



## **Attachment 7**

**Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife**

**Public Correspondence Received by May 24, 2024**

**Commission Meeting**

**June 14, 2024**

Name:	Email Address:	Association (if any):	Please list the Policy Option Packages you feel are most important and timely for 2025-2027.	Would you prefer that the department request a fee adjustment beginning in 2026 or wait for 2028 when there is projected to be a more significant funding issue for License Funded programs, and the necessary fee adjustments may be larger?	Other Comments (if any):
Sristi Kamal	kamal@westernlaw.org	Western Environmental Law Center	Wildlife Coexistence POP, OCRF POP (but with increased allocation -- \$3 million), Wildlife Diversity and OCS Implementation POP, Wolf Monitoring and Management POP	Department requests a fee adjustment beginning in 2026.	
Jim Greer	coyotegreer@aol.com		The ODFW mission infers the agency is responsible to all Oregonians yet there is nothing in the POPs where I can see a concerted effort to connect with people that do not hunt or fish. The two closest POPs that could affect this are: web redesign and wildlife coexistence. Since there is no additional info regarding how additional funds will be used for each POP in this survey, I believe priorities should be given to the two mentioned above and those identified as "new": Wildlife diversity, OCRF Funding, GIS/App development, Wind Energy Siting coordinator.	Department requests a fee adjustment beginning in 2026.	I believe in 2015 there was a graduated fee increase over several years (6), yes? Could that be a strategy to use again? This survey is ultra limited to 2 questions. Can adjustments be made to POPs that we believe are to limited in scope or ask for too many FTE that may look like pie in the sky to the legislature or governor? What influence will the new Director have on this budget?
Lori Steele	lori.wcseafood@gmail.com	West Coast Seafood Processors Association	Wind Energy Siting Coordinator Chinook Production in Klamath Basin Whale Entanglement Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) Fish Science Data Management Hatchery Infrastructure Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund Fish and Wildlife Passage Infrastructure	Department requests a fee adjustment beginning in 2026.	Fee adjustments on the recreational side should be proportional/equivalent to fee adjustments on the commercial side.
chang heon lee	changlee@dayangseafoods.com		Hatchery Infrastructure	Department requests a fee adjustment beginning in 2026.	
Dylan Kruse	dkruse@sustainablenorthwest.org		Klamath Reintroduction Monitoring Fish Screening Capacity in Klamath Basin Instream Water Rights and Land Use Resolution Fish and Wildlife Passage Infrastructure	Department requests a fee adjustment beginning in 2026.	
James Fraser	james.fraser@tu.org	Trout Unlimited	(1) Klamath Reintroduction Monitoring, (2) Fish Screening Capacity in Klamath Basin, (3) Chinook Production in Klamath Basin, (4) Salmon and Steelhead Research, (5) Private Forest Accord Grant Program	Department requests a fee adjustment beginning in 2026.	
Steve Haganc	steven.d.hagan@gmail.com		Chronic Wasting Disease	Department requests a fee adjustment beginning in 2026.	Cervid ranch permits need to be adjusted so that the cost of covering the inspection of the business does not come out of license dollars
Dennis White	d1c1white@gmail.com	Friends of Otter Rock Marine Reserve	Wildlife conservation items, especially coastal habitats	Department requests a fee adjustment beginning in 2026.	
Andrea Kreiner	andrea.kreiner@oacd.org	Oregon Association of Conservation Districts	Natural Climate Solutions Fund, Private Forest Accord Grant Program, Wildlife Coexistence	Department requests a fee adjustment beginning in 2026.	
Cynthia Warnoc	cynthia.a.warnock@gmail.com	Landowner	If there has to be a cut I suggest you cut the new packages. Anything to do with salmon research I feel does not need to happen in that it has been going on for 25 years and the salmon runs are not improving.	Department requests a fee adjustment beginning in 2026.	
Brian Posewitz	brian@humanevotersoregon.org	Humane Voters Oregon	In order from list: wind energy; whale entanglement; habitat division; wildlife coexistence; ocrf; public records; fish and wildlife passage infrastructure	Department requests a fee adjustment beginning in 2026.	Please stop funding federal Wildlife Services beyond the statutory mandate. The program over-emphasizes lethal measures to address human-wildlife conflict and employs inhumane techniques.  Thank you for the opportunity to comment.
Jack Morby	morby517@aol.com	Angler Education	Hatchery Infrastructure, Regional Habitat Phase II/Fish Biologist, Debt Service for hatchery Infrastructure, Hatchery Inflation and Unfunded Production Commitments, Habitat Division Budget and Operations, Aquatic Invasive Species, Klamath District Watershed Manager, Chinook Production in Klamath Basin.	Department requests a fee adjustment beginning in 2026.	Licensing increases were discussed in earlier EBAC meetings to be increased on a regular basis based on past 5 or 10 year average inflation rates. I would like to see increases every budget cycle based on inflation. More frequent and smaller increases are more palatable.

