



# **Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife**

External Budget Advisory Committee Meeting – March 29, 2016

2017-19 Budget Preparation Public Input



## 2016 External Budget Advisory Committee Member List

| Name                                  | Association                                               |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Al Elkins</b>                      | Oregon Hunters Association                                |
| <b>Alan Unger/Tony DeBone</b>         | Deschutes County Commissioner                             |
| <b>Amanda Rich/Jena Carter</b>        | The Nature Conservancy of Oregon                          |
| <b>Bob Bumstead</b>                   | Restoration and Enhancement Board Member                  |
| <b>Bob Oleson/Norm Ritchie</b>        | NW Steelheaders Association                               |
| <b>Bob Sallinger/Sue Marshall</b>     | Audubon Society of Portland                               |
| <b>Bob Webber</b>                     | Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission                       |
| <b>Brad Pettinger</b>                 | Oregon Trawl Commission                                   |
| <b>Carl Swartz</b>                    | Oregon Bow Hunters                                        |
| <b>Cary Johnson</b>                   | Salmon For All                                            |
| <b>Chuck Smith</b>                    | Former Access & Habitat Board Chair                       |
| <b>Dave Wiley</b>                     | Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation                             |
| <b>Doug Nichol</b>                    | Oregon Trappers Association                               |
| <b>George Houston</b>                 | Foundation for North American Wild Sheep                  |
| <b>Hugh Link</b>                      | Oregon Dungeness Crab Commission                          |
| <b>Jack Morby</b>                     | Angling Education Association                             |
| <b>Jake Gibbs</b>                     | Lone Rock Timber Company                                  |
| <b>Jennifer Dressler</b>              | Oregon Farm Bureau                                        |
| <b>Jim Morrell</b>                    | Access and Habitat Chair                                  |
| <b>Jim Myron</b>                      | Deschutes River Alliance                                  |
| <b>Joe Rohleder</b>                   | Seafood Oregon                                            |
| <b>Kari Westlund</b>                  | Travel Lane County                                        |
| <b>Ken Hand</b>                       | Mule Deer Foundation                                      |
| <b>Kristina McNitt</b>                | Oregon Forest Industries Council                          |
| <b>Larry Sowa</b>                     | Former Clackamas County Commissioner/State Representative |
| <b>Lin Howell/Richard Bertellotti</b> | Salmon Trout Advisory Committee                           |
| <b>Liz Hamilton/George Okulitch</b>   | Northwest Sportfishing Industry Association               |
| <b>Lonnie Johnson</b>                 | Warmwater Working Group                                   |
| <b>Mark Labhart</b>                   | Tillamook County Commissioner                             |
| <b>Marla Rae</b>                      | The Rae Group                                             |

| <b>Name</b>                      | <b>Association</b>                                  |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Matt Markee</b>               | Markee and Associates                               |
| <b>Nancy Fitzpatrick</b>         | Oregon Salmon and Albacore Commissions              |
| <b>Norbert Hartmann</b>          | Oregon Cattlemen's Association                      |
| <b>Peggy Lynch</b>               | League of Women Voters of Oregon                    |
| <b>Quinn Read</b>                | Defenders of Wildlife                               |
| <b>Richard Angstrom</b>          | Oregon Concrete & Aggregate Producers Association   |
| <b>Richard Haines</b>            | Baker County Hunter Education Coordinator           |
| <b>Rod Moore</b>                 | West Coast Seafood Processors Association           |
| <b>Ryan Gordon</b>               | Network of Oregon Watershed Councils                |
| <b>Selina Heppell</b>            | Oregon State University                             |
| <b>Shawn Miller/Dana Roberts</b> | Coastal Conservation Association – Oregon           |
| <b>Stan Steele</b>               | Mckenzie Guides Association, Oregon Outdoor Council |
| <b>Stephen Kafoury</b>           | Oregon Chapter of the Wildlife Society              |
| <b>Steve Fick</b>                | Fishhawk Fisheries, Inc.                            |
| <b>Steve Williams</b>            | Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission          |
| <b>Terry Thompson</b>            | Lincoln County Commissioner                         |
| <b>Tim Greseth</b>               | Oregon Wildlife                                     |
| <b>Tom Byerley</b>               | Four Corners Shooting Range                         |
| <b>Tom Wolf</b>                  | Trout Unlimited                                     |
| <b>Tony Meeker</b>               | Oregon Anglers                                      |

