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Oregon Legislature

Public Hearing on STEP Hatchery Program Reductions

The proposal by ODFW Coastal Multi Species Conservation and Management to Reduce STEP HATCHERY PROGRAMS is a wrong proposal and a bad plan on the Elk, Millicoma, Coquille and Coos Rivers.

The salmon and steel head runs and opportunity for catching these fish in the rivers and ocean would be greatly diminished or eliminated, thus striking an even harder blow on the hurting economy's of Coos and Curry Counties.

We need help from our state government, not plans which would literally take food off the table of sport fishermen trying to feed their families and commercial fishermen trying to eke out a living catching and selling hook and line caught ocean salmon.

The present hatchery-supplemented fisheries are vital to the recreational, cultural, educational and economic welfare of the surrounding communities and their citizens.

Sport salmon fishing out of Charleston, Or has played an important economic role through the past decades and continues to be a dependable anchor of seasonal income for many businesses in Coos/Curry Counties.

Please continue our STEP Hatchery Programs and consider this written testimony.

Sincerely,

Margery Whitmer
Betty Kay Charters
Charleston, Or

OFF SHORE TUNA
AND HALIBUT

WHALE WATCHING
NATURE TOURS

SALMON TROLLING
OCEAN ROCK FISHING