



Exhibit F
Joe Lieberzeit

Mr. Michael Finley, Chair
Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, OR 97302

June 7, 2017

Dear Chair Finley and ODFW Commission,

RE: Exhibit F: Commercial Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Fisheries Regulations

The Audubon Society of Portland, representing over 15,000 members across the state of Oregon supports ODFW's proposed rule to limit landings of anchovy caught in the Columbia River to 5 metric tons per day and 10 metric tons per week. These limits will reduce the chance for depletion of these local stocks in the Columbia River, Columbia Estuary and offshore "plume".

The Columbia River Estuary is an Audubon designated "Important Bird Area". In recent years, annual seabird and marine mammal strip-transect counts have been conducted by NOAA Fisheries and Oregon State University, and consistently record high numbers of seabirds¹ in these waters. Sooty Shearwaters and Common Murres have typically been the numerically dominant seabird species surveyed. It is not uncommon to observe anywhere between 1,000 and over 10,000 Sooty Shearwaters between April and September in the vicinity of the river mouth and plume². California gulls, Brown Pelicans, Caspian Terns, Heerman's Gulls, Double-crested Cormorants, Pelagic Cormorants, and Brandt's Cormorants also frequent these waters in spring, summer and fall. Marbled Murrelet and Rhinoceros Auklet are occasionally observed in the plume. Marbled Murrelets are a listed species under both the federal and Oregon State Endangered Species Act.

East Sand Island is another Important Bird Area adjacent to the Columbia River Estuary, and harbors the world's largest Caspian Tern nesting colony. East Sand Island also had supported the largest Double-crested Cormorant breeding colony on the West Coast although the recent killing of cormorants on this colony has placed its status in jeopardy.

¹ Zamon, J.E., et al., Marine bird aggregations associated with the tidally-driven plume and plume fronts of the Columbia River. *Deep-Sea Res. II* (2013), <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.dsr2.2013.03.031>

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Because northern anchovy spawn in the Columbia River plume and are the most common prey item found in murre and shearwaters², anchovy are hugely important for seabirds and other piscivorous birds in this system.

As noted by ODFW, a spike in anchovy landings in the Summer of 2016 (well beyond the Annual Catch Target) became a source of concern for fishery managers and a variety of stakeholders, including Portland Audubon. We thank ODFW for their precautionary approach to limiting the amount of anchovy that can be landed from the Columbia River and its estuary. This is especially important since the northern subpopulation of northern anchovy has never been formally assessed³ so next to nothing is known about this sub-population's population size or trend.

This new rule will help ensure that we reduce bycatch of other species while leaving enough anchovy in the water as food for this hugely important area for birds, for marine mammals, and for salmon and steelhead. We ask that the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission adopt the Columbia River Anchovy Fishery Trip Limits rule at its June 2017 meeting.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Joe Liebezeit, MS
Avian Conservation Program Manager
Audubon Society of Portland

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Liebezeit', with a stylized, cursive script.

² Richardson, S.L. 1980. Spawning biomass and early life of Northern Anchovy, *Engraulis mordax*, in the northern sub-population off Oregon and Washington, Fish. Bull. 78: 855-876.

³ From: Pacific Fishery Management Council agenda Item E.2.a Stock Assessment Workshop Report September 2016 (pg. 3). Available here: http://www.pcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/E2a_Workshop_Rpt_SEPT2016BB.pdf

exhibit F
Robert Hayden

Michelle Tate

From: Robert Hayden <RHayden@pewtrusts.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 8, 2017 12:05 PM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Public comment re: Exhibit F - Commercial Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Fisheries Regulations
Attachments: 20170608 - Exhibit F - ODFW Commission - Anchovy Petition.pdf

Dear Chair Finley, ODFW Commissioners and staff,

I am writing to submit a petition circulated at the Newport Farmer's Market on Saturday, May 20th. The petition includes 38 signers supporting the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's proposed regulations establishing new limits for northern anchovy caught by commercial fishing vessels in the Columbia River.

