



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Fish and Wildlife
Fish Restoration and Enhancement Program Board
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, OR 97302
(503) 947-6201
FAX (503) 947-6202
www.dfw.state.or.us/



January 18, 2019

Mr. Chair, members of the committee:

My name is Kay Brown and I am a member of the Restoration and Enhancement Board. The Board consists of 7 members, 3 representing the anglers, 3 representing commercial fishing interests and a member at large. These dedicated individuals follow a long line of public volunteer Board members who are responsible for recommending to the Fish and Wildlife Commission how the money from the surcharge is spent.

The Restoration and Enhancement Board was created in 1989 and has carried a sunset clause ever since. The original bill was created out of a frustration by members of the public over how the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife spent license dollars. We believe over time the Board has proven itself effective in establishing priorities for the use of the surcharges on licenses and poundage fees. We would like to see the sunset clause removed and allow this program to move forward as a permanent part of the ODFW statutes.

One challenge has been the appointment of Board members representing the commercial fishing industry. Section 2 of the bill amends the appointment to 3 member of the commercial salmon industry, without specifying which sector of the salmon industry the representative is aligned with. We believe this will give the Commission greater latitude in recruiting members to the Board and support the change.

The Board is proud of the results from the projects that we fund. In particular, we often partner with other funding sources. In the last biennium every R&E dollar awarded leveraged \$4.60 in other contributions. In the 10 years preceding last biennium, the boards leveraged \$2.35 for every dollar awarded. This has allowed us to fund many priority projects that otherwise would not have been possible with the funds available. We would like to see this record of success continue into the future.

The Board supports Senate Bill 42 and encourages this committee to vote in favor of the bill.

Thank you for providing us time to provide testimony.

Kay Brown
Fish Restoration and Enhancement Program Board Member

Fish Restoration and Enhancement Program Board Members

Dave Grosjacques, Representing Recreational Fisheries
Merlin, Oregon

Yancy Lind, Representing Recreational Fisheries
Bend, Oregon

Richard Heap (Chairman), Representing Recreational Fisheries
Brookings, Oregon

Ray Monroe, Representing Commercial Troll Fisheries
Pacific City, Oregon

Cary Johnson, Representing Gillnet Fisheries
Astoria, Oregon

Susan Chambers, Representing Fish Processing Industry
Coos Bay, Oregon

Kay Brown, Representing the Public
Columbia City, Oregon