



Oregon

Kate Brown., Governor

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Office of the Director

4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE

Salem, OR 97302

(503) 947-6044

FAX (503) 947-6042

odfw.com

April 29, 2021

Senator Kathleen Taylor, Co-Chair
Representative Jeff Reardon, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Subcommittee on Natural Resources
900 Court Street NE
Room H-178
Salem, OR 97301



Dear Co-Chairs:

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss an overview of ODFW's Fish and Wildlife divisions, COVID-19 and 2020 wildfire impacts, and Key Performance Measures on day 2 of our budget hearing. We appreciate Co-Chair Reardon's request for a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) timeline as it relates to 2020 wildfire funding. In short, receipt of FEMA funds are expected to begin in the latter part of 2021, with all funding received by September, 2023. A summary of ODFW's efforts to obtain FEMA funding for wildfire damage recovery, is included below.

ODFW is pursuing FEMA funding for cost recovery/replacement of equipment and facilities destroyed or damaged during the wildfires, in addition to funding that is expected to come from ODFW's insurance coverage. Klamath Hatchery, Rock Creek Hatchery, Leaburg Hatchery, Clackamas Rearing Ponds, and Minto Hatchery sites all have expenditures that qualify for FEMA funding. ODFW submitted a damage inventory for these sites to FEMA in February, 2021. Site visits were conducted at many of the affected sites in March, and FEMA is in the process of completing site-specific inspection reports.

FEMA's Public Assistance grant program will provide reimbursement for several categories of damage, including disaster-related debris removal, emergency protective measures, and permanent repair work to damaged or destroyed infrastructure (not covered by insurance). Emergency project work (debris removal, erosion control, and removal of hazardous trees) is generally completed within 6 months of emergency declaration, however ODFW received a 6 month extension for all affected sites due to site accessibility and safety concerns. Permanent work (buildings are constructed and operational) is generally completed within 18 months of emergency declaration, however ODFW received an 18 month extension for work at Rock Creek Hatchery, for similar reasons. The second funding source is FEMA's Public Assistance Hazard Mitigation grant program, which provides funding to cover cost differences for permanent reconstruction work that includes hazard mitigation measures to protect against potential future damage or loss from similar disasters.

ODFW will be submitting permanent work plans for each property to both FEMA programs in order to maximize funding eligibility. ODFW will continue to work closely with FEMA over the coming months to acquire plan and funding approval for each site. It should also be noted that the insurance process must be completed before FEMA funds will be approved or released. ODFW has been working with the Department of Administrative Services and external insurance carriers since September 2020, and has received some initial estimates for cost recovery/replacement of equipment and structures. It is anticipated that the remaining estimates will be provided in the next couple of months.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Subcommittee's questions. Please contact me if I may provide additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Curtis E. Melcher". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C'.

Curtis E. Melcher
Director
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife



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April 28, 2021

Senator Kathleen Taylor, Co-Chair
Representative Jeff Reardon, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
Subcommittee on Natural Resources
900 Court Street NE
Room H-178
Salem, OR 97301



Dear Co-Chairs:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide an overview of ODFW's Fish and Wildlife divisions, COVID-19 and 2020 wildfire impacts, and Key Performance Measures (KPM) on Day 2 of our budget hearing. Please see the charts below which provide information on ODFW's Key Performance Measure trends, as requested by Co-Chair Reardon on behalf of Subcommittee members.

More detailed information on ODFW's Key Performance Measures is included in the Reference Materials document submitted with our presentation slides. Appendix 6 of the Reference Materials includes ODFW's Annual Performance Progress Report.

