

Submitter: Mark Wall  
On Behalf Of: Mountain Water Guides  
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On  
Capital Construction  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5505

I have been a part of helping ODFW plant hatchery fish in the McKenzie for about 6 years now. I have been startled by the difference in quality (that is health) between fish from the Leaburg Hatchery and other locations. Fish from other hatcheries have significantly higher injury and mortality rates. When they are being put into the boat for transportation down the river, there is a significant difference in the water they are carried in, amount of foam and turbidity in the water.

It may be easy to think that a hatchery is a hatchery, and fish are fish. I have taken thousands of customers down the McKenzie River. Unless they are from here, they are startled by the clarity and the quality of the water in the McKenzie. We have in are backyard an incredible resource that is accessible and appreciated by people from around the world. Not only is it pristine in quality, it is accessible to be enjoyed by all, and a core resource from everything from local businesses to being the primary water source for our drinking water in the Eugene area.

We have an opportunity to both increase the accessibility and usefulness of The McKenzie River, while protecting its amazing quality at the same time. This is a win-win opportunity for multiple segments of our local community and state.