

Exhibit D

**Public Correspondence
received as of
July 19, 2022**

From: [Mona Derby](#)
To: [COMMISSION ODFW * ODFW](#)
Subject: Disabled Anglers and Hunters Licenses
Date: Thursday, February 17, 2022 1:33:35 PM

Hello,

I believe I have a unique viewpoint on the opportunities available for disabled individuals to participate in outdoor recreation, particularly hunting and angling. I spent some quality time in Corvallis, twice, to be afforded the opportunity to work as a fisheries biologist for federal agencies. I was also a longtime interpretive forest ranger on a national monument. This position's public outreach taught me that people with able minds and bodies can consider what activity is next in their outdoor adventures; people who do not possess able bodies and minds are thinking about getting through one activity before they need to go lay down.

Rather disappointingly, I am no longer able to struggle against a chronic neurological illness, so I am disabled. I now consider what I can do outside before I need to go lay down. How much energy do I need to: gather my gear, get myself dressed, put fuel in my car, drive to a trail head, get geared up, and then amble how far, over what terrain? I go with "Sticks," my trekking poles that my doctor says look less disabled—more REI Nerd. By this time, I barely care to secure a fly or new tippet after my twenty minute rest. I am happy only to be there. The time I spend in the creek is overshadowed by my anxiety about not using too much treasured energy to get back up to my rig and safely drive an hour home. I say "an hour" because I get too tired to drive more than one hour at a time.

I never did work for ODFW, although I did write the Spring Fishing Forecast during an internship one year. Everyone there was really nice and very helpful. This makes me wonder why the disabled fishing license option is no longer available to encourage people to get outside, if only to go through the motions of going fishing—just gearing up and getting to the water!

Pardon this lengthy message, I am trying to get my point across, as I said at the beginning of this letter. Not for brevity's sake, I ask again, why are the free, or reduced, hunting and fishing licenses no longer available to a population of people who are twice as likely to have started out life in poverty and/or found themselves there because they can not work?

Also, why does the free permit have three such hard-ass, specific conditions that require a doctor's signature? Is this in case disabling conditions aren't enough, we need to make a special trip to take up more of our health care provider's precious little time? Why not accept a letter from the US Social Security Administration that is based on decades of one's medical records gathered from multiple medical professionals?

If my empirical evidence is not too striking, I did take this snippet of a 2018 article to be supportive of my lived experience with its statistics.

'One in four U.S. adults – 61 million Americans – have a disability that impacts major life activities, according to a report in CDC's [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report](#).

The most common disability type, mobility, affects 1 in 7 adults. With age, disability becomes more common, affecting about 2 in 5 adults age 65 and older.

"At some point in their lives, most people will either have a disability or know someone who has a one," said Coleen Boyle, Ph.D., director of CDC's National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities. "Learning more about people with disabilities in the United States can help us better understand and meet their health needs."

—Six types of disability measured—

Using data from the 2016 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), this is the first CDC report of the percentage of adults across six disability types:

- Mobility (serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs)
- Cognition (serious difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions)
- Hearing (serious difficulty hearing)
- Vision (serious difficulty seeing)
- Independent living (difficulty doing errands alone)
- Self-care (difficulty dressing or bathing)

While this article only lists disability categories, from the highest to lowest percentage, among the US population, who is disabled, it points out the need to recognize disability is not definitive. Especially not as defined as the three categories used for the free permit or for a percent determination to only military service veterans.

A 2016 finding of 1 in 4 individuals, or 61 million people, in the US living with limiting disabilities, must be much higher in 2022 after what we are experiencing. With fisheries and wildlife conservation and enforcement funding being the revenue from taxes levied on fishing tackle, firearms, ammunition, waders, boating permits, tags and licenses, I propose that the falling numbers of sportspersons might line up with the trend of the ever increasing number of people with disabilities. You know, that is right—hunters and fishers are aging out. If ODFW wants to increase tax revenues for programatic funds, then be inclusive of the biggest minority community in the world.

Let us know you care about us getting outside. We will stupidly spend money we don't have at Bi-Mart and Sportsman's Warehouse. Just stop coming across as mean, suspicious, hard-asses in a regulation seemingly written **against** individuals with disabilities. That makes me think we are not supposed to get out there. If I had read that no disability license exists, I would not have written; since I felt like I was trying to steal something upon reading about this conciliatory permit—I am insulted and angry.

Thank you, commissioners, for your volunteer service to Oregon, the preservation of her great F&W resources, and your kind consideration of my heated ramblings.

Sincerely,

Mona Derby

Oregon State University grad-

Fisheries Science—2001

Fisheries and Wildlife Administration—2018

March 2, 2022

ODFW

Attn: Curt Melcher, Director
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, OR 97302

Dear Mr. Melcher:

I am an 84-year-old Oregonian who has enjoyed fishing for a long time. I recently gave serious consideration to trying steelhead and/or salmon fishing, which I had not done for a long time. Before buying the required extra tag, I picked up a copy of the "Sport Fishing Regulations" to read.

I live very near the Rogue River, so I focused on regulations there. By the time I understood all the appropriate stretches of the river, the different rules pertaining to each (wild/hatchery, barb/barbless, bag limits, bait/lure, how the line must be rigged, fishing restrictions) segment of the Rogue, I have decided NOT to pursue salmon or steelhead!

Why would I pay an extra \$46 to be legal, but have to worry about running afoul of one or more rules or restrictions, because I couldn't memorize all of them? Isn't there some way that you could make it a little easier to understand, without all the "see restrictions, page 42" and "see exceptions, page 84" and "see salmon/steelhead bobber rule" and "see anti-snagging gear restriction"?

By the time I read all that, I was exhausted!

Sincerely,



Ex-fisherman Robert Loose
1875 Marcy Loop Rd
Grants Pass, OR 97527

From: [Wayne](#)
To: [COMMISSION ODFW * ODFW](#)
Subject: Fishing License
Date: Wednesday, March 16, 2022 6:27:43 AM

Why aren't fishing licenses valid for 12 months from date of purchase? It would be an easy change and would benefit the public as well as generate additional revenue for the state. There have been years where I did not purchase a license because I thought it wasn't worth it for the remaining months during the year.

- Wayne

KINGSLEY Lisa M * ODFW

From: Randall K. Davis <randiculator@hotmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, June 12, 2022 7:56 AM

To: HEATH Corey * ODFW <Corey.HEATH@odfw.oregon.gov>

Subject: Proposed closure of Fall River spawning habitat

I support seasonal closure of the specified area to protect Red Band Trout spawning habitat in Fall River.

Randall Davis

KINGSLEY Lisa M * ODFW

From: Spencer <scatotheresc@protonmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, July 5, 2022 3:43 PM

To: GEORGE Gerald J * ODFW <Gerald.J.GEORGE@odfw.oregon.gov>; HEATH Corey * ODFW <Corey.HEATH@odfw.oregon.gov>

Subject: Proposed seasonal closure

Hi,

I am a member of Central Oregon Flyfishers and understand that ODFW is considering a seasonal closure on the Fall River to protect spawning Redband Trout. I am writing to say that I would fully support this change.

Thank you for seeking feedback and for all the work you do to protect our fisheries.

Spencer Coe

Sent from Proton Mail for iOS