Name:	Email Address:	Association (if any):	Please list the Policy Option Packages you feel are most important and timely for 2025-2027.	Would you prefer that the department request a fee adjustment beginning in 2026 or wait for 2028 when there is projected to be a more significant funding issue for License Funded programs, and the necessary fee adjustments may be larger?	Other Comments (if any):
Ellen Hammond	ellen.hammond@jeffswcd.org	Jefferson County SWCD	Natural Climate Solutions Fund	Department requests a fee adjustment beginning in 2026.	
Mark Rogers	marwrog@gmail.com	Oregon Council of Trout Unlimited	Klamath reintroduction monitoring Fish screening capacity in Klamath basin Chinook production in Klamath basin Salmon and steelhead research Private Forest Accord grant program	Department requests a fee adjustment beginning in 2026.	We encourage you to increase license fees as soon as possible.
Christopher Lapp	clapp@conservationdistrict.org	Partner	Instream Water Rights and Land Use Resolution; Natural Climate Solutions Fund; Wildlife Diversity; Hatchery Infrastructure; Wolf Monitoring and Management; Real Estate Management System Software; Abandoned Property Removal; Enhancing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion	Department requests a fee adjustment beginning in 2028, fee adjustments may be larger.	
Joe Liebezeit	jliebezeit@birdallianceoregon.org	Bird Alliance of Oregon	We heard there's a proposal to move service & supplies funds from the marine reserves program totaling about 250K. What impact will that have on fishing fleet that will depend on some of these funds for helping with ODFW monitoring and communities of impact for marine reserves		
Ian Giancarlo	igiancarlo@environmentoregon.org	Environment Oregon	If funding for the Marine Reserves supplies & services budget (AKA monitoring), which is statutorily mandated is cut, how will the agency carry out those mandates?		
Kent Doughty	kentdoughty@hotmail.com		Given the only area-based fishery model we have is in the MR program, how do we intend on monitoring to inform offshore wind onshoring?		
Steve Griffiths	sgoregon@gmail.com				Why do we need to create a new position to address offshore wind energy issues at this time? What do you hope to achieve by creating this position? What outcomes do you expect in the next biennium? Couldn't current energy staff meet this need?
Joe Liebezeit	jliebezeit@birdallianceoregon.org	Bird Alliance of Oregon	Instead of the offshore wind POP, why not continue to look for a Sea Grant fellow for 2025 to fill this role? It would save funds for use for other POPs that really need it.		
Jim Myron	myrons@canby.com				For any POP that requests a temporary program become permanent, there should first be a performance review and cost/benefit analysis completed to determine the likelihood of success of the program.
Karsyn Kendrick	karsyn@oregonlandtrusts.org	Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts	Funding for the Private Forest Accords Mitigation Grant Program Funding for the Natural Climate Solutions Fund Funding for the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund	Department requests a fee adjustment beginning in 2026.	No strong opinion on question #5, but its critical we continue to fund restoration and acquisition programs listed in question #4!
Jennifer Fairbrother	jennifer@nativefishsociety.org	Native Fish Society	Klamath Reintroduction Monitoring and Klamath Fish Screening are very timely with the removal of the dams and fish potentially recolonizing the upper basin within the coming year.  We're intrigued by the Fish Science Data Management and Salmon and Steelhead Research packages but require more information to understand what these would look like. There is a great need for improved data management and transparency and data collection on wild populations.		We're neutral on fee adjustment timing at this point. We are interested in potentially supporting new revenue streams for the department.  Look forward to learning more at the meeting on May 16. Thanks for making it interactive!
Sara E. Palmer	sarapalmer@coquilletribe.org	Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Coquille Indian Tribe			I am concerned to hear that ODFW has dropped plans to seek an NRS 4 archaeologist position for the Fish Division. CIT is engaged in considerable work with your agency which would be facilitated by an additional archaeologist in this position. I strongly encourage you to reconsider a funding request to support staffing this role in the 2025-27 agency budget.

