

**House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water  
Re: Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission Structure**

The undersigned organizations represent a broad and diverse section of stakeholders who are invested in, and affected by, the policy and rule-making decisions of the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife (ODFW) Commission.

The current statute governing the representation of the commission must be revised due to Oregon's addition of a sixth congressional district. The current statute, housed in ORS 496.090, aligns Commission representation by population, leaving two-thirds of the state under-represented within the Commission structure, yet containing a large portion of the state's most necessary and impactful habitat and wildlife. It is our assertion that a decision-making body tasked with managing wildlife and habitat across the diverse landscape of Oregon should equally represent that diversity in its structure.

Regional representation, such as the utilization of the five river basin management areas, would provide an equitable and more diverse representation of the state. In addition to the five positions specific to the river basin management areas, the current statute stipulating one at-large member residing west of the summit of the Cascade Mountains and one at-large member residing to the east of the summit should be retained to maintain the 7-member commission.

The five river basin management areas have statutory precedent in ORS 536.022 as the regional representation for establishing the Oregon Water Resources Commission. This model has provided equitable representation for all Oregon citizens regarding the imperative issues surrounding water policy and would do the same when applied to wildlife and habitat management policies.

A regional representation model ensures that all of Oregon's natural resources, wildlife, and habitat needs are included in a truly diverse and equitable Commission structure. This ensures the best management decisions for Oregon's wildlife, habitat, and the public at large. It is our recommendation that the governing statute should retain the stipulation of Commission appointments possessing a background in natural resources to ensure an understanding of all the varying interests and stakeholder viewpoints. Additionally, the commission appointments should continue to be nominated by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate, as is current statutory practice.

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*Rick Hunt  
Rick Hunt*

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*W. Lynn Atkinson*

3-18-2023

[Redacted]

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~~3-18-2023~~  
Amy Weatherly 3-18-2023

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*William Malcom*  
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3/18/23

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*Kelly MacLamb*

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3/18/23

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~~(b) (5) - DPP~~  
3-18-23  
John Craig  
John Craig

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Paul Wilson



3/18/23

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Beau Javard

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~



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X Kai Stueber

X ~~Kai Stueber~~

3-17-23

~~(S) 292-208~~

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Brandon Stone  
Brandon Stone

03/17/2023

611 680 5095

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Dylan Meek  
Dylan Meek

02-17-23

~~541-751-3199~~

Dmeek@englundmarine.co

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*[Handwritten signature]*

Gary Heilmann

3-17-23

*[Redacted area]*

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Andrew Grisham  
Christina Grisham  
3-17-23  
511-531-017

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Josh Bettesworth

3/17/23  
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 3-17-23 Bliz & Hoyle 



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Heath Hampel



3-17-23



**House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water  
Re: Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission Structure**

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*Bryan Fletcher - Bryn Alford*  
3/17/23  
[Redacted]

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*William Hall*  
William Hall  
541-252-0548

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*Wendy Bryant*  
*Michael Bryant*

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Walker K. Fillogg

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John Z. ...  
FV  
NUSA

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3/17/2023  
Doug Jones



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*Kevin Koelsh*

*Janice Fornhe*

3-17-23  
3-17-23

901-578-2420

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*Gary W. McDaniel*

[Redacted]

3-17-2023

GARY W. MCDANIEL

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MARK-17 023  
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THROLOTT 7 07 09

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Chris Ruppel  
3.17.23

(503) 261-3825  
[Redacted]

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Randy L. Johnson

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*John Crowder*  
Ron Crowder  
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Tony Templeton  




Chair Helm and members of the committee,

My name is Heath Hampel, I am the current owner of chucks seafood. In addition to being a business owner my philanthropic activities have been heavily concentrated on restoring salmon through the various STEP programs. In recent years I, along with many other have felt extremely under represented. My current ODFW commissioner representing my area is Mary Wahi. She lives full time in Portland and I can say with absolute certainty she does not represent her district at all. The decision-making body tasked with managing wildlife and habitat across the diverse landscape of Oregon should equally represent that diversity in its structure.

Regional representation, such as the utilization of the five river basin management areas, would provide an equitable and more diverse representation of the state. It isn't hard to prove that the lion share of our representation is in fact from Portland or its suburbs (Wahl, King, Khalil) I realize that Wahi may be listed as Langlois, but as "everyone" knows Commissioner Wahl has spent almost of her entire career in Portland, her commissionerhip is stilted by the fact that her family owns a ranch in Langlois that she might spend less than 5% of her time at. This is an example of one of the abuses that have taken place under the congressional model.

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In closing,  
As a business owner, and STEP member of mixed decent. I implore you to do the right thing and vote for the Basin management option. One of the main reasons I voted for Governor Kotek was her promise to bring Oregon's rural communities back into Oregon. In all honesty we haven't felt like part of Oregon at all under the previous governors tenure. I can't think of a single act that would encourage us as coastal Oregonians to feel included once again then by giving us a voice in our natural resources which we hold so dear. Also note that the only group that is opposing this is the hyper rich self-proclaimed environmental groups that you never seem to see on river clean up days with the rest of the STEP groups...

Thanks  
Heath Hampel

3/17/23

[Redacted signature area]



House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water  
Re: Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission Structure

The undersigned organizations represent a broad and diverse section of stakeholders who are invested in, and affected by, the policy and rule-making decisions of the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife (ODFW) Commission.

The current statute governing the representation of the commission must be revised due to Oregon's addition of a sixth congressional district. The current statute, housed in ORS 496.090, aligns Commission representation by population, leaving two-thirds of the state under-represented within the Commission structure, yet containing a large portion of the state's most necessary and impactful habitat and wildlife. It is our assertion that a decision-making body tasked with managing wildlife and habitat across the diverse landscape of Oregon should equally represent that diversity in its structure.

Regional representation, such as the utilization of the five river basin management areas, would provide an equitable and more diverse representation of the state. In addition to the five positions specific to the river basin management areas, the current statute stipulating one at-large member residing west of the summit of the Cascade Mountains and one at-large member residing to the east of the summit should be retained to maintain the 7-member commission.

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It is our recommendation that the governing statute should retain the stipulation of Commission appointments possessing a background in natural resources to ensure an understanding of all the varying interests and stakeholder viewpoints. Additionally, the commission appointments should continue to be nominated by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate, as is current statutory practice.

We urge your support for a Commission structure that provides Oregon's wildlife and habitat resources with the diverse regional representation needed to ensure proper management of the State's resources.

*Jamela Bolton*  
3-17-23  
[Redacted]

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*Kristen L. Dreyer*  
3-17-23

417-217-9458

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James Meyer

James Meyer  
3/17/23



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Kyle Shellhammer  
808 298 9211



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Martin J. Roth  
1571-251-1057

Martin J. Roth  
3-17-20-25

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*John Doe*  
3-17-23  
5/20/23  
Preston

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*Danine Doney*

[Redacted signature]