

Submitter: Penelope Kaczmarek  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means  
Measure: SB5506

Dear Members of the Joint Committee On Ways and Means,

I write today to urge you to please consider doing whatever you're able to do to please continue your support of Oregon's Water Resources and Fish and Wildlife departments. As a long time Siletz resident and a Siletz riverside land owner I have observed the damaging effects of excessive summertime low flow in and around the Siletz River. No one who would describe them as good. To hasten Oregon's water recovery ODFW requires more funding for positions to work on it's Integrated Water Resources Solutions, including Place Based Planning (Policy Option Pkg. 107). Also, stream side temperature modeling is critical for obtaining overdue scientific data necessary for helping to recover Oregon's many overused and drought compromised rivers and streams, To date, due to under staffing, our overheated rivers and streams (and lakes!) have not been sufficiently monitored to acquire adequate understanding of the effects of this phenomenon. Diminished and/or stressed salmon, steelhead, lamprey, crawfish etc populations are the palpable evidence of this mounting crisis. Our Governor has recommended cuts to critical data and management programs Oregon depends on for gauging our water supplies and for the hydrologists essential for interpreting and making recommendations based on water use supply and availability data. I urge you to please reject these cuts proposed in the Governor's OWRD Reduction packages 090-093. Please fund OWRD's POP 111, 114 and 119 each one aimed at better understanding and remedying issues of water scarcity throughout our state for the benefit of all to come. Thank you for your important work on our behalves. Respectfully, Penelope Kaczmarek