

Roxann B Borisch

From: Bob & Ruth <harbach@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 2:00 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Oppose proposed trophy hunting seasons along the Wild and Scenic Rogue River

TO: ODFW Fish and Wildlife Commission

I am opposed to the proposed trophy hunting seasons along the Wild and Scenic Rogue River.

It is misleading to guise this proposal as a conflict prevention effort. Indiscriminate killing does not address conflicts with bears and other wildlife.

In fact, this proposal could result in more conflicts as killing mother bears orphans cubs who are then more likely to be involved in human conflicts.

This proposal is not only harmful to bears, but also to the thousands who recreate in this area every year. I recreate on the Rogue River. People are drawn to the Rogue River for its incredible beauty and ability to see wildlife throughout the year. There are public safety issues that hunting along this highly recreated river will bring.

Black bear conflict issues are entirely a human-caused problem.

To prevent conflicts, people need to change their behavior and understand how they should conduct themselves in areas where bears are present. Recreators should be required to practice certain bear conflict prevention measures and utilize tools such as bear proof containers.

Campers and lodges should be held to strict regulations on how to dispose of, carry, and store food and other attractants.

Preventative measures must be required rather than allowing the senseless and unnecessary killing of black bears along the Wild and Scenic Rogue.

Sincerely,

Ruth Schellbach
1720 Yew St SE, Salem, OR 97302

Roxann B Borisch

From: Michelle Tate
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 8:49 AM
To: Derek J Broman
Cc: Roxann B Borisch
Subject: FW: _\|/_ Potentially Risky URL in Email - Click Carefully _\|/_ Thank you for improving human-wildlife relationships!

Big Game PC

From: Diana Hulet
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 3:42 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: _\|/_ Potentially Risky URL in Email - Click Carefully _\|/_ Thank you for improving human-wildlife relationships!

Hello ODFW,

As an ecology student at Oregon State University, I wanted to thank you for not expanding bear hunting in the Lower Rogue River. I'm confident that we can find better solutions.

Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,
Diana

Diana M.Hulet
www.dianahulet.com
Pronouns: she/her

Roxann B Borisch

From: Betty nancy bee <bee.nancy@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 4:54 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: NO season on bears on the wild and scenic portion of the rogue river

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Bears belong there as part of the wild ecosystem.

Humans are guests and need to change their behavior to not attract and feed bears.

Spring hunting is especially cruel as cubs will be left to starve.

Hunting along the river is not sporting as The bears have to come to the river to drink and fish.

This change to current practices is not a good idea.

Travel and nature blog: <https://nancybird375.wordpress.com/>

Roxann B Borisch

From: Ed Kammer <edwardkammer@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 3:55 PM
To: ODFW.WildlifeInfo@state.or.us
Subject: Rogue River Wild and Scenic Bear Hunting Proposal

I am unclear on how to comment on this recent Rogue River Wild and Scenic Bear Hunting Proposal. Please forward this e-mail to the appropriate personnel.

I live in the "Scenic Section" of the Rogue River 20 miles upstream from Gold Beach. I have a garden, orchard and other temptations for hungry bears but have not seen a bear or bear sign on my property for over 5 years. In talking to my neighbors there have been no bear problems in our section of the river. Bear viewing is a very important part of a tour boat trip up the Rogue and is the highlight of the boat trip for some. It makes no sense to me to allow hunting from Watson Creek to Lobster Creek when the real bear problem is in the Wild Section. We all agree that problem bears must be eliminated in areas where they are a problem but opening bear hunting is not the answer.

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,

Edward Kammer

99204 Silver Creek Road

Gold Beach, Oregon 97444

edwardkammer@gmail.com



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Roxann B Borisch

From: Sarah Hanneken <hanneken.law@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 1:12 PM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Trophy hunting proposal – OPPOSE

Hi ODFW Commission members,

I am an Oregon resident and voter, writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed trophy hunting seasons along the Wild and Scenic Rogue River. My objection is primarily ethical, as I do not condone trophy hunting of any sort, though I also have ecological concerns with the idea as well.

For these reasons, I urge you to **reject** the trophy hunting proposal. Please listen to the thousands of voices of compassionate Oregonians on this issue. Thank you.

