



ODFW Response to COVID-19

House Natural Resources Committee

May 28, 2020

Curt Melcher, Director

Presentation Overview

- Support for ODFW staff
- Public impacts
- Current status
- Guidance for hunters, anglers and wildlife viewers
- Immediate impacts to 19-21 budget
- Questions

Support for ODFW Staff

- Safety alerts
- Technical resources
- Cleaning protocols
- Employee self-care resources
- Development of COVID-19 signage
- COVID-19 information for staff
- Use of telework
- Increased support for managers
- Field work has continued with modifications
- ODFW facilities closed to public visitation

Public Impacts

- Fish hatcheries closed to public visitation
- ODFW offices closed to public visitation
- Temporary wildlife area camping closure
- Big-game tag auction changes
- Outdoor workshop closures – including Hunter Education
- Spring Bear deadline extension
- Cougar and bear check-in changes
- Roadkill rule changes
- Modifications made to Hunter Ed requirements
- Columbia salmon and steelhead fishing closure to align with Washington
- Trout stocking schedules no longer posted
- Temporary nonresident hunting, fishing, shellfish closure

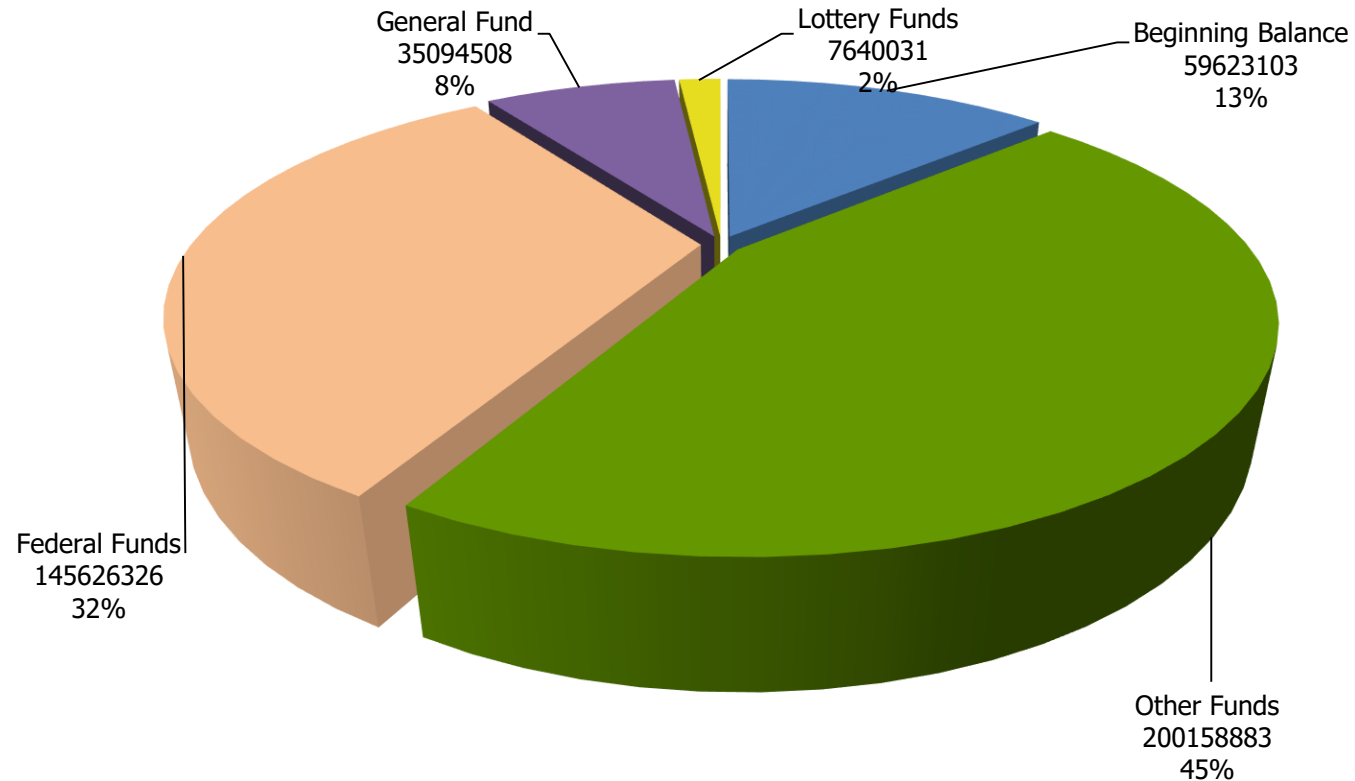
Current Status

- Field work has continued throughout
- Nonresident clamming remains closed
- Hatcheries remain closed to visitors
- ODFW offices remain closed to visitors
- ODFW offices are open for business online and by phone
- Hunter Education – modified field day/classes to resume
- Reopening many facilities will likely not be until Phase 2