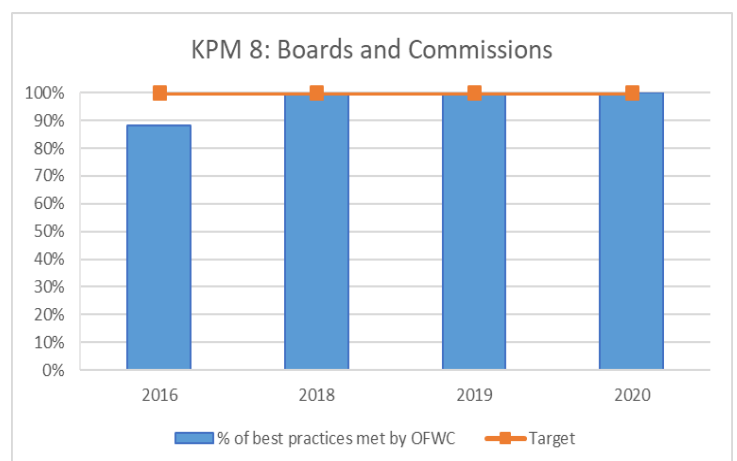
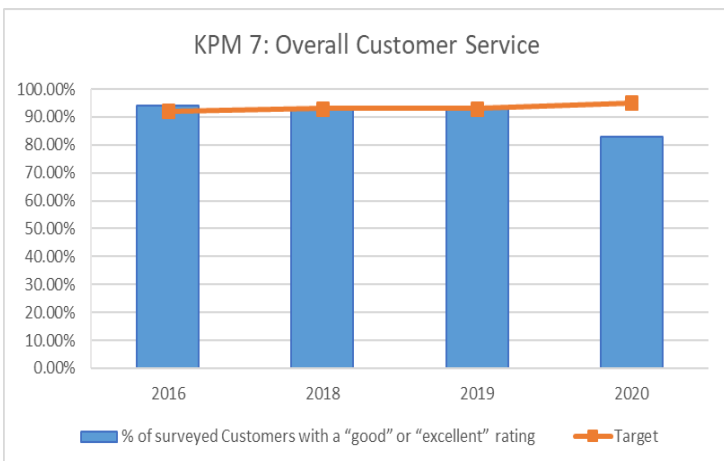
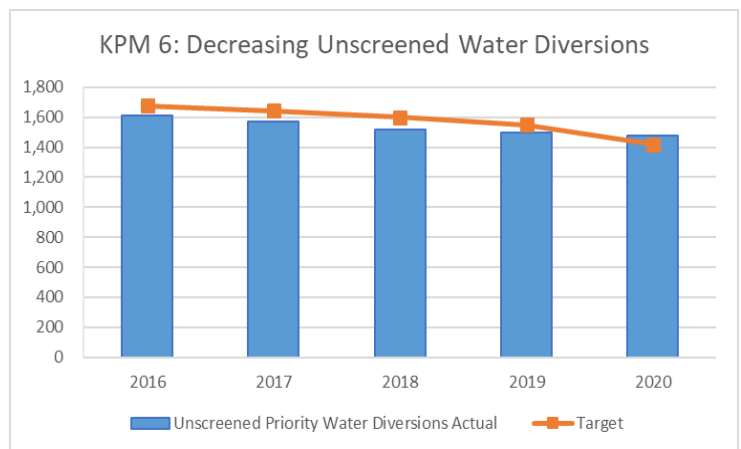
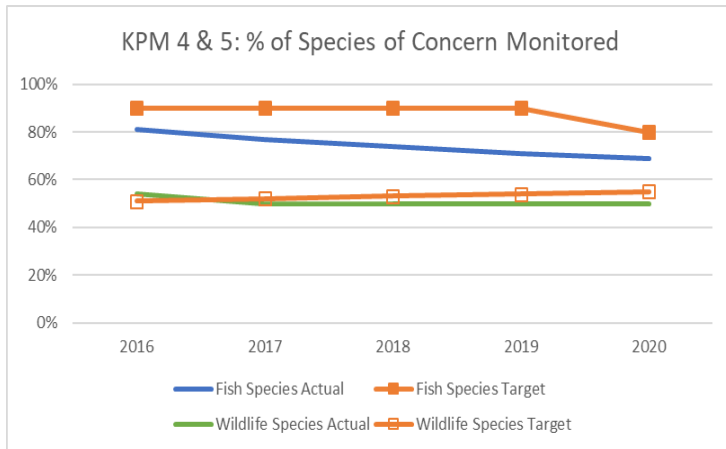
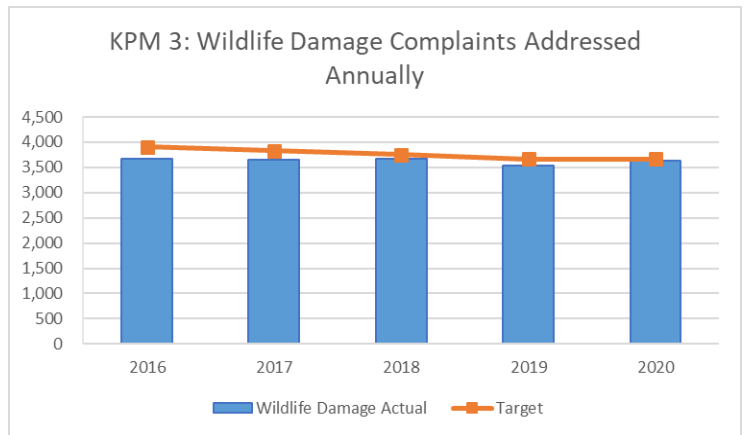
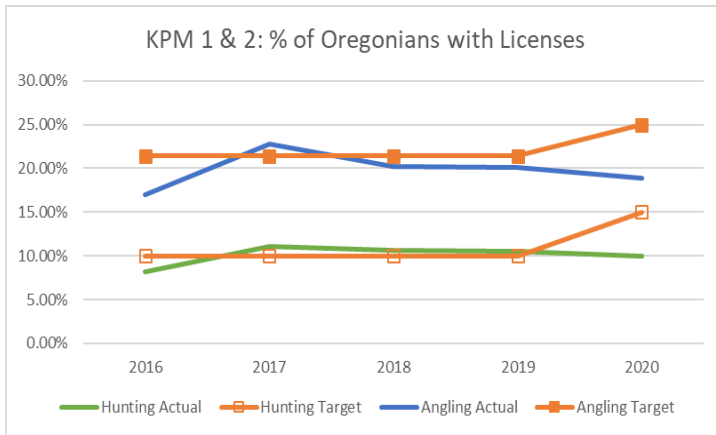
Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this request for information. Please let me know if I can provide additional information.