Kind regards,

Sarah Hanneken
2368 SE 53rd Ave
Portland, OR 97215

Roxann B Borisch

From: Stephanie Christensen <steph.e.chris@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 19, 2020 9:35 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Re: Proposed trophy hunting of black bears along the Wild and Scenic Rogue River corridor

I am an Oregon citizen, and I am writing to express my disgust and dismay at the proposal to allow trophy hunting of black bears along the Wild and Scenic Rogue River. I am appalled that the ODFW continues to use killing as a first resort to resolve wildlife issues. This is a human caused issue which should not cost these bears their lives. What is needed here is education at the campgrounds and recreation areas to keep people from feeding and getting close to wildlife - signage, handouts, bear boxes, the presence of ODFW and State Park staff.

Enough is enough! Oregonians value our beautiful natural areas and our wildlife - and want and deserve a wildlife agency that prioritizes conservation.

Stephanie Christensen

Roxann B Borisch

From: Don Boucher <donaboucher@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 19, 2020 5:53 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Bear hunting along the wild and scenic section of the Rogue River

Hello,

I am urging you to oppose black bear hunting along the wild and scenic section of the Rogue River.

The bear population in the area is healthy and suitable for such good wildlife habitat. People visiting the area need to adapt to the bear population.

There are many places in the country, such as Great Smoky Mountains National Park, where high numbers of black bears can coexist with high numbers of human visitors. In Great Smoky, visitors and workers take [measures and procedures](#) that keep most all bears from being a problem.

Using bear hunting as an alternative to changing human behavior is not a wise policy. The level of proposed hunting [will not likely reduce the numbers of bears](#) enough to eliminate negative bear/human interactions.

Introducing bear hunting will conflict with other recreational activities and challenge the safety of other human visitors and non-target wildlife. The thrill of seeing a black bear is a draw for far more visitors than the hunters that will come to kill them.

Thank you for your consideration

Don Boucher
2855 NE Lancaster St.
Corvallis, OR 97330
541-753-7689



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Roxann B Borisch

From: JONATHAN and VIDA LOHNES <vjlohnes@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2020 2:53 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Trophy hunting of bears in Wild & Scenic section of Rogue River

I regret that I was unable to phone in my stance on this issue Tuesday evening, 7/14. If it's not too late, I would appreciate it if you would place me in the OPPOSED column. I stand in support of bears to live wild and free along this beautiful river.

I find it abominable that the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission would even contemplate allowing bear hunting along the Rogue.

Thank you for your consideration of my viewpoint.

Vida Lohnes
Rhododendron, OR
503-622-3482
vjlohnes@msn.com

Sent from my iPad

Roxann B Borisch

From: Jessica Coolidge <coolidgejessica@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2020 2:18 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: against a trophy hunting season for black bears

To Whom It May Concern:

I am emailing to let you know, I am opposed to this Trophy Hunting Season for Black Bears!
As an avid outdoor lover, we as human need to recognize we are entering Bears homes- we need to be respectful of them and their needs- just as we are when we enter a persons house in the country or city. It simply does not make sense to just hunt these bears! They have done nothing wrong- bad behavior was TAUGHT by HUMANS- leaving FOOD and TRASH out for bears to get into. YOu wouldn't shoot someone's child for getting into a bag of cookies left on the counter!
DO not pass this proposal! YOu are not speaking for the majority of outdoor people!

--

Best!

Jessica Coolidge
503.232.1869

Roxann B Borisch

From: Marianne Bickett <mariannalmare@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2020 1:52 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Trophy hunt?

Please do not allow trophy hunting along the Rogue River. I thought we Oregonians were better than that. How can a trophy be worth the suffering of wild animals?

Please don't allow this savagery.

Thank you,

Marianne Bickett

Retired teacher and Grandma

Sent from my iPhone

Roxann B Borisch

From: Joanie Beldin <joanibldn@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2020 12:30 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Proposed Rogue River black Bear Trophy Hunt

Dear Fish and Wildlife Commissioners,

I am writing with deep concern and opposition to the proposal of killing the black bears in the Rogue River Wild and Scenic area.

This proposal is being posed as a way to solve the problem of habituated bears. This is clearly a people problem, not a bear problem. Killing the bears will do nothing to stop the concern. Without requiring and enforcing preventative measures, bears will continue to become habituated and the proposal will do nothing to stop conflicts.

The only answer lies in developing strict regulations for campers and lodges on how to adequately dispose of, carry, and store food and other attractants. These preventative measures along with educating the public on bear conflict preventative measures such as keeping their distance and the use of bear proof containers will be key to solving the problem and saving bears.

