

Please enter this into the public OLIS record in favor of SB 247.

Greetings Ways and Means & Natural Resources Subcommittee:

I live outside of Bend Oregon where it is known by the USGS that surface waters (creeks & springs) and ground waters (deep aquifers) are hydrologically connected.

As snowpack dwindles, cold water springs and surface water runoffs are affected.

This is critical time for smart water resource management for fish in the Deschutes Basin.

Please fund the increase in ODFW fees to secure that fish biologist are staffed positions at ODFW.

The great outdoors is what draws folks to Bend and Central Oregon. Folks come to fish, play and live in our community.

Funding the ODFW increase will provide our state agency the opportunity to staff fish biologists in our community : this means jobs

Fish health is the barometer for ecosystem health: fish biologists have a critical role in balancing water policy.

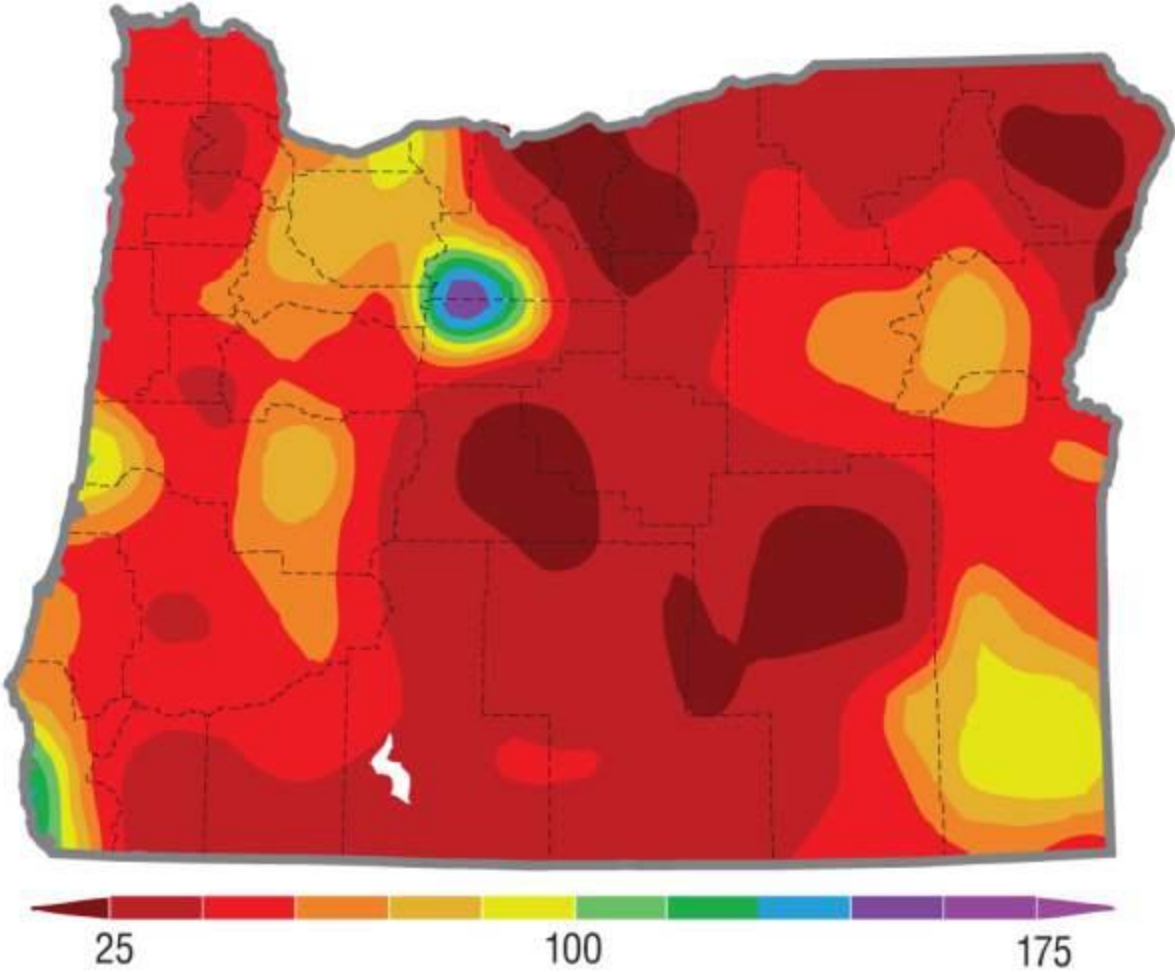
Please support SB 247.

I look forward to being able to release fingerlings this season at Whychus Creek with the help of ODFW fish biologist.

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Precipitation

Percentage of average rainfall over the past month.



Source: Western Regional Climate Center

Carli Krueger / The Bulletin