Sincerely,

Curtis E. Melcher
Director
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

ODFW Key Performance Measures

* Measure requires actual to be below target	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
Performance Measure	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
1. Hunting License Purchases	10%	8.20%	10%	11.03%	10%	10.60%	10%	10.50%	15%	10%
2. Angling License Purchases	21.40%	17%	21.40%	22.76%	21.40%	20.20%	21.40%	20.10%	25%	18.90%
3. Wildlife Damage*	3,910	3,676	3,830	3,645	3,750	3,679	3,670	3,534	3,670	3,632
4. Fish Species of Concern Monitored	90%	81%	90%	77%	90%	74%	90%	71%	80%	69%
5. Wildlife Species of Concern Monitored	51%	54%	52%	50%	53%	50%	54%	50%	55%	50%
6. Decreasing the Number of Unscreened Water Diversions*	1,675	1,609	1,644	1,570	1,600	1,520	1,550	1,499	1,420	1,480
7. Customer Service (overall)	92%	94.10%	no data	no data	93%	93%	93%	93%	95%	83%
8. Boards and Commissions	100%	88%	no data	no data	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%





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Dear Co-Chairs:

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss an overview of our Fish and Wildlife divisions, COVID-19 and 2020 wildfire impacts, and Key Performance Measures during Day 2 of our budget hearing. Our response to the question regarding what it would cost to increase the presence of our existing aquatic invasive species inspection stations to year round coverage is below.

In 2020, the aquatic invasive species program faced two major challenges, COVID-19 and the September wildfires. During the wildfires, we had to intermittently close some of our inspection stations due to poor air quality and proximity to the wildfires. In 2020, the plan was to have six aquatic invasive species inspection stations operational, but we were not able to find staffing to fill the Lakeview station due to the pandemic. Stations were located in Brookings, Ashland, Klamath Falls, Ontario and Umatilla. The 2020 inspections teams inspected just over 23,000 watercraft, intercepted and decontaminated 12 vessels with quagga or zebra mussels and 264 vessels for other types of aquatic biofouling such as aquatic vegetation or marine or freshwater organisms.

