

Dear Joint Ways and Means Committee:

I implore you to support SB 247 and the nominal fee increases it contains. I feel it would be very bad for Oregon to cut ODFW's Fish Water Program or assistant district biologists.

Just as fish need water, Oregon needs these critical ODFW programs and staff. ODFW staff are involved in virtually every water allocation and reallocation decision in the state. These are essential capacities that must be maintained regardless of the budget climate at ODFW and regardless of whether fee increases or increased general fund appropriations occur.

Please place my comments in the OLIS record.

Thank you,

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