Name:	Email Address:	Association (if any):	Please list the Policy Option Packages you feel are most important and timely for 2025-2027.	Would you prefer that the department request a fee adjustment beginning in 2026 or wait for 2028 when there is projected to be a more significant funding issue for License Funded programs, and the necessary fee adjustments may be larger?	Other Comments (if any):
Jane Bacchieri	jane@elakhaalliance.org	Elakha Alliance	Wildlife Biodiversity, Wildlife Coexistence, OR Conservation & Recreation Fund, Whale Entanglement	Department requests a fee adjustment beginning in 2026.	

Name:	Email Address:	Association (if any):	Question:
Shawn Miller	Shawn@MillerPublicAffairs.com	Coastal Conservation Association	With the passage of SB 1509 last session, will ODFW consider a placeholder POP for money to support a Gillnet buyback program which will occur in an interim work group.
David Moskowitz	David@theconservationangler.org	The Conservation Angler	Given the accelerated and limited budget process, how will ODFW be able to revise its proposed budget proposals regarding hatchery operations and modification that may come from the hatchery system assessment and evaluation?
Jason	Ke7cwg@gmail.com	None	Why am I paying full price for salmon troll permit and only get 1/4 season to fish. Chinook 8.00 a pound or coho for 3.00 . Your mismanagement of cougar is going to get someone hurt ! Oregon has no room for wolf's
Jason prophet	Ke7cwg@gmail.com	None	Why did Oregon fail to match Washington 10 million chinook feed for orca release in 2019 .Oregon failed by 8 million smolts
James Fraser	james.fraser@tu.org	Trout Unlimited	Will ODFW request funding for 2 additional fish biologists on the Klamath Fish Reintroduction effort (for a total of 4 staff bios)? Trout Unlimited would strongly support a POP with that, so Oregon can fully implement the reintroduction plan and related monitoring.
JamesFraser	james.fraser@tu.org	Trout Unlimited	Is funding for OCRF now a part of the agency's base budget, so that ODFW doesn't need to request funding for OCRF via POP? If not, will ODFW include a POP for OCRF?
James Fraser	james.fraser@tu.org	Trout Unlimited	What does the ARB include for "anti-poaching" funds that will be passed on to Oregon State Police in the next biennium? More specifically, does it include funds for any new equipment that would support OSP's anti-poaching efforts (such as image-stabilizing binoculars or night vision units)? Trout Unlimited wants Troopers to have the best, modern technology available for that important work.
Mark Stern	marksranes@gmail.com	private citizen	For informational purposes, I'd like to share with you that the ODFW POP for the Oregon Conservation & Recreation Fund for the current biennium was \$3M as endorsed by the ODFW Commission. The POP under consideration now for the upcoming biennium dropped to \$1M. OCRF provides grant funds in support of the Oregon Conservation Strategy, wildlife/nature-based viewing & recreation opportunities, and reaches out to under-represented communities to encourage their engagement in wildlife and recreation-based activities. The anticipated requests for funding from project applicants in the next biennium will likely be \$15M-\$20M. The present \$1M POP request will only fund about 5% of the anticipated need. OCRF funded projects typically have match, and with that match OCRF funds are able to leverage ODFW dollars significantly to further achieve goals of OCRF. Given the success of OCRF and the obvious need, would it be appropriate for ODFW to consider increasing the POP to \$3M as in the last biennium rather than dropping the POP to \$1M? Thank you.
Charlie Plybon	cplybon@surfrider.org	Surfrider Foundation on behalf of Oregon Ocean Alliance	HB 4132 established new mandates for ODFW's Marine Reserve Program and allocated an additional \$894K for the current biennium and creates an additional fiscal impact of \$1.14M and 3 FTE positions for the program in the 2025-27 biennium. How can constituents track this and the overall program budget within the coming biennium or will it be reflected with an additional POP?
Krystyna Wolniakowski	krystyna.wolniakowski@gorgecommission.org	Gorge Commission	Are the POPs presented by your divisions already flagged to move forward by Governor Kotek as part of the January 22 POP submission and now you are seeking public input? Will you add any other POPs if the public or your Commission requests them?
Sristi Kamal	kamal@westernlaw.org	Western Env Law Center/ Oregon Wildlife Coalition	OCRF is one of our priorities in ODFW's budget. In the last biennium, OCRF awarded about \$1 million per RFP and skipped one cycle. And even then, it represents only 25% of the total proposals that came in. 2023-2025 biennium the POP request was \$3 million. Why such a reduced ask this time when the demand is only increasing and OCS is one of the most underfunded areas of ODFW? How do we advocate to increase this allocation for a priority area for us to at least \$3million for this biennium?  Most of the current funding for OCRF is restricted funding, which while beneficial, doesn't allow OCRF to fully fulfill their original role of implementing the Oregon Conservation Strategy (OCS).
Liz Hamilton	Nsializ@aol.com	NSJA	Given the significant Federal funds supporting ODFW's mission and obligations is ODFW considering an assigned FTE to work with stakeholders and the Oregon delegation to ensure appropriate levels of Federal funds are secured?  The work ahead in the Columbia to support the Columbia Basin Restoration Initiative and the USG Commitments is even more intensive than negotiating the Stay of litigation. This work will not only protect fish and fisheries but will involve 100s of millions of investments in Oregon. Has ODFW budgeted the FTEs necessary to carry this work forward?  What funds are you seeking in response to SB 1509?
Joe Liebezeit	Jliebezeit@birdallianceoregon.org	Bird Alliance Oregon	is the 1.14M and 3 FTE for marine reserves in the current request to the Governor's office?
Oregon Ocean Alliance	cplybonshine@gmail.com	N/A	Are our online questions not being received? I'm with a coalition that has submitted several that apparently are not being received?



