

Submitter:	Bob Vigil
On Behalf Of:	
Committee:	Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	SB512

I strongly support Senate Bill 512 and urge the Legislature to ensure continued funding for Rock Creek Hatchery. This facility plays a vital role in sustaining healthy fish populations in the Umpqua Basin, especially Spring Chinook and trout. The hatchery's impact reaches far beyond its gates, supporting recreational fishing, local economies, and the cultural and ecological fabric of Southern Oregon. Without immediate legislative action, Rock Creek Hatchery operations will come to a halt in June 2025, threatening years of restoration progress and undermining the region's fisheries.

ODFW's plan to rebuild Rock Creek Hatchery with a focus on Spring Chinook and trout, while utilizing a satellite facility for South Umpqua fish. This is a thoughtful, science based approach that deserves full support. SB 512 will provide critical short-term funding to maintain hatchery operations while the long term reconstruction plan is carried out. I'm grateful for the momentum behind the Rebuild Rock Creek Hatchery effort, and I respectfully ask the Committee to keep that momentum going by passing SB 512. Thank you, Bob Vigil