



Oregon Council Trout Unlimited

April. 24,2017

Trout Unlimited support for HB 2266A

Chair Dembrow and Committee members-

My name is Tom Wolf, here representing Trout Unlimited, both for our over 3000 members in Oregon and the 155,000 TU men and women volunteers across the nation. Trout Unlimited's mission is to recover and restore native wild salmonid's and their habitat. Dealing with the impact of hatchery salmon, steelhead and trout on wild fish is an important part of this work. I am here this morning to share Trout Unlimited's support for HB 2266.

HB 2266 would allow the Oregon Hatchery Research Center to keep unspent grant monies and increase their ability to acquire funds for expanding the HRC facilities. The Hatchery Research Center is an important research center that allows scientists to work on issues concerning wild fish and impacts of hatchery fish on wild salmon. The research done at the HRC is necessary work which will help in the long-term recovery of native wild salmon and steelhead in Oregon rivers. Funding for projects is a very important component-without funding important projects cannot be accomplished at the Hatchery Research Center.

Trout Unlimited has supported reform legislation that improved the makeup of Hatchery Research Center and stakeholder advisory group in previous legislative sessions. The Hatchery Research Center is an important instrument in the continuing effort to restore and protect our native wild fish populations. HB 2266 is a good step in helping to fund the Hatchery Research Center's work and Trout Unlimited urges your support of this crucial bill.

Tom Wolf,

Executive Director

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