May 24, 2024

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission  
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE  
Salem, OR 97302  
[ODFW.Commission@odfw.oregon.gov](mailto:ODFW.Commission@odfw.oregon.gov)

**Re: Support for Certain 2025-2027 POPs (June 14, 2024 Meeting)**

Dear Chair Wahl, Vice-Chair Hatfield-Hyde, and Members of the Commission,

Trout Unlimited participates in the agency budget-building process at ODFW, and we greatly appreciate the Department's staff for providing related forums to stakeholders.

Based on our review of the 2025-2027 Proposed Policy Option Packages ("POPs") shared with the public, and our discussions about those POPs with Department staff, TU supports the following POPs in particular:

- Private Forest Accord Grant Program
- Instream Water Rights and Land Use Resolution
- Klamath Reintroduction Monitoring
- Fish Screening Capacity in Klamath Basin
- Chinook Production in Klamath Basin
- Salmon and Steelhead Research
- Habitat Division Budget and Operations
- Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund

TU strongly supports placing a high priority on the Klamath-related requests for new General Fund dollars in the next biennial budget. We agree with the Department's plan to rely on unassisted, natural repopulation of the upper basin by most salmonid species (as provided by the governing implementation plan), but we also support the effort to actively reintroduce spring Chinook. It is critical that ODFW monitor the progress of such reintroductions as provided by these POPs and past legislative investments. TU is working hard to prepare the upper basin for reintroduction of anadromous fish following dam-removal, and we look forward to continuing our collaboration with ODFW on those projects.

We also wish to highlight the importance of maintaining momentum at Habitat Division, which has grown tremendously in recent years and plays an essential role in protecting and restoring Oregon's aquatic ecosystems. The POPs for Habitat Division in our list (above) make important inroads to ensuring parity with the Fish and Wildlife Divisions, and efficiently carrying out the Division's significant work.

Thank you for considering these comments, and please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

James Fraser  
Oregon Policy Director  
Trout Unlimited  
[james.fraser@tu.org](mailto:james.fraser@tu.org)



April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

Dear Chair Wahl, Vice Chair Hatfield-Hyde, and members of the Commission

On behalf of the Oregon Wildlife Coalition – which includes Bird Alliance of Oregon, Cascadia Wildlands, Center for Biological Diversity, Defenders of Wildlife, Humane Society of the United States, Humane Voters Oregon, Oregon Wild, Western Environmental Law Center, and Willamette Riverkeepers – we are writing to share our interest and priorities in ODFW’s budget for the 2025-2027 biennium.

We fully appreciate the resource constraints the agency often has to operate under and will continue to advocate for better funding as well as consistent state funding source for ODFW. In the meanwhile, we wanted to share our priorities in the current budget proposed by the agency. Specifically:

**Wildlife Coexistence Package:** Originally proposed in the ODFW’s 2023-2025 Budget POP 113 (pp. 786-789), the Wildlife Coexistence Package is a meaningful investment in preventing and mitigating human-wildlife conflicts, inspiring wildlife stewardship, and building greater public awareness and responsibility through education about living with wildlife in communities across Oregon.