Guidance for Wildlife Viewers, Hunters & Anglers

- Maintain distance of at least six feet from other people
- Only go out if you are healthy and feeling well
- Minimize travel by hunting and/or fishing close to home
- Research your destination before leaving home
- Take all the supplies you will need, pack it in and pack it out
- Have fun, be safe, and stay healthy

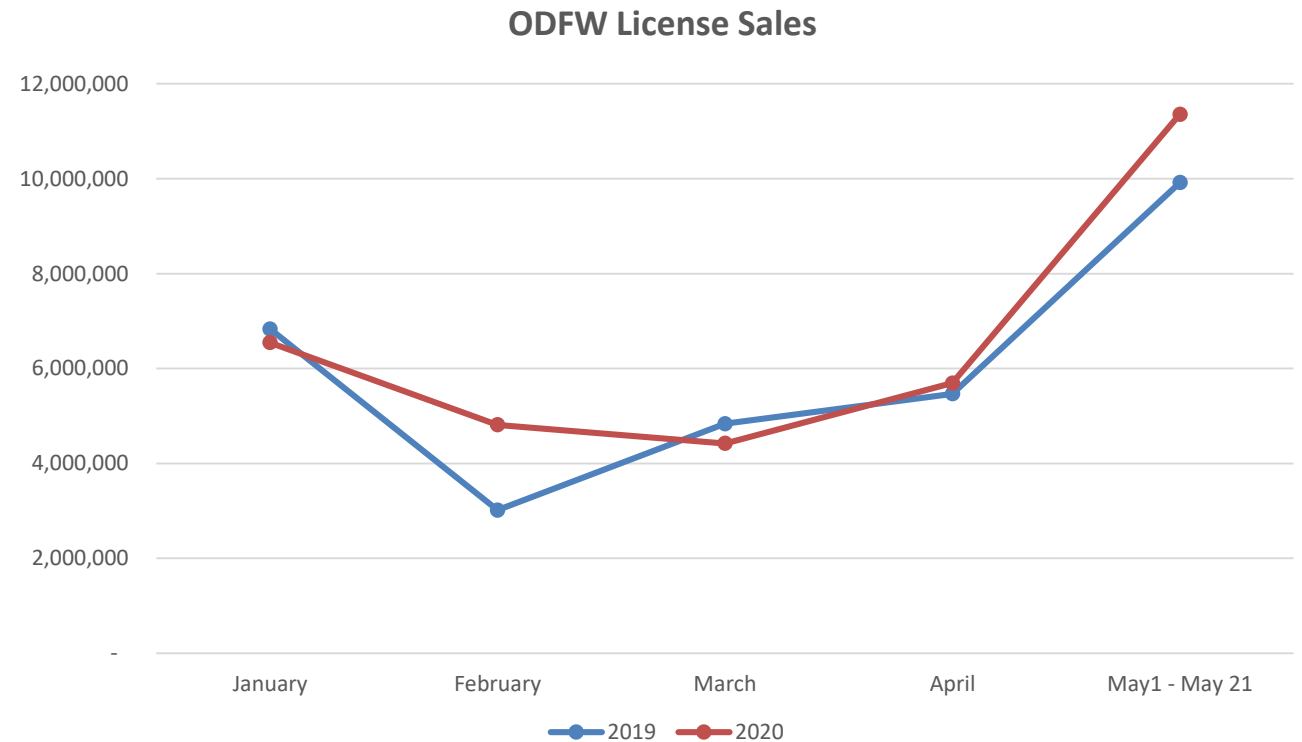
ODFW 2019-21 Budget (Revenue)



ODFW Revenue Impacts – COVID-19

Other Funds (License Sales):