Paul Siebert  
Cathy Connolly  
Captain Jeff Samuels

Legislative Fiscal Office (LFO)  
Chief Financial Office (CFO) Department of Administrative Services  
Oregon State Police

**Interested parties:**

Adam Meyer  
Bill Kremers  
Bob Rees  
Christy Splitt  
Fred Craig  
Fred VanNatta  
Gil Riddell  
Kimberley Priestley  
Lindsay Ball  
Rod Sando  
Susan Morgan  
Trey Carskadon

## March 29, 2016 Meeting Notes

The Ways and Means subcommittee focused on real-time budgeting. How will we address this and monitor in real-time? *Bill will address this later in the presentation.*

Cost has gone up with PERS, fees, etc. How can you reduce fees in 2019 without cutting program? *The strategy is alternative funding. We are also looking at ways to increase and diversify public participation.*

What is status of 3315 (Charging agencies for fee-funded input). *Will give an update later in the presentation.*

For the sheep capture, how many people are ODFW employees' vs other agencies? *It is mostly ODFW, but there are some volunteers.*

Do you see any wolf depredation with any Bighorn Sheep? *None are documented at this point. Other states haven't documented on this either. Sheep tend to live in rockier habitats. Wolves mostly focus on deer and elk.*

How does climate change affect fisher? Should they be put back where they used to be? Is that where they would/should be? *So far, climate change is not a threats to fisher according to USFWS. Threats have been highway corridors and herbicides use in the area.*

Are we trying to get ahead on research for red fox, fisher, bats, etc.? It appears they are unfunded needs. Where is funding currently coming from? *Funding is currently from a combination of SWG and PR. There is some match coming from license funded staff. But, yes, some are unfunded mandates. Some are in response to USWFS findings, but some are to look ahead.*

How are we doing with the predator management bill (HB 2182)? When will the report to Legislature be? *ODFW will provide an update in May with a final report in Sept. We are on track to meet the deadlines.* Is there a POP to move this forward in future? *Not at this time.* I thought the understanding was to come forward with a funding proposal in future (POP request).

I don't see cougar management objectives and how it affects the deer population. *ODFW has implemented cougar target areas to address these concerns. We have seen mixed results. There are no results for deer at this time; only for elk. We are having discussions on what the appropriate level of cougar population is.* You need to ask for other resources to help with this-- (licensing, need boots on the ground). *ODFW target areas address the current concerns. We have many options: year round season, multiple tags, lowered price of tags. There isn't much more we can do without focus areas— which we are already doing. But, this isn't cheap.* This is a political issue that is hard to move forward. Some of it is due to lack of understanding the true need of predator management.

During the wolf and cougar plan review, if it's determined that we need to be doing more, is it possible to requests POP's later in the process? *Now is the time to submit POP's. Once budget is submitted in Sept, it's too late for ODFW to propose anything. Unfortunately, the plans won't be that far along to propose something in time.*

When POPs are considered, do you look for an internal budget first before requesting these or reprioritize the workload? *Yes, we've looked to do that, but when we try and cut, we've been told by*

*others that we can't cut it. Some have been identified as audit issues- unfunded mandates. We would likely have to cut staff. We have made changes, when appropriate.*

GTM: ODFW is partnering with ODFW on research for wildlife species which will help reduce costs and leverage federal funding. OSU has expertise in population modeling that could help with the questions regarding effective strategies for population control

What is ODFW's responsibility in relation to drought issues? *Last year was the hottest year on record and so far it's continuing this year. ODFW pulled together some temporary rules related to the fishing regulations which stopped fishing at 2PM in order to not handle fish in hottest time of day. Currently, we working on an approach/decision framework which will allow us to consider different alternatives—a more thoughtful approach with early discussions so we aren't so reactionary.* What Division has a role on agricultural use, WRD issues, etc. *ODFW's focus in on its own water use. Agency needs to identify climate change resilient assets. We are working with WRD on some in-stream water rights in Eastern Oregon. ODFW is a partner on some water committees. Currently, there is no state vision for climate change and drought.*

