to eliminate those very employees who are most responsible for carrying out what you claim to be your first priority, the watershed that makes up the fishery itself. While I cannot claim to have a better perspective than you on the work allocations of all of your employees, it is difficult to imagine that each of your hundreds of bureaucrats is more important than those relatively few ODFW employees who actually work in the field.

Let me support this argument by citing the specific example with which I am most familiar: the Assistant Fish Biologist that serves the Klamath Basin. Not only is this position of particular importance, we are most fortunate to be served by one of the most outstanding and hard working members of your entire Department, William Tinniswood:

- There is only a single Assistant Fish Biologist assigned to the entire Klamath Basin, and he frequently extends his work to Lake County and as far east as the Steens. The elimination of this position would introduce a *disproportionate* disability of your agency to serve the watershed that has been identified statewide and nationally to be of the highest priority for watershed and fishery restoration and conservation. This area is also one of the most popular sites for our citizens to hunt and fish.
- Although ODFW has been most helpful by providing the design and construction of fish screens for irrigation diversions, most of the watershed restoration work that has been so extensively engaged upon here in the Klamath Basin has been funded from other sources of state, federal, and NGO funding. Each of these granting entities requires rigorous documentation of the objective impacts these projects have on our fisheries; without such documentation, this funding is not (and should not be) available. The disastrous history of misguided watershed restoration efforts conducted without such rigorous scrutiny in the past is responsible for much of the watershed destruction with which we must deal today. The channelizing and diking of the our rivers by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the past century is but one of many such examples of past misadventure. In the Klamath basin, this objective monitoring of the effects of our restoration projects is conducted almost exclusively by the Assistant Fish Biologist. For example, when we restored fish passage to 23 miles of spawning

and refuge habitat for native redband trout and sucker species by constructing a fish passage at the confluence of Five Mile Creek with the North Fork Sprague River, it was William Tinniswood who documented the unprecedented increase in redband spawning redds upstream in Foster Field that following Winter. The elimination of this position will have serious detrimental effects on our community's ability to fund and document the effectiveness of our extensive and much-needed watershed restoration work here in the Klamath Basin.

- I understand that one of the reasons your budget has become more limited is the recent decline in purchases of fishing and hunting licenses. Certainly the restoration of our watersheds, and the favorable publicity that this has generated nationwide can serve only to attenuate that trend. Turning your back on the field as you propose would clearly have the opposite effect.
- Like all public entities you are particularly aware of your public image, as well you should be, as you exist to serve our citizens. Yet the public's perception of your willingness to listen to their concerns is quite guarded. For example, when Mr. Elicker used more than half of the scheduled time of a recent meeting advertised to be one for listening to your constituents to present a needlessly detailed (but quite slick) PowerPoint presentation, the audience quickly got the message that we were the ones who were scheduled to be doing the listening. (We are grateful that the facilitator extended the comment session afterwards to allow all or our comments to be heard.) If ODFW were to follow through with its plan to eliminate the Klamath Basin's only Assistant Fish Biologist, the single issue most overwhelmingly and vocally opposed by the vast majority of the public attending that meeting, it would be a clear indication that your "public comment sessions" are merely for show, and that you are really not interested in hearing our views, but only in appearing to do so.
- William Tinniswood in particular is one of the most, if not the single most effective spokesman for ODFW in the Klamath Basin and its surrounding fisheries. Over and above his being one of the most hard working of your employees in the field, he is a popular speaker at many fly fishing clubs in the area, and the single most popular speaker at the Klamath Country Fly Casters every year. The elimination of his position would be a public relations disaster for your agency, and perceived by the public as a clear indication of your contempt for your constituents. I hope you will forgive my speaking so frankly, but I assure you that I do not exaggerate this issue, and you would regret not paying it due attention.
- Finally, let me be clear that this appeal is based upon an objective evaluation of the value of our Assistant Field Biologist to the Klamath Basin and to your mission therein, and not based upon a well meaning but misplaced attempt to help a friend. I do know Bill, and like him, but he is not a close friend, and his remarkable talent and work ethic will ensure his employment elsewhere immediately upon your elimination of his position. Frankly, our need for his services far exceed his need for this current position. Moreover, your decision should not be based upon personal relationships, although Bill's immense popularity with the fishers of the area is based upon our objective assessment of his excellent work on behalf of your agency and our fishery. His retention should be based solely upon solid objective grounds: his services are critical to what is your stated first priority.

Thank you for considering, and hopefully reconsidering this issue.

Greg Bulkley  
Executive Council and Conservation Committee, Oregon Council, IFFF  
Past President & Conservation Chair, Klamath Country Fly Casters  
Klamath Falls, OR

Black Drake Ranch  
28850 Ivory Pine Road  
Bly, OR 97622-0046  
541-880-8017 (H)  
541-810-1884 (C)  
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# Conservation

Klamath Basin River Restoration  
at the Black Drake Ranch/By Glenn Zinkus

**B**lack Drake Ranch is perched in the hills on the east edge of Oregon's Klamath Basin, overlooking the mountains, forests, and rivers of this expansive countryside. The North Fork Sprague River flows from the slopes of Gearhart Mountain



PHOTO BY GLENN ZINKUS

and forms the eastern property line of the ranch, and Fivemile Creek meanders through meadows, bisecting the ranch. Both streams are home to surprisingly large wild redband rainbow and brown trout.

The owners of Black Drake Ranch serendipitously became the stewards of the waters that run through the ranch. Greg Bulkley and his wife, Jacqui, pursued their dream of retiring to a property with some accessible trout water in the West. Greg hadn't envisioned a working ranch as part of retirement, and his first question to the real estate agent was just what they would do with 1,000 acres. The response from the agent was that they would raise cattle. Greg's eyes widened when he asked, "Do you mean cows?" As Greg explains, "Although Jacqui and I had no real intention of getting into watershed restoration, nor did we have any illusions about running a cattle ranch during retirement, we have sort of gone with the flow, and the restoration project has become a full-time job, and quite gratifying to us both."

