Oregon

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Fish Division

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Advisory Committee

Salmon-Trout Enhancement Program (STEP)

January 18, 2019

Support Senate Bill 42

Introduction

Hello, my name is Steve Janego and currently reside in Sisters, Oregon with my family. I am serving as chairman of the Governor appointed Salmon and Trout Advisory Committee (STAC). This volunteer Committee oversees the state-wide Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program (STEP) and provides advisory input to ODFW senior leadership. We are a 13-member group representing the over 7,000 volunteers throughout our communities. We also partner with hundreds of groups and clubs across Oregon in pursuit of managing and enhancing our fisheries.

Support for Continuation of the Restoration and Enhancement Board

The Fish Restoration and Enhancement Program (R&E) Board provides critical funding and partnerships for getting the "eggs-to-fry" program into over 800 classrooms and supporting the 66,000 citizens that are educated each year by countless STEP volunteers. R&E also provides needed dollars for facility upgrades and repairs, and provides fish food for several volunteer hatcheries. STEP volunteers supported by this are involved in production of over 60% of our fall Chinook salmon releases along the coast. Along with support for education and fish propagation, R&E has been instrumental in providing angler access, fish passage and safety improvements across the state. These types of investments are key to fueling STEP initiatives and attracting and engaging ODFW volunteers throughout our communities.

Recommendation

The R&E Program is a critical piece of our overall Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program and our ability to engage the thousands of volunteers that come forward each year from our Oregon Communities. On behalf of STAC and the STEP program, please support and approve Senate Bill 42 to secure a brighter future for Oregon fisheries!

Respectfully, Steve Janego Salmon & Trout Advisory Committee Chair

Attachment: List of current STAC Members

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<u>List of Current STAC Members</u>

Brent Collier, Representing the North Coast STAC Area Tillamook, Oregon

Brian Hudson, Representing the Mid Coast STAC Area Florence, Oregon

Deborah Yates, Representing the Southern Mid Coast and Lower Umpqua STAC Area Reedsport, Oregon

David Grosjacques, Representing the Umpqua STAC Area Merlin, Oregon

Curtis Bennett, Representing the Tenmile, Coos and Coquille STAC Area North Bend, Oregon

Ken Range, Representing the Lower Rogue STAC Area Brookings, Oregon

Carl Cole, Representing the Upper Rogue STAC Area Rogue River, Oregon

Tom VanderPlaat, Representing the Lower Willamette STAC Area Beaverton, Oregon

Don Wenzel, Representing the Mid Willamette STAC Area Albany, Oregon

Jeff DeVore, Representing the Upper Willamette STAC Area Pleasant Hill, Oregon

James Phelps, Representing the Northeast Oregon STAC Area Pendleton, Oregon

Steven Janego, Representing Central Oregon STAC Area Sisters, Oregon