

Exhibit C

**Public Correspondence received as
of July 23, 2015**

Brandon Reishus

From: ODFW WildlifeInfo
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2014 9:15 AM
To: Brandon Reishus
Subject: FW: ODFW.WildlifeInfo@state.or.us

From: KIMBERLY SAAD [<mailto:kkalas@msn.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 15, 2014 7:28 PM
To: ODFW.WildlifeInfo@state.or.us
Cc: Najib A. Kalas
Subject: ODFW.WildlifeInfo@state.or.us

<mailto:ODFW.WildlifeInfo@state.or.us>

Hello,

My name is Najib Kalas. I am emailing you regarding Band Tailed pigeon hunting. We are a group of at least ten hunters who do camping and hunting every year. The last two years of pigeon hunting were really bad. When we scout in August we see lots of birds. However by opening day (September 15th) there is literally no birds. As you know they feed on Elderberry tree fruits which is getting ready earlier every year due to warm summers and no fruit on trees by Sep 15th. This year only three hunters purchased tags and made the trip only to cut it off early and come back since we did not see any birds. The season used to open Sep 1st. I already sent a complaint last year. the response was that a study in some other states showed that chicks still in nest by Sep 1st. I do not believe that this is the case in Oregon since all birds are long gone by Sep 15th (hope your biologists are taking notice). If we buy hunting licenses and tags we expect to least be able to take some shots and this has not been the case lately. seems like all of us will quit hunting.

Please feel free to ask any questions you would like to.

Regards,

Najib

2/19/2015
PO Box 130
Amity, Oregon 97101

Brandon,

As I mentioned, I am sending you a snipe report. The days in February this year were much better than last year. Good numbers started to show up in late January, and increased from that point. When I give estimated number I saw while at Mark Knaupp's, please keep in mind that I was very likely flushing the same birds twice, or perhaps three times. Also it is important that on those days I only hunted a small area, due to bad knees. In total my guess is that I actually walked for about a hour per hunt, and hunted back over ground already covered. On all days I had problems with wild flushing snipe. Very few held well, and most were up and gone at one hundred plus yards. Other snipe hunters I have spoken with reported the same problem.

January 28, 2015

Hunted at Mark's. Saw 20-25, killed four.

January 31, 2015

Hunted at Mark's. Saw about 40, including one large flock of 12. Killed 5

February 2, 2015

Hunted by two large farm ponds near Perrydale. Flushed first very large flock of the season. 35 plus birds together. Got two on the flush, and three more as the flock milled around the area.

February 4, 2015

Hunted at Mark's. Very few snipe. Saw only 12-15. Killed one.

February 8, 2015

Hunted by ponds at Perrydale. Flushed the big flock again, 40 plus birds. But they all flushed together, and most didn't return. I got three.

February 14, 2015

Hunted at Mark's. Only about 25 snipe. Nearly all flushing wild. Killed two.

February, 15, 2015

Gary Howell and I drifted the South Santiam in his drift boat. Put in at Lebanon, took out at Jefferson. (About 8 miles?) Flushed a truly remarkable number of snipe, certainly well over 150. In fact, I have never seen so many snipe in one day, and that includes my many hunts in Louisiana and a couple of days in Ireland. While it might be that we were pushing birds ahead of us, I question that, as we would go as much as a mile before finding another prime location. At such locations we would flush about 20 birds, but in one backwater there were over 50! Gary and another fellow made the same float at the end of duck season for both ducks and snipe. Gary told me that they didn't see more than 50 snipe. Both of us were shooting very poorly. We should have had limits in the first few locations, but ended up with 7 each. Lots of shells shot!

Other hunters: Mark said that he shot about 25 snipe during February. He said he had one good day when they were holding well and he got 8. All the other days they were flushing wild. Mark hunts a different area on his place than I do. It holds many more birds, but is hard walking. I am not able to do the walking required in that area.

Kurt Rose of Lebanon hunted the Willamette above Corvallis five times. He said there were "ok" number of birds, but nearly all flushing wild. He killed 21.

A friend of Kurt's hunted the valley south of Corvallis. Kurt wasn't certain how many times the fellow hunted, but thought he got about 20.

It would be very interesting to know just how many snipe we have in western Oregon in February and March. I feel certain the number would be staggering. Along those lines, the fellows I have listed and I want to ask you to add another 7 days to the February season. We all know that it would make NO difference to nearly all other hunters to take days away from November. More days in February would make a very good thing even better!

Thanks for your interest in this, and of course thanks for the February season we now have.

