



February 26, 2025

Representative Ken Helm, Co-Chair  
Representative Mark Owens, Co-Chair  
Representative Sarah Finger McDonald, Vice-Chair  
House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

**Re: Trout Unlimited Supports House Bill 2342 (ODFW Fee Bill)**

Dear Co-Chairs Helm and Owens, Vice-Chair Finger McDonald, and Members of the Committee,

Trout Unlimited (TU) is a non-profit dedicated to conserving coldwater fish such as trout, salmon, and steelhead, and their habitats. TU has more than 350,000 members and supporters nationwide.

**TU supports the ODFW HB 2342 because it reasonably increases the cost of ODFW products (such as fishing and hunting licenses), which fund a significant part of the agency's important management and research activities.**

Raising the cost of ODFW fees is not popular, but it is necessary. As the Committee heard during the bill's hearing on February 24<sup>th</sup>, the typical period between fee increases is 6 years, and the agency has waited 10 years for this increase. It's fair and reasonable and expected for this round of (mostly nominal) increases. The Department needs this revenue to sustainably manage the fish and fishing opportunity in Oregon. Without this increase, TU is concerned that the department will not have the resources needed to do the work to support Oregon's trout, salmon, steelhead, and other native wildlife.

Thank you for considering our comments, and please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

James Fraser  
Oregon Policy Director  
Trout Unlimited  
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