

Date

Dear First,

Thank you for your interest in Governor Brown's appointments to the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission. We have received many comments on these appointments, both positive and negative.

A large proportion of the comments have concerned Bruce Buckmaster, who is being appointed to fill a seat long vacant, representing Congressional District One (Congresswoman Bonamici's district). Since Mr. Buckmaster's retirement as the co-owner of Bio-Oregon, Mr. Buckmaster has volunteered thousands of hours of time as:

- The President of the ODFW Native Fish Policy Task Force;
- A member of ODFW's External Budget Advisory Committee;
- A member of the Oregon Fish Hatchery Research Center Advisory Board;
- A member of the trawl allocation committee of the Pacific Fisheries Management Council; and
- A member of the federal Pinniped-Fishery Interaction Task Force.

Mr. Buckmaster's service has given him a thorough understanding of federal, state and tribal fisheries issues in Oregon – experience that no one else on the Commission shares.

The primary concern of some appears to be that Mr. Buckmaster's appointment signals a change in policy regarding the lower Columbia gillnet program. Mr. Buckmaster has assured Governor Brown that he will play a constructive role in the implementation of SB 830 (2013) and in other issues that come before the commission, and Governor Brown's budget contains funding for the continuation of this program.

In addition to his work on fisheries policy, Mr. Buckmaster is an avid hunter and sportsman.

Sincerely,

Constituent Services

Office of Governor Kate Brown