
May 19, 2015

Chair Rosenbaum, Vice-Chair Ferrioli, and Members of the Senate Interim Committee on Rules and Executive Appointments:

Re: Support for the Appointment of Jason Atkinson as a member of the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife Commission



We are writing to voice our support for the appointment of Jason Atkinson as a member of the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife Commission. Our organizations represent a diverse group of water stakeholders with a common goal: to advocate for common sense water policies that move Oregon's economy, communities, and environment toward a secure water future. It is crucial that a member of the ODFW Commission has the experience and stamina to be able to balance between the use of natural resources and the conservation of those resources for the benefit of all Oregonians.

Mr. Atkinson's strong professional background includes 14 years as a public servant in the Oregon Legislature. During his tenure he championed conservation bills on water and fish policy, and worked with members across the aisle on numerous bills aimed at protecting Oregon's environment. At the same time, Mr. Atkinson is a recreational fisherman and is a supporter of Oregon agriculture. Throughout his career he has established a well-deserved reputation for working collaboratively with diverse stakeholders as well as developing balanced solutions to tough challenges. These are both key qualities that will be well utilized as a member of the ODFW Commission.

Since his time in the legislature, Mr. Atkinson has continued to be involved in state and national conversations about conservation and his desire for conservation to no longer be seen as a political issue. His recent endeavors along with his previous public service developed a solid foundation in water, fish, hunting, and other policy issues that are essential for this key position. Furthermore, having grown up and worked in Southern Oregon, Mr. Atkinson understands the critical issues and diverse perspectives of the rural populace as well as urban areas of the state. He also has a passion for Oregon and all of her natural resources and has a desire to make a positive impact for the betterment of all Oregonians.

Jason Atkinson is a commendable selection for a position on the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife Commission. He has the necessary leadership experience, policy background, and enthusiasm for natural resources that this position should embody.

We urge you to confirm the appointment of Jason Atkinson as a member of the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife.

Sincerely,

The Oregon Association of Nurseries
Special Districts Association of Oregon

The Freshwater Trust
Oregon Water Resources Congress