In the recent 2024 Oregon Legislative Session, the creation of a wildlife coexistence package was included in HB 4148, a larger wildlife omnibus bill. Unfortunately, while some portions of HB 4148 were funded at the end of the session, the wildlife coexistence package was not included in the funding. The reason we heard was that legislators felt it was more appropriate to be funded through the biennial budget process. It has tremendous support across a remarkably broad spectrum of stakeholders. We respectfully urge you to move it forward in the 2025-2027 biennium.

**Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund (OCRF):** OCRF is one of the very few initiatives in our state that pays equal emphasis on conservation and recreation and brings funds to implement the Oregon Conservation Strategy (OCS), our state’s wildlife action plan. ODFW by itself is very limited in funding OCS, so OCRF reduces this gap by funding projects from across the state, often led by local, grassroots group that further conservation and recreation in their communities.

Established by the legislature, OCRF has no funding source other than general funds and private individual donations to fulfill its original mission. In the 2023-2025 budget cycle, ODFW had asked for \$3 million toward OCRF. This biennium ODFW has reduced the ask to \$1 million. This is a major concern for us. In the last biennium OCRF awarded about \$1 million per grant cycle and even skipped one grant cycle and

this amount represents only about 25% of the total request that OCRF receives. There are typically four grant cycles in a biennium, at the very least, OCRF needs \$3 million to sustain its purpose.

OCRF has strong bipartisan support at the legislature and it is one of the few initiatives at ODFW that brings non-traditional partners together in agreement and support – from hunters to conservationists. We urge the Commission to increase the funding ask for OCRF to \$3 million.

**Predator Control:** ODFW’s budget has traditionally included “predator control” funding used to help pay for the federal “Wildlife Services” program in Oregon. (The 2023-25 budget includes \$816,240 for this purpose, including \$527,532 from general funds, \$120,000 of which is mandated by ORS 610.020.) Wildlife Services is a program in the U.S. Department of Agriculture that emphasizes killing of wildlife – often with cruel methods including neck snares, leghold traps, gassing and aerial gunning – to address human-wildlife conflict such as threats to farm animals and agricultural property. In the period ending June 30, 2022 (the most recent year for which we have data), Wildlife Services killed more than 120,000 animals in Oregon, including more than 2,500 coyotes, 210 black bears, 121 beavers and 60 mountain lions. This occurs even though science increasingly shows lethal approaches are not effective at reducing human-wildlife conflict. Funding beyond the statutorily mandated funding should be discontinued in 2025-27 budget in favor of programs that use humane methods and emphasize nonlethal approaches.

Lastly, we support the new POPs “**Wildlife Diversity and Oregon Conservation Strategy Implementation**” which includes 3 FTE and funding for the conservation of our state’s imperiled species. We also support the added funding to “**Wolf Monitoring and Management**” with a new FTE. These investments reflect an intent toward conservation of species in the state, as opposed to simply management.

If you have any questions, please feel free to Sristi Kamal at [kamal@westernlaw.org](mailto:kamal@westernlaw.org) or reach out to any of our member groups.

Thanking you

Sincerely

The Oregon Wildlife Coalition

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*The Oregon Wildlife Coalition is a coalition of wildlife conservation groups working proactively and collaboratively to advocate for policies that are science based and humane and reflect the state's conservation values.*

Members include: ***Bird Alliance of Oregon, Cascadia Wildlands, Defenders of Wildlife, Humane Society of the United States, Humane Voters Oregon, Oregon Wild, Western Environmental Law Center, Willamette Riverkeepers***





DATE: January 18, 2024

TO: Cal Mukumoto, State Forester, Oregon Department of Forestry  
Curt Melcher, Director, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

FROM: Oregon Wild, Portland Audubon, Trout Unlimited, Wild Salmon Center,  
Willamette Riverkeeper

**RE: Prioritizing Private Forest Accord Funding in the 2025-2027 Biennium**

Dear State Forester Mukumoto and Director Melcher:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations that represent conservation signatories to the Private Forest Accord and supporters, we appreciate your consideration of these comments regarding recommended priorities for the 2025-2027 biennium.