Greg and Jacqui enthusiastically dove into learning about their new home waters and soon discovered that Fivemile Creek, a major tributary to the North Fork Sprague, is the passageway to 26 miles of trout and sucker spawning and rearing habitat. However, for decades a diversion dam raised the creek during the growing season to provide irrigation water for Black Drake Ranch and other surrounding ranches. This dam was a year-round barrier to fish passage. Removal of this barrier, while preserving the water rights of the neighboring ranches, was a priority project. The diversion-dam replacement involved rerouting the stream for 600 feet over a series of stepped riffles and pools through an old, natural channel revealed by aerial contour mapping. Other key improvements included getting the cattle off the stream banks through a combination of riparian fencing and rotational grazing, the placement of spawning gravel and in-stream masses of wood to provide shade and protection, and the stabilization of cattle-trod

banks with plantings of native alders, willows, and aspens. Stream-bank head-cut repairs also improved water retention and reduced irrigation-water diversions.

While there is more to do on the ranch, the improvements on Fivemile Creek have reestablished access to those 26 miles of spawning and rearing habitat, and improved the overall wildlife habitat. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife staff has observed increased spawning upstream from the restoration, and there's evidence that the improved habitat has resulted in more and larger trout.

Funding for the restoration was provided by state, federal, and private conservation organizations, and the project has provided a boost to the economically distressed area.

Historically, the politics of water in the Klamath Basin have been contentious. The ranching community traditionally focuses on its own business and has been fiercely protective of its water and property rights. As Greg explains, "Restoration efforts that respect and sustain the legitimate property rights of these ranchers are not just good politics. They can succeed in getting a great deal more done in the 95 percent of the watershed that's privately owned than a conventional, confrontational approach."

It was soon after the Bulkleys learned that these waters are a key fish passageway that they met Sue Mattenberger of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Klamath Falls. Mattenberger is a hydrologist and high-caliber project manager who was instrumental in lifting the restoration projects off the ground by identifying the funding sources and gaining consensus amongst the various water interests in the basin. Mattenberger's integrity and respect for the interests of the various factions, along with her success at Black Drake Ranch, are what opened the gates to the other properties and ranches. Forty contiguous miles of the Sprague River and its tributaries are now under restoration. These restoration efforts are improving fish habitat and are continuing to provide projects and the resultant jobs in the Klamath Basin.



**Lisa Evans**

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**From:** ODFW Comments <odfw.comments@state.or.us>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 03, 2014 2:18 PM  
**To:** Debbie L Colbert; Lisa Evans  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Increased fees

**From:** bill douglas [mailto:resz2bsx@frontier.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 02, 2014 9:18 AM  
**To:** ODFW.Comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Proposed Increased fees

Greetings to the ODF&W Commission; As a hunter, trapper, fisher, voter, and land owner of 170+ acres I would like to submit my comments on the proposed increase in fees for hunting and fishing.

Let me begin by saying I would like to look at the big picture and to think outside the box. Overall, the relationship between users and fees should be thought of as a market, not unlike our capitalist economy. As such, there are certain known market rules and conditions which apply. These conditions or rules govern the market place. Supply and demand are two the most basic and most agreed upon of these rules.

These noted market conditions when applied to the ODF&W proposed fee increases would lead me to think the past, present and future fees create the opposite of "good market conditions", that is too little demand and too much supply. If approached from another angle, if the price of licenses were to go down, not up, it would seem to follow that demand would increase. A case in point is our oldest son who lives in California and would very much like to come to Oregon to hunt elk, yet can't afford our out of state fees. Following this premise along, I would suggest future ODF&W fees be REDUCED to create more demand. Certain categories of users need special attention: Youth; these users should have greatly reduced fees, in fact in some cases, at best, these fees should be nominal or dropped all together. This would help draw more youth to these activities. These are our future adult license users, and thus will train the following generation. Seniors: this group could also have further reduced fees, as should out of state users.

Again, I would hope the ODF&W commission would take a serious look at this issue from the point of view I have presented and not assume increasing fees is the answer to shorter budgets. As any large organization, especially a bureaucracy, it grows and expands. Wages, salaries and the general cost of doing business increases. Unlike the private sector however, bureaucracies can't raise the price of their commodities to offset these costs. At least not forever. This is the spot the ODF&W now finds itself. A spot "not far from here nor is it a pleasant spot".

I hope you will give serious consideration to my comments.

Respectfully, William Douglas Gold Beach, OR.

## Jason Bader

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**From:** tina <tguetterman@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 03, 2014 8:11 PM  
**To:** odfw.info@state.or.us  
**Subject:** license fees and angler/hunter numbers

I have heard two pieces of information recently that concern me: 1) that the number of people hunting and fishing continues to decline, and 2) that ODFW is planning another round of license fee increases. I remember from economics class that in a free-market system when demand goes down, prices should go down to stimulate more demand, but ODFW seems to use the opposite approach – when demand (and revenue) go down, increase license fees. The problem is that basic economics tell us that increasing prices will further suppress demand. Has ODFW ever considered applying basic economic principals and lowering license costs in order to stimulate demand? I know for me and my family, the cost of hunting and fishing licenses is driving us to stop hunting and fishing; it's getting cost prohibitive. My family used to hunt and fish together regularly, but now my kids are old enough that they need to buy licenses and quite frankly, none of us hunt or fish enough to make it worthwhile, so we don't do it all. I would love to go deer and elk hunting 3-5 days a year but it's not worth the license cost anymore. I feel I'd have to hunt and fish MUCH more to make it worth the cost, and I know I'm not going to spend that much time doing it. Now that my son has moved out on his own, he is in a similar situation. He has to pay for licenses on his own now and paying for it with a minimum wage job and hunting or fishing only a few days a year doesn't make it worth it. So me and my family have almost stopped hunting and fishing altogether, and we both know that the longer we do that, the less likely we are to ever hunt or fish again – we'll get used to not doing it. The license fees charged by ODFW are driving the casual angler and hunter out of the sport. Wouldn't it be wise to encourage people to stay even casually involved rather than push them out with economic pressures?

