

From: chuck50fis@aol.com
To: [JWMNR Exhibits](#)
Subject: SB 5510 ODFW Budget, POP 123
Date: Tuesday, March 12, 2019 11:00:21 AM

Hello and thanks for the opportunity to comment,

I am writing today because I strongly support full funding for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Water Quality/Quantity Program – POP 123.

Oregon's rivers and streams are very important to me. I have huge concern for Oregon's and our nation's fish, wildlife, and natural resources. The pressures on these resources are ever present and growing as our population increases. One only has to look at the lists of iconic species and their habitats that are threatened in one way or another to see the severity of the situation. I love to fish, hike, and enjoy all of the natural beauty of this great state. It is my church. That is why I have devoted a large portion of my time over the last 27 years to working at the local level with our watershed council and soil and water conservation district to promote water and land conservation practices in a collaborative way. ODFW has always been a great partner in these efforts and I hope they will continue to have that ability with no cuts to their budget.

I see the ODFW's Water Quality/Quantity Program - POP 123 as a great way to further knowledge and collaboration in order to steward our water for the fish, wildlife, habitats, and people that depend on them into the future. Gathering data, performing analysis, educating stakeholders and finding collaborative solutions to cope with our water quality and quantity problems is a method with the best chance for success as well as support from the public.

Thank you,

Chuck Gehling
Hood River, Oregon