The guilty party in this case are the humans. I am asking that ODFW own the role that people play in these conflicts and do what is needed to help change the human behaviors, rather than kill the bears who are simply taking the bait that people have provided.

My additional concern is for the safety of the thousands of people who recreate in this area. Hunting is not a compatible or safe activity in this highly recreated area. When I come to the Rogue River Wild and Scenic area, a highlight of my visit would be able to see a bear. Bears belong - this is their home - humans are the visitors. Please develop a plan that that will help them to co-exist.

Thank you for your consideration.
Sincerely,
Joan Beldin
Portland, Oregon 97203

Roxann B Borisch

From: Lexi Loch <lloch@europharmausa.com>
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2020 11:44 AM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Rogue River Bear Hunting Concerns

To Whom it May Concern,

Hello, I'm very concerned about the proposal to hunt bears along the Rogue River. This proposal is not only harmful to bears, but also to the thousands who recreate in this area every year. Indiscriminate killing does not address conflicts with bears and other wildlife, and we find it misleading to guise this proposal as a conflict prevention effort. In fact, this proposal could result in more conflicts as killing mother bears orphans cubs who are then more likely to be involved in human conflicts.

Black bear conflict issues are entirely a human-caused problem. To prevent conflicts, people need to change their behavior and understand how they should conduct themselves in areas where bears are present. Recreators should be required to practice certain bear conflict prevention measures and utilize tools such as bear proof containers. Campers and lodges should be held to strict regulations on how to dispose of, carry, and store food and other attractants.

Preventative measures must be required rather than allowing the senseless and unnecessary killing of black bears along the Wild and Scenic Rogue.

Thank you for your time and consideration regarding this incredibly important issue.

Healthy Regards,
Lexi Loch



Education and Scientific Affairs

EuroPharma USA

Home of *Terry Naturally*, *Terry Naturally Canada*, *Terry Naturally Animal Health*, and *EuroMedica*

LLoch@europharmausa.com

Love yourself enough to live a healthy lifestyle!

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Roxann B Borisch

From: Reagan Ellis <reagan_ellis@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2020 10:33 AM
To: ODFW.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Hunting Along the Rogue Proposal

Good Morning.

I'm writing to ask you to please reconsider the proposed plan to open a trophy hunting season on black bears along the Wild and Scenic Rogue river.

I do not think bears should be killed because humans can't responsibly dispose of trash. Some of whom may be mother bears nursing cubs.

Thank you,
Reagan Ellis
Portland, OR 97266

Roxann B Borisch

From: Lisa Billings <lisarb77@hotmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2020 10:06 AM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: In Opposition of Trophy Hunting of Black Bears along the Rogue River

Dear Commission Members,

Today I write to you in staunch opposition of the recent proposal to open a black bear trophy hunting season along the Wild & Scenic Rogue River. Science proves time and time again that hunting and indiscriminate killing of carnivores do not reduce conflicts between wildlife and humans, and for ODFW to position this as an effective management tactic is disingenuous and wrong. This proposal does not account for the fact that killing mother bears would actually increase conflict with humans due to their orphaned cubs being forced into desperate measures to survive.

Rather than allow a select number of members of the public to resolve a bear "problem", ODFW should instead focus on an education campaign with enforced conflict prevention measures like trash management, secure food storage and habitat access restrictions.

Oregonians love our wildlife and our natural resources. It's your job to protect them. Do that.

Sincerely,
Lisa Billings
5510 SW Windsor Court
Portland, OR 97221

Roxann B Borisch

From: Kara Hamada <hamada.kara@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2020 8:58 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: against trophy hunting of black bears along rogue river

Hello

I am sending an email to let you know that I am against trophy hunting black bears along the rogue river. Please do not allow this.

Sincerely
Kara

Roxann B Borisch

From: james parsons <jamesparsons74@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2020 1:36 PM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Please don't allow bear hunting on the wild and scenic rogue.

Let the bears live in the wild and scenic Rogue. Please don't allow hunting parties into that peaceful section of nature to fire guns at everything all week, or however long the season is. I've been in the woods for bear season, and nobody is safe. Guns are shooting constantly. For every bear taken, thousands of rounds are fired at targets during the trip. The gunfire goes all friggin day. They break glass and leave campfires un-extinguished. Just leave the bears alone please. I would prefer they not be killed and that we use other means, or just live with the problem. We are the visitors, not them.