Current staffing in 2021 to operate six aquatic invasive species inspection stations will cost approximately \$702,751 and includes four permanent and eleven seasonal staff. Two stations are open the entire year, one station will be open for six months, and three stations will be open for five months. Most of the stations will be open from 8 am to 7 pm, seven days a week, except for the Lakeview station (one staff person), which is open from 9 am to 6 pm, five days a week. Klamath Falls and Brookings will be open six days a week (closed on Wednesday). There are two full-time positions to administer the program: the Invasive Species Coordinator (a Supervising Fish and Wildlife Biologist) and a Senior Fish and Wildlife Technician. The attached tables provide specific details on current and predicted staffing costs for 7 day a week, 24-hr staffing.

Operation of the six existing stations on a seven day/24-hour schedule would cost approximately \$3.6 million. This estimate includes forty-eight permanent and eighteen seasonal staff, but does not include consideration for additional law enforcement, supervisory costs for increased staffing, and equipment such as new lighting and reader boards for night-time operations. The average cost for a 7 day/24hr station is approximately \$600,000 and would approximate personnel and operations costs for each additional station. Additional costs would include: equipment to decontaminate watercraft, additional permanent position(s) to supervise the personnel responsible for the additional inspection stations; and, costs to local law enforcement to assist in enforcement. Another cost and important consideration is location of housing or providing temporary housing for remote check stations. Housing has proven to be an impediment to hiring seasonal staff for remote locations.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Committee's questions. Please contact me if I may provide additional information.

Sincerely,

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Curtis E. Melcher
Director
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Current Inspection Station operations (2021 budget, six stations)

	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Cost
Highway 101, Port of Entry south of Brookings	closed	closed	closed	Closed	6 days/week	6 days/week	6 days/week	6 days/week	6 days/week	closed	closed	closed	\$57,314
Interstate 5, Port of Entry north of Ashland	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	\$256,737
Highway 97, Midland Rest Area near Klamath Falls	closed	closed	closed	Closed	6 days/week	6 days/week	6 days/week	6 days/week	6 days/week	closed	closed	closed	\$57,314
Highway 395, Oregon/California border near Lakeview	closed	closed	closed	closed	5 days/week	5 days/week	5 days/week	5 days/week	5 days/week	closed	closed	closed	\$30,944
Interstate 84, Ontario Rest Area, Oregon/Idaho border	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	\$191,892
Interstate 82, Port of Entry at Umatilla/WA border	closed	closed	closed	Closed	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	7 days/week	closed	closed	\$108,588
*Total # of staff per month	4	4	5	5	15	15	15	15	15	8	4	4	\$702,751

per year
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*Supervisor Fish and Wildlife Biologist and Fish and Wildlife Senior Technician that administers this program is not include in this budget

**Currently half of the budget for all field operations comes from the USACOE and is a year-to-year federal allocation which relies on 50/50 state match.

Requested scenario for staffing cost to run six stations 7 days per week, 24 hours each day, year round, at least two staff on most shifts

	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Cost
Highway 101, Port of Entry south of Brookings	8	8	8	10	10	10	10	10	10	8	8	8	\$561,708
Interstate 5, Port of Entry north of Ashland	8	8	8	12	12	12	12	12	12	8	8	8	\$624,120
Highway 97, Midland Rest Area near Klamath Falls	8	8	8	10	10	10	10	10	10	8	8	8	\$561,708
Highway 395, Oregon/California border near Lakeview	8	8	8	10	10	10	10	10	10	8	8	8	\$561,708
Interstate 84, Ontario Rest Area, Oregon/Idaho border	8	8	8	12	12	12	12	12	12	8	8	8	\$624,120
Interstate 82, Port of Entry at Umatilla/WA border	8	8	8	12	12	12	12	12	12	8	8	8	\$624,120
Total # of staff per month	48	48	48	66	66	66	66	66	66	48	48	48	\$3,557,484

per year
*

*Annual cost estimate does not include requirements to assure law enforcement coverage by OSP or County law enforcement at some level throughout daylight hours. Current station operations average \$1,500 per month (4-8 hours per week). There are significant staff safety concerns working at night without immediate law enforcement presence.