How many new instream water rights does ODFW plan on applying for in next 4 years? *I'm not sure of exact number right now. Discussions are being had, but it is challenging a lot of streams are over allocated. We are also aware of the need for municipal water rights – there is a need for balance.*

How is ODFW doing on the creation of the regulations app? *It's not where we'd like to be. It requires a big meta-database. Currently, it's being tested to address some glitches. Simplifying the fishing regulations set us back a bit—needed to input the latest version of the regulations. Eventually we hope it will lead to the ability to better monitor harvest real-time.*

Can you give us an update on the trophy fishery? *The priority is a trophy trout pilot. All are on track with production levels. We're also looking at some trophy/reward system. The results are that it is a zero-sum gain by stocking trophies because there are fewer overall fish stocked.*

Do you plan to increase the trout production if there is a zero sum gain due to trophy trout? It seems like we would want to increase production to increase revenue. *There is no POP proposed for additional funds to increase production at this time.*

Numbers are equally important to having a fish at the end of your line. Should not have larger fish versus having fewer fish.

The problem with a lot of the hatchery is infrastructure issues. You need additional resources to address this. *ODFW is not proposing an enhanced license requests for this since we just did the fee cycle. We will have to look at alternative funding for this need. The focus is to get us through the fee cycle without enhancing program.*

How is participating in offshore energy work, marine coastal planning, harmful algae blooms? *Ed gave update on these topics. We will be better monitoring these blooms (POP). For ocean energy there is a move toward wind energy (away from wave). We can be seen as a hindrance because we advocate for the fisheries and habitat. We're working on spatial planning.*

B-run Steelhead seems to be crashing. How does this play a role in US v Oregon? *This is a constraining component to ESA stocks. It is an important piece to tribes (gill netters). This will be driver in many tribal*

*discussions to make sure there is enough in B-run. The US v OR agreement will mostly be the same as the last with the exception of the B-run steelhead. This will play out over next year and a half.*

Hunting organizations provide a lot of equipment for OSP- scopes, trail cams, GPS, etc. It doesn't seem right to reach out to hunting organizations to fund these. Does OSP have budget to purchase these? *We have a limited budget but can't always provide all the tools necessary. We try to leverage dollars, when possible. Most of the OSP budget is for personal services, so we don't have necessary resources.*

How much of trooper time is spent outside of Fish and Wildlife related activities and how does that balance out? *OSP has always had General Funds, but the amount increased this biennium. If other incident arise, we deal with them. The time is commensurate with the GF. We track our time.*

I see a lot less inland fishery enforcement coverage. Should we get the union behind more people in the field? *OSP will likely not get a cadet program back. Not being armed in the same line of work is a liability. A&H allows retirees to patrol areas. We are filling vacancies now, so you should see more people on the ground than you've seen recently. We're trying to implement efficiencies, too. Patrol troopers also assist towards fish and wildlife issues.*

Do you feel fines imposed on poachers are equal to time spent on cases? *Fines were recently increased for restitution. As a reminder, citation revenue goes into the General Fund. Restitution goes to offset the cost.*

GTM: If poaching kills more deer than legal hunting, then it is potentially a greater problem than cougar/wolf predation and likely more controllable.

Is OTTIS going to be shared with other state agencies? *No, it's really geared towards ODFW workflow needs. More things will be tracked than will be billable. Will help us tell our story.*

I have heard other agencies feel they will be able to bill ODFW for work they do. Have you factored this in? *There is no regulatory link that other agencies be required to provide comment in any ODFW process. We do not expect any other agency to be able to bill us. We don't want to squelch collaboration with other agencies.*

Why did the Task Force get some no votes on Senate side? *We aren't sure. Some feel it should be a more efficient agency and they should live within their means.*

The assignment of the Task Force was to look at ODFW's mission. In discussion with funding, a discussion should be had regarding what should be funded in the future.

