

Dear Rich,

9-12-2007

I attended the August 3rd meeting of the ODFW Commission and was one of many members of The Steamboaters who testified in favor of the proposed no kill regulations on the Umpqua system regarding wild Winter fish. You will be happy to know that the proposed regulation changes were adopted by the Commission on a 4 to 3 vote. As I reviewed your very good letter on behalf of the WSC to the Commission there is no doubt in my mind that it had a very positive impact on the ultimate vote. At least two commission members spoke of items you had made reference to in casting their votes in favor of the regulation change. The outpouring of positive correspondence in favor of the change was considerable, and those that did not support the change at this point seem to be looking ahead to the 2009 review of all the regulations with an eye toward a blanket rule in Oregon for catch and release on wild fish. It is always difficult to muster votes that don't go with the staff "findings" so this was a significant step in the right direction. Thanks again, and as a member of WSC I was really Pleased that it is taking the time and making a wonderful effort to reach beyond the geographic borders of Washington on behalf of the fish.

Best Regards,  
Jon Lund