**Lisa Evans**

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**From:** thegrierzoo@comcast.net  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 04, 2014 5:08 AM  
**To:** odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Creating recreational opportunities

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Sir or Ma'am,

Hello there! I am Mark Grier, current president of the Newberg chapter, Association of Northwest Steelheaders. Us sportsmen are well aware that you've been looking at staff cuts and increased fees. Therefore, you would be wise to spend your money wisely.

I live in Yamhill county. You stock Sheridan pond, (warms quickly - no shade - probable high mortality), and Willamina pond, (same story plus weed growth). Boring!! Who wants to sit on a dirt bank and drown a worm? Yamhill river is stocked for about a mile, but it's all private land with over-growth and few access points. Worse, NO BAIT! What are you thinking?

A better idea: Blackwell park a couple of miles up Willamina creek. Lots of access, higher gradient, more cover for the fish = more fun for the angler.

Spend our money more wisely.

## Lisa Evans

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**From:** ODFW Commission  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 04, 2014 8:21 AM  
**To:** debbie.l.colbert@state.or.us; Lisa Evans  
**Subject:** FW: Budget Meetings  
**Attachments:** Mule Deer Pilot Project Proposal.doc

Exhibit G comments. - Teri Kucera

-----Original Message-----

**From:** The Bow Rack [mailto:info@thebowrack.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 03, 2014 5:16 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission  
**Subject:** Budget Meetings

Dear ODFW Commission,

I was not able to attend the budget meetings because of work conflicts and my location in Springfield, but I wanted to write a short outline on the subject of declining hunter numbers and the ODFW loss of credibility with user groups in Oregon. I used to think that the most important part of promoting hunting was hunter recruitment. Last year I was involved in a hunter recruitment day at my farm outside of Springfield, Oregon. The concern that ODFW staff had was if the class would fill up? The cost was \$320.00 for the one day class. It sold out to 36 people that had never hunted in less than three days from the time of the announcement. That event has changed my mind as well as witnessing a flood of young girls coming into my archery shop wanting to start shooting a bow and bowhunting because of one movie they watched where the star of the movie (Hunger Games) is a young girl named

Catness. In the opening scene she is hunting deer with a bow, this has caused the biggest wave of archery and bowhunting the industry has ever seen. My goal is not to simplify the problem but recruitment comes down to the product, not the promotion of the activity. One thing I know without reservation is that if you have a good product to sell, you have no lack of people that want that product and are more than willing to pay top dollar for that product. This is where a little thick skin may come in handy as I share some quotes from the two top National Hunting Magazines, (Hunting Fool, Eastmans Journal) These are two quotes on their view of Oregon game management and weather subscribers should invest and hunt in Oregon. Huntin Fool volume 17 Feb. 2012 wrote in their guide to Oregon page 94 wrote "When it comes to Mule deer and Elk, Oregon manages for opportunity rather than quality. Oregon is not a must apply for state, we recommend you save your money or use it to apply in another state". Past Eastmans Journal Magazine editor Ryan Hatfield now Editor for Western Hunter Magazine wrote in Eastmans' MLS on Oregon in which Hatfield mirrored Hunting Fool only with much more ("Oregon just implemented nearly doubling nonresident rate while maintaining some of the absolute worst nonresident opportunities."

It'll sure be interesting to see how that pans out for them" Feb/Mar 2010 issue 117 Eastmans Journal. ("curse you Oregon. Well state of Oregon you stole my \$176.00 again." June 16 2011 Eastmans' Journal MRS. Eastmans' Journal Poll; Which western state does the worst job of managing its big game?? Oregon got took the number two spot in that poll.

So after that back lashing from the national hunting media, let me go on the defense of ODFW for a moment. The media is missing the fact that the loss of bear baiting and dog hunting for lions and bear was lost at the voting booth. This has been the single most crippling game management tool that the ODFW has lost. This state is not in a bear and cougar over population, we are in a population explosion and have been for some time now!! The cougar stories from Lane county where I live are endless but I will share just one. There is a park less than 300 yards from the Mathew Night Arena home of the University of Oregon Ducks Basketball team. March of this year wildlife services removed three Cougar that were killing house cats and dogs in that park. The park is located 1.5 miles inside of Eugene city limits. So this leaves us here today dealing with few tools to deal with the predator management and a failing big game populations.

Sorry about over stating the problem. Here is my outline on nuts and bolts solutions to the problem of nation hunting media perception and forcing the proposed 21 fee increases on our local outdoor sporting recreational activities. Keep in mind that the list of proposals and suggestions are not only to help raise funding, it will change local and nation sporting media and sportsman's perception of ODFW.

#### -Trading Oregon's Big Game To Other States:

Back in 2009 several friends had pulled a Mt Emily Bull tag using 11 years worth of points. Soon after the draws results were out they received a letter from Kentucky Fish and Game. Kentucky announced to the tag holders that they had trapped and transplanted a large number of elk out of the Mt Emily unit and needed info from them if they harvested an elk. Needless to say that left a sour taste in the mouth of those tag holders and for good reason. Over the years we have traded large numbers of big game to other states. Most recently in NE. Oregon a large number of Big Horn Sheep were traded to Wyoming. Over the years we have traded a large number of sheep to other states, I know staffs typical response is "they have given us sheep for years". The response from the user groups would be "if we have sheep to burn on a camp fire, why not issue up those tags to the hunting community". We need to change the process of decision making for trading Big Game.