Will any other Legislator be added to Task Force since two are exiting? *Not at this time. ODFW is not advocating either way.*

You need to remember the intent of the Task Force. We can't be everything to everybody. You need to decide what will be funded and what is important (prioritize actions and allocations).

Do you capture analytical data for the poachers (that account for 13% of mule deer mortality) - similar to license data analytics? Could this be a source of new license holders? *We can look into this.*

Statewide projections are below CSL. What does it mean to ODFW? *We'll get to that.*

*A reminder that budget instructions for 15-17 were to not ask for more than ~10% increase in GF. However, ODFW chose to ask for a significantly higher amount. If we didn't ask, we wouldn't have received it. 17-19 budget direction does not have any restriction on GF ask amount.*

Where is Fed Excise tax going down? *PR is expected to be down by ~\$2 million.*

How much vetting has been done on POP's internally? *This list is our first go-round. Some continuation POP's are there because they were considered one-timers, so they need to be asked for again.*

How can you justify eight extra staff to deal with wolves? *There are a lot of wolves across the east. We are hearing that we need to do more. [Based on this input, the Department reduced this POP request to 4 FTE positions.]*

For fisher, condor, etc., is there a prioritization on what we have to address? Which one should be funded first, later, etc. *Fisher are happening now--landowners are signing onto projects. The condor release should be still a few years out due to NEPA clearance. There is a chance that condors will come as a fully protected species, instead of trying to establish an experimental population.*

How many hours are projected for OSP Winter Range enforcement? *About 1,000 for the biennium.*

Why are you requesting seven Marine Resources staff for General Funds? *That is the amount of what it takes to do the research. This includes a coastal economist and an ODFW stock assessor, which we need because we currently rely on the federal stock assessor. It's uncertain if we will get these, but this is what we need.*

Are there any partners identified or location for Newport facility? *We are just starting to explore this idea.*

There are no POPs on marine mammal proposed for coastal streams? I would like to see research continued for these. You need to make ask as part of ARB, not alternative funding. It sends a message that it's not a priority. *[Based on this input, the Department is submitted a POP to expand the Marine Mammal Program.]*

I don't see any POP for the hatchery infrastructure. *There is no POP for hatchery maintenance, but Administration is proposing a general deferred maintenance ask to start addressing the SOS audit issues. It's nowhere near the amount it needs to be. Some issues can be addressed using R&E funds.*

Peggy voiced support for all continuation POP's. ODFW needs to use the Governor's 5 focus points to determine asks.

When we were advocating for fee increase, we told our constituents that we were going to have predator management, trophy trout, etc. I don't see any POP's for these items. We understand that these don't have current funding, so a POP should be submitted. I don't see any POP's to make fishing better. I don't see a POP for fish and wildlife predators. *The predator bill directed ODFW to see if we needed to create a predator plan. We are looking into the need. We are ready to give update at next committee hearing. We are maintaining our commitment in our long-term funding and to not need a fee increase. Alternative funding should be able to free up license dollars for some of the things they should be spent on. Our current POPs are aggressive for the State's current funding outlook. This doesn't mean*

*that others can't propose funding options through other processes. A lot of the predator issue is about policy, not funding. [Based on this input, the Department has submitted a POP to expand trophy trout production at Clackamas hatchery.]*

ODFW has a high number of Town Hall meetings with constituents--greater than any other agency. When looking for cost reductions, you could look towards this. But, they are also valuable. However, others feel ODFW getting out to the communities are critical to landowners, for example. *We have already reduced the number of town halls we hold.*

For the increased license amount, none of those funds could be reverted to increased fishing opportunities or predator management?

Page 26 in White Paper—could a forecast for 2016 and 2017 be done? *[This was provided to EBAC the following week]*

Are there things we can do to change regulatory things to increase participation? *Work with your legislators and the OFWC.*

Of 24% of new customers, do we know how many are repeat customers in the future? *We know that new customer drop-out rate is high—they went with friend, went with guide, etc.*