Best,



Worth Mathewson

3/24/2015
PO Box 130
Amity, Oregon 97101

Brandon,

Another snipe report: Since you are one of the few that understand what a great game bird the snipe is, I thought you might have interest in this. On the last three days of goose season my wife and I were hunting at Mark Knaupp's. By and large the goose hunting there isn't much in terms of sport. It is based around trying to shoot the birds as they leave the roost. And on almost all days they start leaving a little before 7. However, on those last three days, because of daylight savings, they got tricked. We were able to get a few.

But what I was amazed at was the number of snipe present. Many, many more than toward the end of snipe season. While I am certain I was seeing the same birds several times in re-flushes, the number was still remarkable. And of importance, I was flushing them in the location which holds the smallest number at Mark's. I was flushing them from the far north of his area, the field and marsh next to Farmer Road. There are two other better locations: At the very southern end, and an especially prime location about midway to the east.

Therefore, I wonder how many in total were at Mark's during those three days? Many hundred? A thousand or more? And that is just one place in the valley!

I have a feeling that the number of snipe in the Willamette Valley during the spring migration would be hard to believe. In fact, it well might be that during this time frame the snipe is the species with the largest non-waterfowl population in the state. And I am including chukar and valley quail in this statement.

We are very lucky to have this bird! As you know, I rate the snipe as our best sporting bird. To this end, my wife and I have booked four days shooting next November on an estate in the Outer Hebrides in Scotland. The estate is famous for the snipe shooting. Also, as a big bonus, they have golden plover. I plan to take the hand carved plover decoys I used in Northern Ireland several years back.

I wish you all the best with the vast goose hunting problems you face next season.

Best,



Worth Mathewson

Brandon Reishus

From: Pete Gutbrod <gutbrodpete@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 28, 2015 10:54 AM
To: Brandon.S.Reishus@state.or.us
Subject: NW Goose hunting hours

Hello Brandon. I met you briefly a few weeks ago at a meeting at Rickreall (Farmers and geese problem meeting) I wanted to throw some input your way about the shooting times involving the NW goose hunting. I DO understand you have a ton on your plate with all the changes and things in the works to change the permit zone. And I understand this may not be a good time or year to make more. But if it is , I wanted to get our groups input to you. The 730 and 800 times seem to be a poor way to go as far as shoot times for all of us hunters. There are times when its pretty close and works out fine as far as being light enough to ID geese. And not so light out that most of the birds have come and left. But, there are about 50-60 percent of the times its way off. First season for example, time changes back and we go from hunting in poor light to having shoot times that are way to early. Over night. And third season this year was terrible(especially with clear nice weather) Everyday they all came out early and were sitting in the decoys by hunt time. It seems to me the dusk's are not early fliers either. In the 14 years we been at this, it seems most of our dusky encounters are mid to late morning. Cacks and Tavs seem to be the early fliers. Our suggestion would be to look at a simple time table like for ducks etc. I understand that the half hour before sunrise is to early. But what about sunrise for geese?. Just do another table , all times 1/2 hour later than ducks? We watched very close this season and most days that was more than light enough to ID geese. Yes some days when cloudy dark or foggy its harder. But most days its very reasonable. My feeling is those who take dusky's will make that mistake even at noon or 2pm. This would be a huge benefit to the hunters and harvesting smaller geese. Which in turn makes for happy farmers. They seem to frown on us when they look out in the field and see thousands landing and we as hunters just sit and watch Haha. Because its not shoot time. This seems to us, to be a good, simple, no cost, more reasonable solution to another NW goose hunting problem we have. Again we understand that this season may not be the time (or maybe it is). But please keep this in mind for the future if you would. We appreciate your time and all the work you are putting into the goose hunting changes here in the valley. I hope it is all going well and we end up with a favorable outcome.

Below is a List of Names of some individuals who are in support if this change and they wanted you to know they were on board with a time change plan.

Thanks

Pete Gutbrod (503-435-7577) Sheridan Oregon

Bill Wilson - Albany
Vane Dickey- Sheridan
Brian Wilson- Dayton
Jeff Easton - Lincoln City
Andrew Lake- Eugene
Bryan Turner- Dallas
Jim Rice- Kings Valley
Kelly Buckley- Silverton
Ron Herren - Salem
Sam Brost Turner- Dallas
Steve Samples- Sheridan
Tom Gackstatter- Lincoln City

April 7, 2015

Brandon Reishus Migratory Bird Coordinator
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, OR 97302

Dear Brandon Reishus:

As landowner, hunter and partner with ODFW on the *Identification Field Guide to Geese of the Willamette Valley and Lower Columbia River* who has twenty years of hunting experience, has assisted in wildlife surveys, and photographed and banded geese in the Willamette Valley. I am writing to provide input on the proposed changes to the NW Permit Zone for the 2015/16 Waterfowl Season.