The language is attached here, along with a compilation of all of the names, cities, and home states of the individual signers.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate the opportunity to work with you to maintain sustainable fisheries and healthy ocean ecosystems.

-Bobby

Bobby Hayden
Senior Associate, U.S. Oceans - Pacific
The Pew Charitable Trusts
503-230-6949 (office) - 971.803.1559 (cell)
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June 8, 2017

Mr. Michael Finley, Chair
Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, Oregon 97302

Exhibit F: Commercial Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Fisheries Regulations

Dear Chair Finley and Commissioners,

The Pew Charitable Trusts can confirm 38 signers on a petition supporting the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's proposed regulations establishing new limits for northern anchovy caught by commercial fishing vessels in the Columbia River. The petition was circulated at the Newport Farmer's Market on Saturday, May 20th.

The petition language is included here, along with a compilation of all of the names, cities, and home states of the individual signers.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We appreciate the opportunity to work with you to maintain sustainable fisheries and healthy ocean ecosystems.

Bobby Hayden
Senior Associate, U.S. Oceans, Pacific
The Pew Charitable Trusts
rhayden@pewtrusts.org

June 8, 2017

Let's Protect Oregon's Anchovy

RE: Exhibit F: Commercial Coastal Pelagic Species (CPS) Fisheries Regulations

To the Oregon Fish & Wildlife Commission,

I write in support of the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife's (ODFW) proposed regulations to establish new limits for northern anchovy caught by commercial fishing vessels in the Columbia River.

Northern anchovies are among the most important forage fish in the Pacific Ocean, serving as a critical food source for salmon, tuna, brown pelicans, humpback whales, and dozens of other marine species.

As noted by ODFW, the magnitude of recent anchovy landings is a source of concern for fishery managers and a variety of stakeholders, including many in the fishing industry, recreational fishermen, and conservation groups. I applaud ODFW's common-sense and precautionary approach to limiting the amount of anchovy that can be landed from the Columbia River and its estuary. This new rule will help ensure that we reduce bycatch of other species while leaving enough anchovy in the water as food for our treasured salmon, steelhead, whales, and seabirds. I ask that you adopt the Columbia River Anchovy Fishery Trip Limits rule at your June 2017 meeting.

Sincerely,

We the undersigned.

Vicki Baker
Newport, Oregon

Angel Jimenez
Newport, Oregon

Bob Kelly
Logsdon, Oregon

Catherine Briggs
Newport, Oregon

Desiree Morgan
Depoe Bay, Oregon

Larry Beggs
Newport, Oregon

Tara Stafford
Culver, Oregon

Kelly Haiser
Newport, Oregon

Mike Miller
Depoe Bay, Oregon

Maggie Blake
Newport, Oregon

Laura Seager
Newport, Oregon

Anthony Herman
Salem, Oregon

Michael Fernandez
Seal Rock, Oregon

Mo Girard
Waldport, Oregon

Steve Schwartz
Newport, Oregon

Amber Subialdea
Toledo, Oregon

Michelle Matthews
Newport, Oregon

Julie Garner
Newport, Oregon

Jamee Ogle
Newport, Oregon

Frances Ohalloran
Newport, Oregon

John Rogers
Logsdan, Oregon

Jeffrey Lichtman
Newport, Oregon

Marissa Fraser
Newport, Oregon

Mia Fraser
Newport, Oregon

Cheryl Lee
Newport, Oregon

Jennifer Siler
Portland, Oregon

Robert Parks
Newport, Oregon

Katherine Duzik
Waldport, Oregon

MaryAnn Beggs
Newport, Oregon

Keegan Small
Newport, Oregon

Emy Syrop
Newport, Oregon

Jeff Syrop
Newport, Oregon

Chloe Jergilski
Seal Rock, Oregon

River Benson
Seal Rock, Oregon

Tom Rumpf
Brunswick, Maine

Mary Lynn Gregson
Seaside, Oregon

S. Smtih
Newport, Oregon