

**From:** Steve Godin [<mailto:stevegodin@rconnects.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 03, 2015 10:44 AM  
**To:** Reiley Beth  
**Cc:** JAMES F WRIGHT; Chris Cone  
**Subject:** Comment regarding SB-803

Dear Beth,

I am sending my comments to you regarding SB-803. I am unable to attend the hearing for SB-803 on Monday, April 6th.

Years ago, the Oregon and Northwest Pacific Coast in general had an abundance of Chinook Salmon, which supported a robust commercial fishing industry, as well as, recreational fishing opportunity. I would like to see our Oregon fishery return too its past glory. Recreational anglers spend lots of money in pursuit of their favorite sport, ie., boats, equipment, food, lodging, ice, bait, launching, etc. More fishing opportunity benefits Oregon coastal communities, which are economically challenged. And the commercial fishing industry has been declining for years, more regulation, increasing costs and fewer salmon. More harvestable Chinook Salmon is good for everyone!

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is challenged by conservationists to prevent hatchery salmon from spawning with "wild" salmon. As a result, more and more hatchery releases are made closer and closer to the ocean to decrease stray rates. The release of Spring Chinook in Yaquina Bay and Coos Bay represent a perfect terminal hatchery. There are no Spring Chinook in the tributaries of these bays and the habitat is not conducive for Spring Chinook spawning. The released salmon will be coded wire tagged, so that they can be identified, when caught. Therefore, ODF&W will have good data for determining the success or failure of this hatchery release.

I am a sport fisherman and support our Oregon hatcheries and SB-803. I was a Stakeholder in the ODF&W Coastal Management Plan and was an advocate of the Spring Chinook releases in Yaquina Bay and Coos Bay. I am an active volunteer at the Gardiner, Reedsport, Winchester Bay STEP Hatchery and I am the President of the South Coast Chapter of the Coastal Conservation Association of Oregon.

Please submit my comments for consideration in the Hearing of SB-803.

Regards,  
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