Conclusion: All Trapping and Transplanting of Big Game programs need to be a part of the Big Game public process and go before the Commission for their final approval.

#### -We should be no limit for bear tags in all of NE Oregon:

I personal have taken a group of youth hunters (Kids Spring Bear Camp) in NE. Oregon for the last 20 years. The number of bear has steadily grown. Two years ago was a record year, we spotted 23 bears in one day with nine being in one small side canyon. They high number of bear puts pressure on elk caves and deer fawns. The over population of bear causes a high number scavenging fresh lion kills. This forces the lion to kill more often. Holding deer and elk M.O's low because of higher predatory numbers of kills on deer and elk.

Conclusion: Raise the price by double of the unlimited tags for bear.

With mandatory bear check in, set quota's for harvest numbers. This would allow more hunting opportunity and higher tags sales. Would I help deer and elk M.O's with more bear harvested each year.

#### -Oregon Sheep and Mt. Goat should have to front the full price of the tag to enter the draw:

Over the years there has been a fair amount of abuse on a non point system hunt that is the hardest type of tags to draw in Oregon. For

\$8.00 each a head of house hold can load the draws full of family members that have no wish to hunt sheep or hunt period. OSP has records and videos of busting would be sheep hunters harvesting sheep on other family members tags. Conclusion: Adding the full price to the draw system would

stop this abuse of these once in a life time tags and would keep those individuals who truthfully wish to hunt sheep and goat. This would shovel three issues, deserving individuals would draw tags, would greatly lessen the enforcement issue we now face each year with non hunters drawing these tags and would bring in more revenue to the draw pool.

**-Mule Deer Pilot Project:**

Deer and Elk are largely the focus of the loss of tag sales and due to a declining deer and elk population. My good friend Mike Morris and I teamed up back in 2011 and proposed the Mule Deer Pilot Project. (I have included the plan in my attachment). The Plan is getting a little dated, the concept on funding and management is the main point. In a nutshell the plan would create three micro managed units with a three year weapon rotation (Rifle, Muzzle-loader, Archery) greatly reducing the tag numbers. The financial portion of the plan is not in the outlined attachment. The principle financial change in this plan was to implement a new point system with a 15% non resident pool. Cost of the preference point whether you were resident or non resident would be \$75.00. What this would do is put 1.5 million in the ODFW coffer every year without the sale of a single tag. Here is a list of what the implementation would mean for ODFW.

1. Eastmans Hunting Journal and Huntin Fool would send out e-mail and social media alerts that you must buy in on this new point system. It would also improve Oregon's standing nationally with an effort to change how the national hunting committee views Oregon's game management.
2. In a three year period from the time of the implementation of the plan, five surrounding units would see a large increasing in buck population. This would be due to the ever larger growing population from the neighboring pilot project draw unit.
3. This would give the Hunters in Oregon and out of state hunters a quality hunting experience for mule deer at the same time increasing the number of mature buck populations throughout the the center of the state.
4. You ask why a 15% Non resident pool for tags, if you reduce the tags the only way to replace the funds is to allow a large window of out of state participation.

Mule Deer Pilot Conclusion: Mike and I met with Staff for two meetings and the conclusion on the plan on not implementing was, it would cause a lot of work for staff to change the point system and the season structure. They did not see the need for a high quality hunt. Staff also added they did not need the funding that the out of 15% non resident hunter would bring into the draw system. That was back in 2011, if the Mule Deer Pilot Project would have been implemented the 1.5 million a year in revenue for points only would have been a great shot in the arm today.

**Bottom Line:**

With the large declining hunter numbers and fee increases in the future, there has to a small movement toward change. With ODFW missing the Weyerhaeuser land lease deal, and other lumber co to follow suit and could only lead to the loss of more tags sales and lower revenue. Big game populations are on a rapid decline due to high predator populations. Mule M.O.s at 25 buck per 100 does not be met in most units for the last 12 years. With social media (ifish, FB, Blacktail Country etc) and National Hunting publications ( Eastmans' Journal, Huntin Fool) perception is 99% negative on ODFW Game Management. Do we have a choice but to make some good sound changes in management? Would would ask that you visit the Mule Deer plan and consider asking Staff to visit the other changes i have listed for the future.

Good Hunting  
Wayne Endicott

The Bow Rack, Inc. 392 Q Street Springfield OR 97477 541-746-9711 [www.thebowrack.com](http://www.thebowrack.com)

# Mule Deer Pilot Project

## Introduction

For almost 40 years, mule deer populations have been declining from their historic high of almost 600,000 animals. Although the declines have occasionally been interrupted by short term upticks, the overall trend has been downward, with the population estimated by ODFW at approximately 216,000 animals in 2010. More concerning, between 2001 and 2009, the downward trend occurred every year, and the rate of decrease is accelerating.

During that same time frame, ODFW's management philosophy has remained basically unchanged, with the focus on maintaining buck/doe ratios at 10-15 bucks/100 does, and spring fawn survival at 25-40 fawns/100 adults. The sad fact is that on the vast majority of mule deer units in Oregon, these benchmarks have been met or exceeded in most years, yet the populations have decreased at an alarming rate. It is obvious that meeting these benchmarks does NOT result in a stable or increasing population, yet the management philosophy used to manage mule deer remain unchanged.