The Private Forest Accord (PFA) was the result of months of negotiations brokered by the Governor's office between 13 timber industry representatives and 13 conservation and fishing groups to broadly reform the Oregon Forest Practices Act. A foundational goal of this process was to modify Oregon's standards for logging on private forest lands to achieve a federally approvable Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP).

If an HCP is not finalized and approved by 2027, all of the PFA changes roll back to the previous Oregon Forest Practices Act (OFPA) standards. Currently, the state is in the process of drafting the HCP that will be submitted to the Services by June 2024 with the expectation that the Services will begin the multi-year NEPA process following that submission. Full funding for natural resource agencies to ensure successful implementation of the PFA and a federally approvable HCP is critical in the 2025-2027 biennium. Underfunding these programs in the next biennium puts the viability of the PFA and a federally approved HCP at risk.

- **Maintain current service level (CSL) funding for the PFA at Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW):** The new PFA rules are fully in effect as of January 1, 2024. These rules add complexity and

requirements for additional positions and support. Maintaining CSL funding for ODF and ODFW related to the PFA will be critical in the 2025-2027 biennium.

- **Full funding for Adaptive Management Program at ODF (\$6M per biennium):** The Adaptive Management Program is a foundational component of both the new rules and the HCP that establishes a process to evaluate the effectiveness of the new rules in meeting biological goals and objectives and determine if policy changes are needed. In the 2023-2025 biennium, the Adaptive Management Program was funded at \$4M in an ODF POP which was less than the \$6M requested. This program should be funded at \$6M in the 2025-2027 biennium. Continuing to underfund this program will make it challenging to conduct the research necessary to assess the effectiveness of the rules and meet the standards of an approvable HCP. Ongoing budget shortfalls for this program will also make it challenging to recruit and retain qualified expert stakeholders to participate in both the Adaptive Management Program Committee (AMPC) and the Independent Research and Science Team (IRST). Adaptive Management is a critical component in achieving the goals of the PFA to provide a collaborative, science-driven, and less contentious process for considering future rule changes.
- **Full funding for Small Forestland Owner Investment in Stream Habitat (SFISH) Program at ODF (\$10M per biennium):** The PFA included new resources for small forestland owners, including the SFISH program that provides grants to small forestland owners to replace or upgrade culverts and stream crossings. Ongoing investment in this program is a core component of the PFA's new requirements to provide increased technical and financial assistance to small forestland owners, particularly as the new rules are now in effect. The SFISH Program was funded at \$6.67M in an ODF POP in the 2023-2025 biennium, but should be fully funded at the \$10M requested in the 2025-2027 biennium to ensure these commitments are met.
- **Full funding for the Mitigation Program established in the base budget (\$20M per biennium):** The Mitigation Program established under the PFA provides dedicated grant funding for fish passage barrier removal, stream habitat restoration, and other mitigation projects. The PFA commits \$10M from the state and \$2.5M from industry annually for this fund until federal approval of an HCP, after which the industry contribution increases to \$5M annually. SB 1501 appropriated \$10M to ODFW for the Mitigation Program and the remaining \$10M was included in an ODFW POP in the 2023-2025 budget. The Mitigation Program and the long-term investments needed to keep it functioning are core components of the negotiated agreements under the PFA authorized in SB 1501 and updated rules, as well as the HCP that the state will submit to the Services in 2024. In the 2025-2027 biennium, full funding at \$20M for the Mitigation Program in the base budget is critical to support the success of the PFA and finalization of the HCP.
- **Establish PFA Coordinator position at ODFW:** As ODFW implements the new PFA rules and requirements, including developing and tracking multiple data streams and processes related to fish presence and stream perenniality, management of the Mitigation Program, and implementation of new beaver requirements, it will be critical to establish a new PFA coordinator position at the agency. This is an emerging need following substantial new obligations placed on ODFW as a result of the PFA to address key timelines and responsibilities.

Thanks for your consideration of these comments and our request for full funding for the Private Forest Accord (PFA).

Sincerely,

Sean Stevens  
Executive Director  
Oregon Wild

Joe Liebezeit  
Assistant Director of Statewide Conservation  
Portland Audubon

Chrysten Rivard  
Oregon Director  
Trout Unlimited

Stacey Detwiler  
Oregon Policy Director  
Wild Salmon Center

Bob Sallinger  
Urban Conservation Director  
Willamette Riverkeeper

CC: Geoff Huntington, Senior Natural Resources Advisor, Governor's Natural Resources Office