I applaud ODFW for making significant efforts to liberalize goose hunting in the Willamette Valley the last several years with increased hunt days and expanded bag limits. These changes provide optimal opportunities to assist farmers with depredation issues and to share hunting experiences with friends, family and kids to carry on hunting traditions and provide a quality, lean source of protein for our health. I believe this liberalization of regulations has also worked effectively as a management technique to keep geese on refuges, as well as urban areas where there is minimal to zero hunting pressure. Shifting goose usage to urban areas and refuges has made scouting more difficult, as there are markedly fewer congregations of geese in numbers that justify the time, effort, and expenditure in fuel and equipment to secure permission from willing landowners and hunt with methods that offer a reasonable prospect of successful harvest (i.e. over decoys of quality and number capable of bringing geese within effective shotgun range, with adequate methods of hunter concealment).

Based on my experience and observations goose hunting in western Oregon, below are my thoughts on the NW Permit Zone proposed changes for the 2015/16 waterfowl season:

Eliminating Check stations:

On an average goose hunting day this will save successful hunters anywhere from thirty minute to over an hour to travel to and proceed through a check station. This will allow Permit Zone goose hunters to spend more time in the field, or transition home more quickly at the end of a hunt day. It will also perhaps create more opportunity for weekday hunters with limited time whose decision whether to hunt may be based on the time-savings from eliminating the requirement to check geese. However, as explained below, I have some concerns with the elimination of check stations.

Law Enforcement:

Last year and years previous, I witnessed geese being shot on off days or duskies being shot and not checked in. I reported these incidents to numerous law enforcement agencies with no response or repercussions for the violators. I am concerned that law enforcement considers waterfowl violations a low priority. With check stations being eliminated I fear a lacking law enforcement presence will lead people to test the regulations. Because many of these violations occur and will likely occur in the future on private property, I encourage ODFW to dialog with Oregon State Police to facilitate partnership with federal law enforcement that may have greater ability to enforce waterfowl violations on private property.

Hunter Self-enforcement:

Hunter assistance of law enforcement will be necessary to preserve goose hunting opportunities in the Willamette Valley. Law enforcement asks tipsters to call in violations and, my experience noted above aside, those calls make up a significant portion of their successful citations. I believe it is incredibly important that ODFW educate hunters on the importance of calling in violators to ensure their goose hunting opportunities are conserved for the future. Lastly, based on my own experiences it is imperative that law enforcement respond to those hunters who willingly call in violations.

Shooting time:

Now that check station staff time is not a factor that weighs toward limiting shooting times for the permit zone; I propose a shoot time the same as duck shooting time in the morning and evening. This proposal is based on the fact that permit zone hunters have/are trained to use caution if they are unsure of their target. Whether a hunter is unsure of their target at legal duck shooting hours, 7:30 a.m. or 8 a.m. those hunters should use the same caution; if they are unsure of their target don't shoot. For those hunters certain of their target this shooting time proposal will provide additional opportunities for success.

Hunting Days:

Since the three hunt days per week was changed to five hunt days per week, geese throughout the Permit Zone have changed their behavior significantly making hunting increasingly difficult. Geese now rely on urban and refuge environments and will not pattern into agricultural fields, causing decreased success for many hunters in the Willamette Valley. I understand this is following the projected management strategy however it is decreasing hunting opportunity/success. An example of this cause/effect is in Humboldt County, California. Previously, hunting was open only a few days per week and since the open hunt days per week have increased, hunting success is decreasing despite significant population growth of Aleutian Canada Geese. There, as in the Permit Zone, hunting pressure is causing geese to adapt to hunting pressure. Rather than expand hunt days to 7 days per week and increase hunting pressure as a factor in concentrating geese in areas not open to hunting, I would propose ODFW keep goose hunting open no more than 5 days per week.

Education:

The NW permit zone is a highly regulated goose hunting area and with these proposed changes there is a going to be a learning curve. To assist others with adapting to these changes, ODFW should consider training, press releases, and other ways to ensure transparency of these changes. I would be happy to assist ODFW by altering the *Identification Field Guide to Geese of the Willamette Valley and lower Columbia River* or providing trainings/seminars, to assist with successful implementation of Permit Zone changes

If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Kelly Warren
kelly@wildspiritresources.com
541-602-5951

Other supporters of this letter include:

Brian Perron
Bennett Christianson
Matt Vanselow
Carl Eckhold
Blake Pitcher
Patrick Bradburn

4/12/2015
PO Box 130
Amity, Oregon 97101

Brandon,

A couple of things: More March snipe reports. A friend who lives close to Finley Refuge told me that he must have flushed at least 50 snipe during early March from a wet field near his house. And another friend, who is a member of the duck club out on South River Rd. (near Roberts), said they had a "bunch" after they started draining their ponds. Again, I think we likely have a remarkable number of snipe all over the Willamette Valley during spring migration northward.