Research done over the past 15 years has made it clear that having sufficient mature males in a big game population to successfully breed available females during the first estrus cycle is one of the most important factors in maximizing the productivity of that population. Unfortunately, there has been little research done on exactly what is required for Mule Deer in terms of numbers of mature bucks/100 does, although some interesting work is being done on captive whitetail herds in other parts of the country. There is also a substantial amount of historical data from numerous states, including Oregon, on what happens to overall mule deer populations when buck harvest is reduced, and average ages and buck/doe ratios increase over subsequent years. (They increase). Even here, however, we could not find a single example where buck harvest was reduced with the specific goal of determining what impact increasing buck ratios and ages had on future population numbers. In every case, the reduction in harvest was instituted for other reasons, and the increase in populations was a by-product of that decision. In Colorado's case in 1999, it is interesting to note that research biologists with the Colorado Dept of Wildlife actually predicted that the proposed reductions in harvest would NOT have a positive impact on overall populations. They were wrong.

Obviously, a lack of mature bucks in Oregon's mule deer populations is not the only factor that has resulted in our current situation. Without question, predation, harassment-disruption, road kill, disease, etc. all have an impact to varying degrees in different parts of the state. What is true, however, is that the primary cause of the lack of mature bucks in Oregon is harvest, both legal and illegal. It is also true that of all the factors affecting mule deer populations, reducing the over-harvest of bucks that is currently occurring is the easiest management solution to implement, given current legal restrictions and funding shortfalls.

The objective of this pilot project is specifically designed to test the theory that having sufficient mature bucks in a population to breed does during the first estrus cycle is a critical component of increasing a mule deer population. The only way to accomplish that, given the current low numbers of bucks in Oregon units, is to substantially reduce harvest, and that is the primary management tool used to implement the project.



In the following pages, we have spelled out the details of our proposal, and the biological and historic support for the approach taken to improve populations. We look forward to working with department staff and the commission in building a pilot project that will reverse the current trends in mule deer populations in Oregon.

## **Mule Deer Pilot Project**

### **The Proposal Part 1: The Hunts**

This pilot project would be implemented on three units starting in 2012, with an estimated life of the initial phase of the project of 6-7 years. The three units we are recommending are Paulina, Silvies and Beulah. We have chosen these units for the following reasons:

1. All three units are between 50% and 75% of management objective for overall deer populations based on 2009 trend counts/pop 2 modeling. There is considerable evidence that, once populations decrease beyond a certain level, improvement is extremely difficult if not impossible to achieve due to inadequate base populations. For that reason, we felt it was important to select units that, although depressed, had substantial base population numbers in order to determine if the recommended change in management philosophy would result in increasing populations.
2. None of the three units were included in the MDI program initiated by ODFW in 2008.:
3. All three units have substantial and healthy summer habitat, and adequate winter habitat. This makes it likely that habitat issues would not be a deterrent as each unit approached Management Objective.
4. In the past, all three units have provided quality hunting experiences, with good numbers of mature bucks in the populations.

### **The goals of this part of the project are:**

1. Increase the number of bucks in the population, and particularly mature bucks, in the shortest amount of time possible while maintaining some hunting opportunity.
2. Improve the percentage of does that are bred in the first estrus cycle to 90% plus.
3. Measure with the most effective means available the current populations prior to implementation of the project, and then future populations as the project is implemented.
4. Provide increasing opportunity as buck numbers and ratios reach/exceed the new management objectives for each unit, and antlerless opportunity as populations approach MO.
5. Test whether high buck ratios, particularly for mature bucks, result in increases to fawn numbers and ratios, and eventually breeding doe numbers, in the absence of other management tools being implemented over the same time frame.

We want to emphasize we are not interested in creating trophy mule deer hunts with extremely limited hunting activity where success rates exceed 90% and the harvest contains a high percentage of trophy class bucks. (Boone and Crockett Score of 170+). Our expectation is that, once populations recover, the annual buck harvest would average between 20 and 25% of the available bucks in the population,

compared to the 10%-12% that are typically harvested on so called trophy units in other states. From our perspective, it would be immaterial to this project if bucks were typically harvested prior to reaching trophy status, as long as the breeding of does occurs during the first estrus cycle.

In order to manage the pilot project on these three units, changes would be made to the Management objectives for each unit, as follows:

**Paulina Unit**

<u>Item</u>	<u>Current MO</u>	<u>2009 Trend Ct Current Pop.</u>	<u>Proposed MO</u>
Population	16,500	10,000	16,500
Mature Buck/Doe Ratio	none	none	20/100
Year. Buck/Doe Ratio	none	none	15/100
Total Buck/Doe Ratio	10/100	10/100	35/100
Dec Fawn/Doe Ratio	none	54/100	75/100
Spring Fawn/Adult R.	35/100	37/100	50/100

**Silvies Unit**

<u>Item</u>	<u>Current MO</u>	<u>2009 Trend Ct Current Pop.</u>	<u>Proposed MO</u>
Population	12,000	7,800	12,000
Mature Buck/Doe Ratio	none	none	20/100
Year. Buck/Doe Ratio	none	none	15/100
Total Buck/Doe Ratio	12/100	13/100	35/100
Dec Fawn/Doe Ratio	none	78/100	75/100
Spring Fawn/Adult R.	25/100	31/100	50/100

**Beulah Unit**

<u>Item</u>	<u>Current MO</u>	<u>2009 Trend Ct Current Pop.</u>	<u>Proposed MO</u>
Population	15,000	12,000*	15,000
Mature Buck/Doe Ratio	none	none	20/100
Year. Buck/Doe Ratio	none	none	15/100
Total Buck/Doe Ratio	12/100	13/100	35/100
Dec Fawn/Doe Ratio	none	45/100	75/100
Spring Fawn/Adult R.	35/100	32/100	50/100

\*Estimate by the dept. From what we can determine, no actual trend count has been done for several years.