-James Parsons

Extreme Oregon
Sent from my iPhone

Roxann B Borisch

From: Bonnie Phipps <bbphipps@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2020 11:31 AM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Bear hunting on the Rogue River

I am writing to you to express my dismay that Oregon plans to allow bear hunting on the wild and scenic Rogue River. This is unnecessary and immoral. I very much oppose the practice. Please reconsider this policy.

Thank you.
Bonnie Phipps

Roxann B Borisch

From: Joe Martinez <josephleemartinez@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2020 11:26 AM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Against trophy hunting black bears along the Rogue

Hi,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed hunting of black bears along the Rogue River. I often vacation and camp in that area and wildlife viewing along with bear sightings are something I treasure. I don't think I would feel safe with new hunting allowed as well.

Bear conflicts are easily managed in other areas with enforced rules and killing them will only lead to more problems.

Thank you,

Joseph Martinez
Portland, Oregon

Roxann B Borisch

From: Colleen <cheaton001@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2020 9:28 AM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Proposed trophy hunting seasons along the Wild and Scenic Rogue River

This scares me to death! We were on the Rogue many years ago and some men were shooting at deer. I was afraid we were going to get shot in the crossfire! So not only are you going to have killing of bear, but possibly a boater or hiker. We go to the Wild and Scenic section of the Rogue for it's beauty and the ability to see wildlife not to see it killed! This would be senseless and unnecessary. Please do not consider this proposal has a viable options for our beautiful Rogue River.

Colleen Heaton
32730 East Mill St
PO Box 8203
Coburg OR 97408
541-913-5456
Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Roxann B Borisch

From: Judy Ingram <judyingram1@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2020 9:03 AM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Trophy hunting of bears on the Rogue River

Please don't allow trophy hunting of bears on the Rogue River. It is cruel and unnecessary. I live in northern California and would be horrified to visit this area knowing about such a hunt.

Thank you for listening. Please protect these creatures!

Judy Ingram
Rancho Cordova, CA

Roxann B Borisch

From: Sue Hodges <bigwiscon@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2020 8:45 AM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Proposed Bear Hunt

I am opposed to the proposed Trophy Hunting of Bears along the Rogue River.

There is no reason to start this other than pressure from people who want to kill Bears.

The majority of Oregon Citizens would rather see these bears alive. They are a vital resource for us and our children and our children's children.

Biologically Bears are a self regulating population.

Only so called problem bears should be removed from the population..and even then
, It is often a problem human providing an illicit food source such as unsecured garbage.

I urge you to consider bring in Steve Searles from Monmoth California to do workshops on coexisting with Bears.

S. Libby
Eugene, OR

Roxann B Borisch

From: Quinn Connell <qconnell@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2020 7:50 AM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Bear Trophy Hunting

Hello,

I am an Oregon native who learned a love for rivers and the outdoors on the Rogue River in Oregon. Seeing bears in the Wild and Scenic section as a child was a defining experience of my youth and I strongly oppose hunting in this area.

- Quinn Connell

Roxann B Borisch

From: Veronica Thompson <veronicavalda@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2020 12:00 AM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Rogue River Bears Trophy Hunting is a Lunacy!

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife has been making some anti-Oregon steps in this decade, including "proposals to have hound dogs searching for and treeing cougars" for an easy kill. Now there is a trophy hunting of bears in Rogue River, which is a popular destination for many wildlife watchers, eco-tourists, vacationing families, recreational activities, etc. The bears are not scaring the people who are bringing money from recreational revenue to the area. The stories about dumb hunters shooting bears in wild and scenic places popular with tourists will scare off the crowds.

Every time there was a "promotion" of trophy hunting of predators, or "coyote killings festivals" that amount to barbaric practices with disregard for any bio-science or ethical treatment of Nature there was also a backlash in public opinion about the competency of your regional ODFW staff.

The excuses given for basically unrestricted seasonal trophy hunting are always the same: too many numbers of unprotected species. The aftermath is also always the same: more "problems" with another species that took over the emptied habitat and parts of existing ecosystem.

The violations of safe camping, garbage disposal in recreational sites, illegal bathing that is still a big problem in Oregon, all these things contribute to the complaints about the bears. And there is a hefty number of complaints that are not based on facts, but to create a pretense "public concern" over the bears that doesn't really exist.

