

Submitter: Debi Ferrer

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and
Wildfire

Measure, Appointment or
Topic: SB512

Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Nash, Members of the Senate Committee on Natural
Resources and Wildfire,

It's beyond disappointing that this bill got a hearing in the first place. I have to wonder if the sponsors of this bill think they understand fish biology and ecology better than scientists and professionals in the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, who determined that rebuilding this hatchery would be harmful to the native fish populations we should be trying to restore for a multitude of reasons. Or perhaps they are they simply more concerned about the immediate recreation "needs" of a vocal group of anglers that hatchery fish would support. Why is it so hard to plan for the future instead of taking what we want in this current moment in time? A hatchery on the North Umpqua River will not provide a healthy population of fish Seven Generations from now.

While the -2 amendment at least removes the immediate threat (and budgetary boondoggle) rebuilding this hatchery would pose to native salmonid populations, the frivolity of yet another study to tell us what we already know from decades of data which the proponents of this bill refuse to accept is a waste of taxpayer dollars. Please don't waste any more time or money on SB 512. Use the money instead to restore habitat, re-plant riparian vegetation lost in the fire, and carry out other strategies KNOWN to help restore our native fish.

Respectfully,
Debi Ferrer
The Dalles