**Opportunity Philosophy**

One of the key components of the pilot project is that each unit would only offer a rifle/any weapon hunt 1 out of every 3 years. This would result in a substantial harvest reduction during the other 2 years, and build buck numbers much more quickly than would be possible if each unit were open to rifle hunting each year. Tag numbers for archery and any-weapon hunts would be the same on each unit,

but the hunt would occur in different years. Tags for the Muzzleloader hunt would be set at 50% of the tags made available during the any-weapon and archery hunt for that unit.

### Season Structure

The basic structure during the initial phase of the pilot project is a 3 year rotation among weapon types on each unit. For example, in 2012, there would be an any-weapon hunt on the Silvies unit, an archery hunt on the Paulina unit, and a muzzleloader hunt on the Beulah unit. Weapon type would rotate each year. These hunts would be the only mule deer hunts on these units that year, with all antlerless hunts eliminated as long the units remain below Management Objectives.

### Season Dates

There would be no change from the current season dates for Archery hunts and Rifle hunts. Muzzleloader hunts would occur the same dates as the Rifle hunts. All three units would offer a 10 day trophy hunt from Nov 20<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> for the same weapon type that hunted that unit during the regular season.

### Tag numbers

This is the crux of the proposal, and the most difficult factor to determine. The goal is to increase buck populations as quickly as possible, while maintaining some hunting opportunity. It is a difficult balancing act, and could require some adjustment, depending on buck survival the first 2 or 3 years.

We have carefully studied the number of applicants and harvest rates for similar types of hunts in Wyoming, Colorado and Utah, and have developed the following tag number recommendations for the first three years of the project.

#### 2012 Authorized Tags

Silvies Rifle tags:	Sept 29-Oct 10	300 tags
Silvies late Rifle tags:	Nov 20-30	10 tags

There would be no Muzzleloader or Archery tags issued in Silvies in 2012

Beulah muzzleloader tags:	Sept 29-Oct 10	300 tags
Beulah late muzz tags:	Nov 20-30	10 tags

There would be no Rifle or Archery tags issued in Beulah in 2012

Paulina Archery tags:	August 25-Sept 23	400 tags
Paulina late Archery tags:	Nov 20-30	10 tags

There would be no Rifle or Muzzleloader tags issued in Metolius in 2012

#### 2013 Authorized Tags

Beulah Rifle tags:	Sept 28-Oct 9	600 tags
Beulah late Rifle tags:	Nov 20-30	10 tags

There would be no Muzzleloader or Archery tags issued in Beulah in 2013

Paulina Muzzleloader tags:	Sept 28-Oct 9	200 tags
Paulina late muzz tags:	Nov 20-30	10 tags

There would be no Rifle or Archery tags issued in Paulina in 2012

Silvies Resident Archery tags:	Aug 24-Sept 22	300 tags
Silvies late Archery tags:	Nov 20-30	10 tags

There would be no Rifle or Muzzleloader tags issued in Silvies in 2013

**2014 Authorized Tags**

Paulina Resident Rifle tags:	Sept 27-Oct 8	400 tags
Paulina Late Rifle tags:	Nov 20-30	10 tags

There would be no Muzzleloader or Archery tags issued in Metolius in 2014

Silvies Muzzleloader tags:	Sept 27-Oct 08	150 tags
Silvies late muzz tags:	Nov 20-30	10 tags

There would be no Rifle or Archery tags issued in Silvies in 2014

Beulah Resident Archery tags:	August 23-Sept 21	600 tags
Beulah late Archery tags:	Nov 20-30	10 tags

There would be no Rifle or Muzzleloader tags issued in Beulah in 2014

**Harvest**

The goal is to reduce harvest, and increase the buck component of the population as quickly as possible. In order to generate income, however, we must offer some opportunity, and the historical record is clear that success rates go up as hunter numbers decline. In addition, increasing numbers of bucks will also make it likely success rates will continue to increase as the project goes forward. We anticipate that tag numbers will need to be adjusted as actual harvest numbers become available. For purposes of illustrating this proposal, however, we have adopted the following success rates for the years 2012, 2013 and 2014.

	2012	2013	2014
Rifle and any weapon tags:	65%	70%	75%
Archery tags:	30%	35%	40%
Muzzleloader tags:	50%	55%	60%

Given those rates, the estimated buck harvest for the three units would be:

	2012	2013	2014
Paulina	126	116	315
Silvies:	205	110	99
Beulah:	158	441	252

As a comparison, here are the buck harvest numbers for the last three years statistics are available, 2007, 2008 and 2009

	2007	2008	2009
Paulina:	980	576	617
Silvies:	556	427	568
Beulah:	1,724	1,379	1,420

A comparison of the average harvest per year over the three year periods shows the significant reduction in harvest rates that the pilot project will accomplish. It is important to understand, however, that the actual three year period immediately prior to the implementation of the project, 2009, 2010 and 2011, will likely have lower harvest rates than those realized in the 2007-2009 time frame.

	3 yr average harvest 2007-2009	3 yr average harvest 2012-2014
Paulina:	724	186
Silvies:	571	138
Beulah:	1,508	284

For comparative purposes, we have used the same success rates for all three units. However, we believe the very open terrain in the Beulah unit would result in higher rifle success rates than shown, and somewhat lower archery rates. Overall, the average harvest on the Beulah unit would likely be somewhat higher than that shown for the 3 year average. We also expect the average harvest for the 2009 to 2011 period under current regulations would be somewhat lower than the 2007-2009 average.

### The Future

Since this is a Pilot Program, and is designed to test a theory that has not previously been tested in any significant way, there is no way to guarantee that overall mule deer populations would increase, and eventually approach or exceed management objective. Our expectation, however, is that is what will occur. If we are right, there would be a number of different tag schemes that could be adopted to maintain populations at objective, while increasing opportunity. One scheme we looked at would rotate tags between rifle hunters one year, and archers and muzzleloaders the next, with both antlered and antlerless tags available each year. Applying this scheme to the Beulah unit, for example, buck harvest would be approximately 1,000 animals per year, while maintaining buck populations at 35/100 does post hunt. Antlerless harvest averages 800 animals. Opportunity would average around 2,400 tags for rifle hunters. For the Archers/Muzzleloaders, harvest would be approximately the same, but opportunity would increase to 3,000 to 3,500 tags.