Please reconsider the bears trophy hunting proposal to save Oregon taxpayers money and to avoid real problem with violence and psychopathy. Obsession with displaying killed animals is not a healthy psychological trend in all professional psychiatrists and psychologists opinions. Amid Covid-19 anxiety in mentally unstable people, the encouragement of trophy hunting is like throwing a burning match in a forest. Literally.

The Thompson family
Oregon

Roxann B Borisch

From: Scott Slocum <scotts002@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 8:48 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us

Oregon should not make the proposed change to allow trophy hunting of bears in the Wild and Scenic Section of the Rogue River. Gears are not the problem--humans are. Killing bears is not the answer--changing human behavior is.

The proposal would open the Rogue River to trophy hunting of black bears during the spring and fall hunting seasons.

I'm commenting based upon the proposal details at www.youtube.com/watch?v=MN0EI_8thVo.

The proposal is harmful and non-scientific, including the following points.

- Spring bear hunts are particularly cruel because they often result in the killing of mother bears who are seeking food for themselves and their newborn cubs after winter hibernation.
- Shooting from boats at bears as they fish on gravel bars and the shoreline is akin to shooting fish in a barrel. As at Yellowstone, these bears are now accustomed to human presence. In fact they are actually encouraged to come close to people by lodges and rafting/kayaking outfits to give their guests a thrill.
- To prevent conflicts, people need to change their behavior, and stop luring bears with careless garbage and food handling. Camping and lodges should be held to strict regulations on how to dispose of, carry, and store food items. The lack of such rules has taught the bears to associate people with food.
- Even ODFW's own biologists say that allowing bear hunting along the Rogue River won't fix any problems. It's basically an opportunity to allow the trophy hunting of bears, and an excuse to increase an already-overextended bear hunting season.
- The killing of predators is not scientifically warranted, nor ethically acceptable. Predator populations are self-regulating, based upon prey populations.
- Bears should be able to live in peace in their prime habitat in this pristine part of Oregon.
- It's human behavior that must change.

Sincerely,
Scott Slocum
1416 Birchcrest Drive
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

Roxann B Borisch

From: Erin Connell <erineconnell@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 8:44 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Oregon Bears

Hello,

I am writing to voice my opposition to the proposed bear trophy hunting seasons along the Rogue River. Spring bear hunts are particularly cruel because they often result in the killing of mother bears who are seeking food for themselves and their newborn cubs after winter hibernation.

Thank you for your time,
Erin

--

Erin Connell
(541) 868-5239
erineconnell@gmail.com

Roxann B Borisch

From: j b <nswissman@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 7:45 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: I oppose trophy hunting of bears

or any animals for that matter.

please register my strong opposition to the ODFW's consideration of allowing trophy hunting of bears along the Rogue River.

respectfully,

jb

john burton
portland, oregon

Roxann B Borisch

From: Becky Garrett <becky.g777@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 6:53 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: comments regarding bear hunting along the W&S section of the Rogue River

To ODF&W regarding proposed bear hunting along the wild and scenic section of the Rogue River:

(I did attempt to phonecall a number of times during the 5-7pm 'listening session' 7/14 and could not get through)

I write you to oppose the hunting of black bears along the wild and scenic section of the Rogue River. There are multiple reasons this is unacceptable, and I will mention a few that are most compelling.

Killing bears to bring down numbers is fruitless; there will always be a significant population, and culling some will be quickly replaced in the population. These needless deaths are ethically unacceptable. This area is their home, with humans as brief visitors.

The bears have become somewhat habituated to seeing humans along the river, and have even been encouraged to not run off when watercraft comes by and at lodges too, as people delight in seeing bears in the wild. This makes them easy prey, 'sitting ducks' for hunters. In the spring mothers forage for food on the gravel bars to feed their cubs, concentrating on food and not humans.

Speaking of humans and food, people need to stop luring bears with careless garbage disposal, and their food handling and storage. Campers and lodges must be held to strict regulations, with bear proof storage. Portable electric fences have been found to be very effective at camps and lodges in addition.

Thank you for considering my comments. Becky Garrett

Roxann B Borisch

From: Rachel . <rachelrakaczky@att.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 6:21 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: STOP SLAUGHTERING AMERICA'S WILDLIFE!!!

To the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission:

PLEASE STOP SLAUGHTERING AMERICA'S WILDLIFE!!!

