

**From:** [Steve Schaefers](#)  
**To:** [JWMNR Exhibits](#)  
**Subject:** SB 5510  
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Sen. Taylor, Rep. Reardon, and members of this committee,

This is in regards to SB 5510 and funding for the Leaburg Trout Hatchery on the McKenzie River. It is extremely important to find some temporary funding now to keep it operating and then find a more permanent solution down the road. Trout fishing on the river has been very important to all the business's starting with guides and the lodges and resorts dating back 120 years. The McKenzie River Guides Assoc. organized in 1931 and supported the start of the Leaburg Hatchery in 1954. All those guides are gone now but today, a group of 64 working guides and 75 assoc. members are on the river during the fishing season and protect the environment year round.

There is no better day than to have a family in your boat and cooking up some Leaburg Hatchery fish for the shore lunch. Many of these folks stay in a lodge or resort and stop at the local market.

Thanks for your work in Salem and I urge you to keep this hatchery operating.

Steve Schaefers, river guide, Vida