## Discussion

As we have researched the historical record, statistical data and research project results that have gone into the development of this Pilot Project, we have been amazed at the sheer volume of information that is available that supports the underlying premise of the project. Literally, it would take hundreds of pages to document in detail the applicable data and information that is relevant to this proposal. Knowing the tremendous time pressures that all of us are under, we have elected not to include that level of documentation in this document. Instead, we have compiled the key points that we believe accurately reflect the overall conclusions of the data. Having said that, we are prepared, at any time, to discuss in detail the specific information and data that supports the conclusions listed below. These conclusions are NOT listed in order of importance, as they apply to this proposal.

1. Research clearly shows that impregnating females during the first estrus cycle results in larger, healthier fawns that have a higher survival rate to one year of age than fawns born later in the year due to impregnation occurring during later estrus cycles.
2. Research on multiple species also clearly shows that females do not allow immature males to breed them during their first estrus cycle in many cases.
3. Some recent research done on whitetails has shown that fawns born to does impregnated during the second or third estrus cycle have an extremely low rate of impregnation as 1.5 year olds, typically around 10%, regardless of habitat considerations. Conversely, fawns born to does impregnated during the first estrus cycle had much higher rates of impregnation at 1.5 years of age, around 60%, assuming a healthy habitat. We were unable to find any research done on Mule Deer regarding this concept.
4. One long term research project done on Whitetail bucks where habitat was removed as a factor clearly showed that genetics, as measured by horn development and body size, was a major factor in both the numbers and health of fawns born to does impregnated by those bucks. In general, bucks with lower body weights and horn size produced far fewer offspring, and smaller and weaker offspring, than bucks with higher body weights and larger horn size. The differences between the two types of bucks occurred regardless of the age of the bucks. We are confident in saying there have been no equivalent studies on mule deer.
5. The literature and research is clear that the most vulnerable time for predation on new born fawns is the first 2-3 weeks after birth. Logically, then, if 90% plus of does were bred during the first estrus cycle, the most vulnerable period for the new born fawns would be approximately 3-4 weeks. On the other hand, if breeding is spread over 3 estrus cycles, the period of vulnerability is extended to 9-12 weeks. Given that predator numbers will be stable under either scenario, there is no question that failure to impregnate does during the first estrus cycle results in significantly higher losses to predation when those fawns are born the next year.

6. There are numerous examples in the historical record going back to the 1930's where reductions in buck harvest, and subsequent increases in buck numbers and ages, resulted in increases in the overall population AND number of breeding females. For Mule Deer, a few examples would be Utah in 1993, Colorado in 1999, and Oregon in 1976 and 1981.
7. The best historical examples that we could locate occurred in Oregon in the 1920's and 1930's. In one example of several, a mule deer refuge was established covering the entire Murderer's Creek basin in what is now the Murderer's Creek unit. No hunting was allowed within the Refuge. We believe the refuge was established in the late 1920's. By 1934, the population had grown to the point that a winter die-off occurred, and in 1935 Refuge status was removed, and an antlerless hunt was authorized to lower the population. Similar refuges were established in the Ochoco Unit, the Paulina Unit, the Malheur Unit, and somewhere around Klamath Falls. There were likely additional Refuges that we have been unable to identify. In the Ochoco unit, the Refuge was established in the late 20's, and removed in 1940, a closure lasting around 12 years. Anecdotal evidence indicates that, by the late 30's, mature bucks were leaving the refuge and populating surrounding areas, and populations were increasing in areas outside of the refuge as well as within refuge boundaries.
8. In our view, the establishment of these refuges, where no deer hunting was allowed, was likely the key factor that jump started the increases in Mule Deer populations that began in the 1930's, eventually resulting in an estimated population approaching 600,000 in the late 1950's. An additional important factor was the onset of World War 2. At the very time populations had reached critical mass from a population growth standpoint, the onset of the war provided an additional 5-7 year time period where harvest was extremely limited. Without question, the early 40's were a time of unprecedented growth in mule deer populations. While it is true that the habitat of that period allowed for the populations to increase at a very fast rate, it is also certainly true that the low harvest levels of that period, and the logical conclusion that there were substantial numbers of mature bucks in every population, was the primary driver of the actual population increases.

In contrast to most of the points above, the ODFW management position regarding mule deer populations and productivity is that as long as does are impregnated, they are maximizing the reproductive potential of our mule deer populations. In their view, the fact that buck ratios are low, and the number of mature bucks in most populations is extremely low, is immaterial. For the most part, they base that position on research results obtained more than 50 years ago, and limited tests on harvested does that showed a high rate of pregnancy. (As far as we can determine, none of these tests have been conducted in the past 10-15 years, but that could be wrong.)

