

District 1, Office H-378
Southern Coos, Curry & SW Douglas
Counties



House of Representatives
Salem, OR
97301

Reply to address indicated

Salem Gold Beach

Russ Stauf
ODFW
Gold Beach, Oregon 97444

Russ,

I would like to express my support for the Spring Salmon conservation proposal submitted by Curry Sport Fishing Association and the Oregon Guides and Packers.

This proposal would reduce in river harvest and conserve Wild Spring Chinook stocks while easing economic impact of reduced fishing opportunities.

The formation of a Rogue River Task Force to look at and spearhead Spring Chinook Recovery as well as other related Rogue River issues is long over due. I urge the Department to move to see that this Task Force is up and running in the shortest time possible. The Task Force appointees should address the parameters of the Task Forces scope and present to the Commission for approval of mission.

It is not an acceptable practice to allow an important fish species to decline to the point the Department feels the need to close harvest opportunities without proper research or having a recovery plan in place. This needs to be addressed before any harvest closures that would harm our rural economies occur.

For three years I have met with ODFW Director Lindsey Ball and Fisheries Chief Ed Bowels to address habitat issues for Wild Spring Chinook. I am very disappointed with the progress on addressing lack of gravel recruitment below Lost Creek Dam. The Department has moved to slowly on gravel introduction projects, which would address Wild Spring Chinook Salmon on the Upper Rogue. I would like a report on the status of this issue.

It is my hope that the Department recognizes my frustration with the handling of this resource.

Sincerely,


Wayne Krieger
State Representative
District 1

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