But the main reason I am writing is to mention to you again about giving consideration to giving us a split dove season. As I think I once told you, we had such a season in 1957 or 1958. If I recall it was the 30 days in September, then another 15 during November. A few weeks ago I was discussing the subject of winter doves in the valley with two friends. They felt that we have largest number during December. I totally agree. I am certain you have also seen the birds I am talking about.

I frankly think we have more doves in the valley in December than we do in September. For example: This past Dec/Jan there were over 60 in a filbert grove near Perrydale. I have no idea why they were there or what they were feeding on. But they were there for over a month, as I was there daily checking beaver traps. During the same time period, there were 35-40 using a radish field due north of my house. The total number amounted to a lot of doves in a somewhat small region. It would stand to reason there were like numbers in other parts of the valley.

As the season was last year, running into October, amounted to a waste of the extra 15 days. By and large, there aren't that many doves in the valley during September, and far less in October. So why not take those extra days and put them into a time frame that would offer days afield? (Actually, it would be best to have 15 days of dove season in Sept. and 30 during December)

Thanks for your time and interest in this.

Best,



Worth Mathewson

May 8, 2015

Kurt Melcher
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive, SE
Salem, Oregon 97302

Mr. Melcher:

This letter is to express our opposition to the continuation of the special goose hunt operated by your agency. As a landowner in a popular rural hunting area, we observe first hand the inefficiency and unfairness to taxpayers of this program.


Expressly, the farmers involved in this program often plant their property to actually *attract* waterfowl for the purpose of duck lakes or goose hunting. Large tracts of land are dedicated to this purpose, as you are well aware. Then, the farmers complain that they suffer from damage caused by the very birds they purposefully attract! The answer, of course, is to have the taxpayers pay for a resolution.

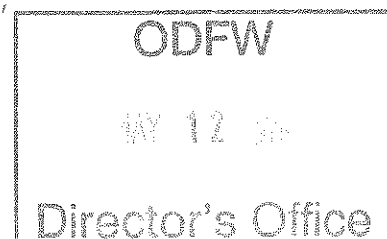
Although a conversation with fish and wildlife management on Sauvie Island stated that hunters paid for the check station, that appears not to be the case- but rather a statement aimed at diffusing the situation. Hopefully your agency will end this taxing boondoggle.

Sincerely,


Ron Murray

Cc: Ways and Means


R Murray
17236 NW Lucy Reeder Rd
Portland, OR 97231



David Budeau

From: Tod Nau <tod.nau.majm@statefarm.com>
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2015 11:04 AM
To: David Budeau
Subject: RE: Turkey Tags

Dave-

Thank you for the fast response. This is awesome news! What a great decision...

Thanks
Tod

From: David Budeau [<mailto:david.a.budeau@state.or.us>]
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2015 10:41 AM
To: Tod Nau
Subject: RE: Turkey Tags

Tod,
Glad you are having a good season. I have heard similar things from other folks. And yes, we will be having a three bird season limit statewide beginning in 2016. That change was approved by our Commission last year, but first takes effect in spring 2016. Following is a short blurb about it:

Increase spring turkey season limit to three statewide. This simplifies the regulations and provides some additional hunting opportunity. Currently two legal turkeys are allowed statewide, except an additional (3rd) legal turkey may be taken with a bonus tag in 17 western Oregon WMUs. During the spring 2013 season, there were only 146 tag holders who hunted on a third turkey tag and those hunters averaged 2.2 birds for the season. Increasing the statewide season limit to three legal turkeys is not expected to result in a biologically significant increase in harvest. A prior purchase of a tag for each turkey would still be required. Daily bag limit remains one legal turkey.

Dave Budeau
Upland Game Bird Coordinator
Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
4034 Fairview Industrial Dr. SE
Salem, OR 97302-1142
Ph: (503) 947-6323
e-mail: david.a.budeau@state.or.us

From: Tod Nau [<mailto:tod.nau.majm@statefarm.com>]
Sent: Monday, May 11, 2015 10:21 AM
To: David Budeau (david.a.budeau@state.or.us)
Subject: Turkey Tags

Hey Dave-

Hope all is well. We are having an awesome Turkey season thus far. I have a question or really a request. Is there any thought to allowing the third spring tag to be state wide instead of just the west side of the cascades? I'm sure very few people even fill 3 tags as it is now. But allowing us to have the entire state to hunt just seems right. I know the populations are not going to be compromised by that decision to allow 3 tags state wide. Anyway just wanted to check that out with you.

Thanks
Tod

Tod Nau, Agent

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Chip Kelly