



April 6,2017

Trout Unlimited testimony in support of HB 3228

Chair Clem and Committee members-

My name is Tom Wolf and I am here representing Trout Unlimited, who is composed of 3200 members in Oregon and 155,000 nationwide. Our members, both men and women, are hunters and anglers, who are passionate in their love for the pursuit of their sports and protecting the habitat our native fish and wildlife inhabit. We have been involved, in Oregon alone, with many miles of restoration projects on streams across our state. TU supports HB 3228 because we believe this bill incorporates important and necessary language into statues concerning the mission of ODFW.

The most written about sport is-and this will probably surprise you-is fishing. The literature concerning fish has both fiction and non-fiction books , weather it is classics like Izaak Walton's "The Compleat Angler", Hemmingway's "Old Man and the Sea", Norman McLean's "The River Runs Through it", Gary LaFontaine's "Caddisflies" or many books or stories by authors such as Roderick Haig-Brown, Dave Hughes, Rudyard Kipling, Joe Brooks and many, many more. This literature is rich and varied, both in terms of prose and in practical application.

One of the central themes running through fishing literature is the intrinsic value of this wonderful sport. Whether it is catching a fish in a difficult situation, viewing birdlife as one is fishing or just the joy of being outdoors, there is a pleasing value to angling that is deeper than just the cat of catching fish.

So the language of HB 3228, which adds language that deals with the value of fish and wildlife in intrinsic terms, is very important to Trout Unlimited members. When the 16 founding members of Trout Unlimited met in the cabin of George Griffith on the banks of the Au Sable river in Michigan in 1959, protecting the intrinsic values of fishing was one of the reasons for starting Trout Unlimited. So the language in HB 3228 about intrinsic and aesthetic values of being in the outdoors rings very true for our membership.

Trout Unlimited also supports Section 1 line 7 language which specifically references protecting non-game fish and wildlife. This also is very important to our members. Pursuing salmon, steelhead or trout is very important to Trout Unlimited members, but we recognize the importance of non-game fish and wildlife and support HB 3228 language which concerns that.

I have been fishing and hunting since I was five-almost 60 years- and love those sports dearly and recognize the importance of ODFW in managing for these sports. But equally as important, ODFW

manages for non-game fish and wildlife. That is why Trout Unlimited supports HB 3228 and urges you to pass it out of committee.