Given that basic underlying philosophy, ODFW is now in it's fourth decade of managing mule deer populations using two basic criteria. First, a buck ratio of 8-10 bucks/100 does is sufficient to impregnate all of the does, and a survival rate for fawns of 25-40 fawns/100 adults as measured on March population trend counts is sufficient to maintain a mule deer population at it's current level. Fortunately or unfortunately, depending on your point of view, we don't have to refute this philosophy

since ODFW's own statistics do it for us. Pick any year between 1995 and 2009, look at the trend count statistics for buck ratios and fawn survival, and you will find the vast majority of units exceeded the standards outlined above, yet populations went down. Or, take one unit, look at an 8 to 10 year history, and you will once again find the unit exceeded the standards most years, yet populations plummeted. Here is an example, using the Ochoco unit:

	Population	Buck/Doe ratio	Spring fawns/100 adults
Management Obj:	20,500	12/100 then 15/100	35/100
2009	15,500	9/100	40/100
2008	15,700	13/100	40/100
2007	16,500	14/100	39/100
2006	16,500	16/100	44/100
2005	17,000	14/100	30/100
2004	17,000	15/100	34/100
2003	17,800	12/100	44/100
2002	18,300	12/100	37/100
2001	18,300	16/100	36/100

Notes: The buck ratio objective was raised from 12/100 to 15/100 in 2006. At the time, ODFW stated the increase was being approved for social reasons and NOT biological reasons. The population numbers shown are those that ODFW develops using the POP 2 computer modeling program. The actual trend count numbers are considerably lower for all 9 years of the graph.

Based on the graph, and ODFW's stated position that 10 bucks/100 does is sufficient to maximize breeding potential, the Ochoco unit has exceeded by a large margin that norm in 8 out of 9 years, and barely fell short the 9<sup>th</sup> year. The same holds true for spring fawn survival, with production exceeding the MO 7 out of 9 years. By any measure, if the objectives set by ODFW to maintain the population on the Ochoco unit were valid, this population would have increased over the 9 year period. Instead, the population decreased by 15% over a 9 year period. The same results would occur for virtually every unit in Eastern Oregon. ODFW's own data for Mule Deer in Oregon makes it clear that the current pPopulation management scheme employed by ODFW is a complete failure, yet that continues to be the scheme employed as we go forward.

It should be noted that we actually believe the current management scheme employed by ODFW would have been effective in the 50's and 60's. During that time frame, there is no doubt that as long as a high percentage of does had fawns, populations would increase. Coyotes were poisoned, Cougars were eliminated by any means possible, wolves were extinct, road densities were 20-30% of those we have today, and the average Oregonian did not have the income or leisure time to spend interacting with wildlife populations. Add in the tremendous increases in human population, effectiveness of equipment, and focus on harvesting mature animals, and it is little wonder that management schemes that worked 40 years ago are complete failures today.

The truth is, the number of fawns that are born in any given year is a relatively meaningless statistic in today's world. Today, the only statistic that really matters is this: Does the number of breeding females being added to a population in a given year exceed the mortality of existing breeding females in that



year. If the answer is yes, the population will grow. If the answer is no, the population will decrease. Unfortunately, it is virtually impossible to calculate breeding females added/versus breeding females lost in any given year. What can be said, with absolute certainty, is that the graph above illustrates that, on the Ochoco unit, breeding female mortality has consistently exceeded breeding female recruitment, and the population has decreased.

### **Summary**

Department staff continues to maintain that their current management scheme is maximizing the productivity of deer populations across Eastern Oregon, in spite of massive, long term statistical evidence that disputes that position. Regardless of your opinion of the scientific and statistical basis underlying this pilot project proposal, there can be no disputing that the current management philosophy is a complete and total failure. Given that, it seems obvious that it is time to try some new approaches, and this Pilot Project would be a great place to start. We certainly recognize that this proposal needs to be vetted, and can likely be improved. It is important to keep in mind, however, that any changes made must NOT negatively impact the central theme of this project; that increasing the number of mature bucks in the population, will, over time, result in an increase in the overall mule deer population.

We look forward to working with ODFW in improving and implementing this Pilot Project starting in 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Morris and Wayne Endicott

## Lisa Evans

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**From:** Teri Kucera on behalf of Roy Elicker  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 04, 2014 8:42 AM  
**To:** Lisa Evans  
**Subject:** FW: Prioritization of General Fund Request  
**Attachments:** ODFW GF Expenditures 13-15.docx

Budget comments.

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**From:** Jim Myron [<mailto:myrons@canby.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 04, 2014 7:16 AM  
**To:** [ed.bowles@state.or.us](mailto:ed.bowles@state.or.us)  
**Cc:** Roy Elicker; Debbie L Colbert; [curt.melcher@state.or.us](mailto:curt.melcher@state.or.us)  
**Subject:** Prioritization of General Fund Request

Ed:

In my opinion, the general fund component of your 2015/17 budget request will stand a better chance of passing intact if you combine the request for new funds with the list of programs currently funded with general fund dollars and then prioritize the entire list. In taking that approach, all of the various interest groups may be able to pull together to get a larger GF allocation than you otherwise might receive. Plus, if you don't get the entire \$34 million you are asking for you will have a game plan for allocating whatever you do receive.

To the extent that GF dollars can be targeted at conservation and other programs that may not be able to access funding from license revenues, you should be able to get a lot of support for your request from the conservation community.

Thanks for taking the time for yesterday's discussion. It was very helpful.

Jim

5.1.14

ODFW 2013/15 General Fund Allocations  
 Source: Program Prioritization Document (5.1.14)

#2	Game Management	7,791
#5	Hatchery Management	4,968,378
#7	Wildlife Management	500,000
#9	Game Research	10,173
#10	Fish Research/Monitoring	3,565,312
#14	Ocean Salmon Management	2,001,099
#15	Marine Sampling	122,621
#16	Fish Screening/Passage	1,734,023
#19	Statewide Policy Coordination	234,652
#22	Capital Improvements	142,694
#24	Predator Management	50,000
#26	Commercial Shellfish Management	2,324
#28	Ground Fish Research	11,729
#29	Water Quality/Quantity	294,123
#39	Predator Control (Wildlife Services)	408,890
#40	Hydro Program``	65,752
#42	Marine Reserves	1,236,323
#45	Watershed Council Liaisons	37,471
	Administration	1,290,610
	Debt Service	354,775
	Wildlife Management	118,673
	Total GF Expenditures	17,157,413

