

Submitter: Kristin Conrad-Antoville

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Natural Resources

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5521

I support:

ODF POP / Adaptive Management Funding including:

? Full funding for Adaptive Management Program at ODF (\$6M per biennium): ? The Adaptive Management Program is a foundational component of both the new rules and the HCP that establishes a process to evaluate the effectiveness of the new rules in meeting biological goals and objectives and determine if policy changes are needed. ? In the 2023-2025 biennium, the Adaptive Management Program was funded at \$4M in an ODF POP which was less than the \$6M requested. This program should be funded at \$6M in the 2025-2027 biennium. ? Continuing to underfund this program will make it challenging to conduct the research necessary to assess the effectiveness of the rules and meet the standards of an approvable HCP. Ongoing budget shortfalls for this program will also make it challenging to recruit and retain qualified expert stakeholders to participate in both the Adaptive Management Program Committee (AMPC) and the Independent Research and Science Team (IRST). ? Adaptive Management is a critical component in achieving the goals of the PFA to provide a collaborative, science-driven, and less contentious process for considering future rule changes. ODF POP / SFISH Program Funding:

? Full funding for Small Forestland Owner Investment in Stream Habitat (SFISH) Program at ODF (\$10M per biennium): ? The PFA included new resources for small forestland owners, including the SFISH program that provides grants to small forestland owners to replace or upgrade culverts and stream crossings. ? Ongoing investment in this program is a core component of the PFA's new requirements to provide increased technical and financial assistance to small forestland owners, particularly as the new rules are now in effect. ? The SFISH Program was funded at \$6.67M in an ODF POP in the 2023-2025 biennium, but should be fully funded at the \$10M requested in the 2025-2027 biennium to ensure these commitments are met. ODFW POP / Mitigation Program Funding:

? Full funding for the Mitigation Program established in the base budget (\$20M per biennium): ? The Mitigation Program established under the PFA provides dedicated grant funding for fish passage barrier removal, stream habitat restoration, and other mitigation projects. ? The PFA commits \$10M from the state and \$2.5M from industry annually for this fund until federal approval of an HCP, after which the industry contribution increases to \$5M annually. SB 1501 appropriated \$10M to ODFW for the Mitigation Program and the remaining \$10M was included in an ODFW POP in the 2023-2025 budget. ? The Mitigation Program and the long-term

investments needed to keep it functioning are core components of the negotiated agreements under the PFA authorized in SB 1501 and updated rules, as well as the HCP that the state will submit to the Services in 2024. In the 2025-2027 biennium, full funding at \$20M for the Mitigation Program in the base budget is critical to support the success of the PFA and finalization of the HCP. 3