

Lonnie Johnson

Mission Realization

We realized this program was more important than ever and decided to file for Not-For-Profit status, with the purpose of having ReBaits® collection bins placed throughout the country and now even Canada has joined in our cause. By providing a means for anglers to properly dispose of their used soft plastic baits we are able to collect the number one selling fishing lure and have it recycled on a large scale, keeping them out of our fragile environment and landfills.

Initiative

The ReBaits® program provides a collection bin made of steel that are powder coated to withstand abuse and the elements. They are painted blue to represent the international color for recycling and water. Each bin comes with a universal mount able to be affixed to just about any surface; wood, metal, posts, railings and more.

Should a bin get damage and become unusable we replace it at no cost. Each bin is designed to hold a prepaid mailer insert, so when the discarded baits are placed into the bin they fall directly into the mailer. When the bin/mailer is full, the locking hinged lid is simply opened using a provided security screw bit. The mailer is removed, placed in the outgoing mail and sent to us for data recording (i.e.: weight of plastic to be recycled, amount of trash or any non-soft plastics, etc...) There is no need to handle the discarded soft plastics, only remove the prepaid mailer insert and add new one in its place.

We also place a logo of the ReBaits® participants' choice on the bin to help promote their organization and show their involvement in this conservation initiative. This has proven to bring attention to organizations in a positive way, leading to articles, videos, social media and other media means to promote awareness and bring attention your organization. There is also a very clear and easily understood message that reads, "Used Soft Plastics Only, No Trash Please".

Mission

We record the data on the baits before packing them in EPA approved containers and sending them off to our recycling partner. Who then removes all the scents, glitter, salt, etc.. And turns them into a material used in the coating of power lines. Recycling of baits on a large scale is very costly and difficult to do.

We record the data of the discarded baits collected because this is one of the first times actual data of this kind is being tracked and analyzed. A necessity showing that anglers are hyperaware on how to sustain a fragile environment we care so much about. Anglers want future generations to enjoy the environment as we did and that is why we clean up after ourselves and recycle when possible.

Not For Profit - 501(C)3

Since we are in the process of completing our filing to be an official Not-For-Profit organization, ReBaits® does not financially support itself from the bins or the collection/recycling service. We provided each manufactured high quality bin well below the cost to fabricate one; we sell them for \$30 and pass along the costs we pay for shipping, sorting and recycling of the baits. ReBaits® sustains itself financially through grants, donations and sponsorships.



PF

OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION

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OHA Position Statement on Delisting of the Gray Wolf (*Canis lupus*) <8-6-15>

Chair Finley, Commissioners, Director Melcher

For the record I am Ken McCall, Field Director for Oregon Hunters Association

The Oregon Hunters Association (OHA) is fully supporting the recommendations made in the Oregon Wolf Conservation and Management Plan. Our organization represents close to 11,000 members from 26 chapters across Oregon. We are the core voice for Oregon sportsmen, committed to wise conservation of wildlife, their habitat, and our rights as hunters. We jointly care about the future of all wildlife and the citizens who wish to enjoy hunting. It is apparent that wolves will be a part of the future of hunting in Oregon. Years ago we agreed to support the wolf plan because it gave consideration to our recreational interests to hunt deer, elk, and several other species that are prey for wolves. This consideration involves established minimum wolf population parameters that allow wolves to succeed, yet maintain opportunities for other citizen interests in our state, such as big game hunting.

The fundamental scientific criteria for delisting wolves calls for 4 breeding packs to successfully rear 2 or more pups for 3 successive years. This criteria has been met and exceeded in Eastern Oregon as of the 2014 annual surveys conducted by ODFW. As the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission adopted the Wolf Plan we fully expected to support the implementation of this plan's 3 phased approach to management. The plan outlines specific and cautious conservation measures for this species in Oregon.

The plan calls for these animals to be very carefully monitored and protected as we move through the three sequential phases, regardless of the listed status.

According to ODFW survey information, as of the end of 2014 and at a minimum counted number, there were 9 known "successful breeding pairs" of wolves in Oregon. Eight of nine packs are in Northeast Oregon and one pack is in the Southern Cascade Mountains. In addition there are, at least, another 6 known wolf pairs with one of those also occurring in Southern Oregon. The distribution potential, considering reproduction and dispersal, is well established to fill in remaining habitats in the state. In sum it is obvious that wolves are thriving in Oregon, particularly Eastern Oregon, and that they are entering into a phase II of management consideration in that part of the state. The Oregon Hunters Association wishes to commend ODFW on their successful and scientific monitoring of this species re-establishment in Oregon. We feel strongly that it is time to remove gray wolves from the endangered species list of Oregon and progress through the sequential management phases laid out in the Oregon Wolf Plan!



Association of Northwest Steelheaders

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Established 1960

August 5, 2015

Michael Finley, Chair
Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife Commission
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, Oregon, 97302

RE: Unmanaged Forage Fish Protection

As anglers, we greatly appreciate Oregon's leadership within the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) establishing protections for currently unmanaged forage fish. These forage species contribute significantly to the Pacific Ocean's prey base – and support our treasured salmon, steelhead, and other sport fisheries.

Now it is time to focus on Oregon's territorial waters which contain critical habitats for many forage species. California and Washington have already taken significant action in their territorial waters. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is preparing to do the same and has the opportunity to do it better by building on the solution provided by the PFMC.

We encourage the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to make completing unmanaged forage fish protections under the Marine Fisheries Management Plan Framework a priority.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to a vibrant and productive Pacific Ocean.

Sincerely,

Joyce Sherman
Lincoln City, OR

Bill Kirkpatrick
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Russ Sumida
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