- License sales revenues started out strong in 2020
 - January/February were both strong months
 - February license revenue up by \$1.8 million (60%) over 2019
- Short-term deceleration in revenue in March due to COVID-19
 - Sales slow over the last 10 days of March
 - Nearly 10% decrease from 2019 sales
- April and May sales brought us back on track
 - Sales in April 2020 up 4% (over April 2019)
 - Sales in May on course to be up 20%
 - Strong resident angling sales
- 2020 Controlled Hunt Application Sales increased by 4% overall (compared to 2019 sales)



ODFW Revenue Impacts – COVID-19

Federal Funds:

Pittman-Robertson

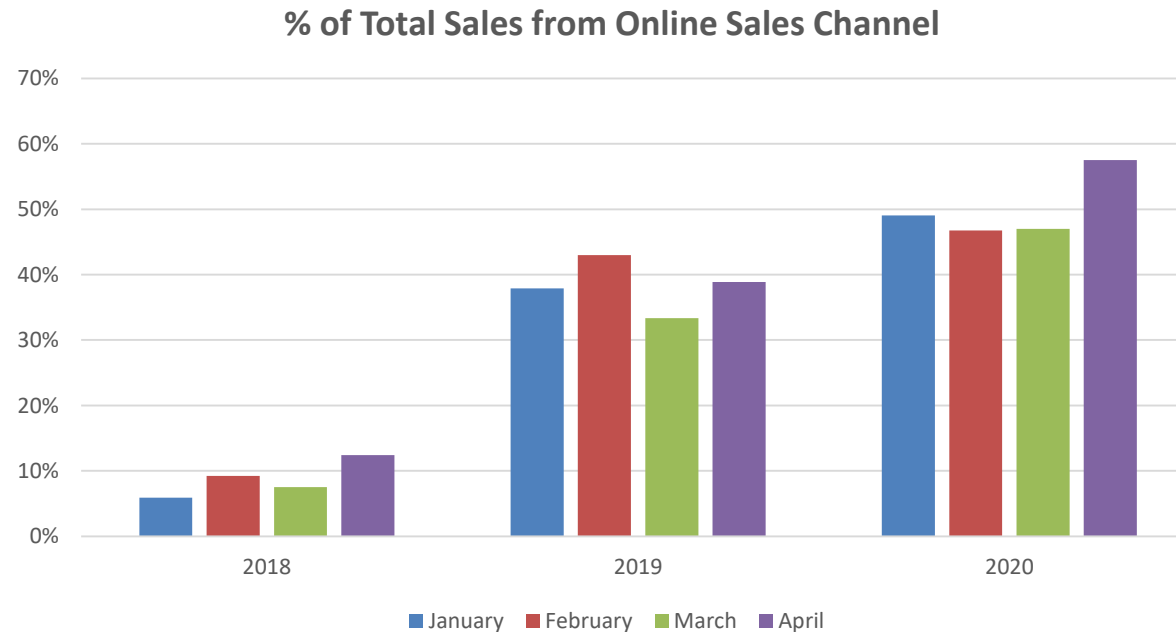
- Pittman-Robertson funding is expected to increase sizably next March (Federal Fiscal year runs October 2019 to September 2020) due to an increase in the sales of guns and ammunition
- Revenue from the first two quarters of the current Federal FY is up 6% (from last year)
- No major concerns about match – license sales are holding steady and although volunteer hours are down, they will pick up quickly as Hunter Education classes are expected to resume in June

Sport Fish Restoration

- Revenue from the first two quarters of the current Federal FY is down by 10% (from last year)
- Fuel sales are down 18% from this time last year (major contributor to SFR)

Online Purchasing Impacts – COVID 19

- Online purchases through ODFW’s Electronic Licensing System increased significantly due to the COVID pandemic
 - ODFW offices limited public access as precaution against COVID-19 on March 23rd
 - Sales of all licenses and applications continue online and at open license sale agents
 - Significant population of customers who have historically purchased products through retail agents used ELS due to distancing, travel, and other COVID-related restrictions



Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund

- Passed in the 2019 Session
- One biennium to raise \$1 million for conservation
- OCRF Committee appointed
- Fundraising initiated
- COVID-19 reduced opportunity to fundraise
- Hunters and angler donations thru ELS



**ODFW Wildlife Conservation Art Show and Wine Tasting
(pre-social distancing)**

**Thank you to our customers,
constituents and all wildlife
conservation supporters**

Questions?



**April Virtual Commission Meeting
(during social distancing)**