Thank you,
Rachel Rakaczky
Citizen and Animal Lover

Roxann B Borisch

From: Kris Neilson <kn-mjm@aiviacorp.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 5:48 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Trophy hunting bears in the Siskiyou and along the Rogue

To Whom It May Concern:

My husband and I have been boating the Wild and Scenic section of the Rogue for 42 years. Every trip, we look forward to bear sightings in the corridor. We've never had a problem with bear in camp. We realize some campers have hosted bear 'invasions' but that's one way we learn what we need to know about sharing near-wilderness with the animals that belong there. There isn't a large population of black bear; what would be more valuable for the black bear culture, would be more education on safe use of the forests and river, while living in tandem with the local creatures.

This special river - with it origin at Crater Lake, running out to the Pacific - should be protected from source to sea all along it's truly scenic elevation drop.

There are many places on our planet where trophy hunters can assist game management by culling herds. The Rogue corridor has no need for this assistance and should be protected for use in it's natural state.

Respectfully,
Kris Neilson
Michael McNally

Sent from my iPad

Roxann B Borisch

From: Sandy Kuhns <sandy.kuhns@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 5:28 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Bear killing

Hello I am asking you to stop killing bears on the Rogue.

Bears are not the problem. Humans are.

We could go on at length regarding why ODFW's plan is cruel, misguided and non-scientific, but here's an overview:

- Spring bear hunts are particularly cruel because they often result in the killing of mother bears who are seeking food for themselves and their newborn cubs after winter hibernation.
- Shooting from boats at bears as they fish on gravel bars and the shoreline is akin to shooting fish in a barrel. As at Yellowstone, these bears are now accustomed to human presence. In fact they are actually encouraged to come close to people by lodges and rafting/kayacking outfits to give their guests a thrill.
- Bears are not the problem. Humans are. And killing bears is not the answer. Changing human behavior is.
- To prevent conflicts people need to change their behavior and stop luring bears with careless garbage and food handling. Camping and lodges should be held to strict regulations on how to dispose of, carry, and store food items. The lack of such rules has taught the bears to associate people with food.
- Even ODFW's own biologists say allowing bear hunting along the Rogue River won't change anything. It is basically an opportunity to facilitate trophy hunting of bears and an excuse to increase an already bloated bear hunting season.
- Killing of predators is not scientifically warranted or ethically acceptable. Their populations are self-regulating for a myriad of evolutionary reasons.
- Bears should be able to live in peace in their prime habitat in one of the most pristine parts of Oregon. Human behavior must change.

Sent from my iPad

Roxann B Borisch

From: Susan <s.nolte@frontier.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 4:49 PM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Black Bear trophy hunting

To Whom It May Concern:

It has come to my attention that a proposed "solution" to human/bear conflicts along the wild and scenic Rogue River is a trophy hunting season on black bears. I put that word in quotations because decreasing population numbers does not address the real issue of human and bear conflicts. As with many things in life the solution is more complicated and requires a good deal of education. Tourists and new residents are often naive when it comes to appropriate and ethical behavior in the backwoods and can unwittingly exacerbate the problem by habituating bears to people and creating attractive nuisances with inappropriate disposal and handling of food and garbage. So lets talk about how to best address these real solutions... education, education, education of recreators and operators of outdoor recreation providers and hosts.

Thank you for your attention. This is a solvable problem without resorting to nontargeted killing of black bears.

Sincerely,
An admirer of the lovely Rogue River and all its many and varied wildlife
Susan Nolte, DVM

Roxann B Borisch

From: wickhambeths@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 4:46 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Do not allow hunting bears along Rogue river

To whom it may concern

Do not allow the hunting of bears along the wild and scenic area of the Rogue river. I have had the privilege of rafting and hiking along the Rogue river for over 30 years. This wild and scenic river is a gem for Oregon. My children learned to appreciate all wildlife and nature through our many shared experiences here. The bears are a special part of the environment.

- This proposal is not only harmful to bears, but also to the thousands who recreate in this area every year. Indiscriminate killing does not address conflicts with bears and other wildlife, and we find it misleading to guise this proposal as a conflict prevention effort. In fact, this proposal could result in more conflicts as killing mother bears orphans cubs who are then more likely to be involved in human conflicts.
- People are drawn to the Rogue River for its incredible beauty and ability to see wildlife throughout the year. There are public safety issues that hunting along this highly recreated river will bring.
- Black bear conflict issues are entirely a human-caused problem. To prevent conflicts, people need to change their behavior and understand how they should conduct themselves in areas where bears are present. Recreators should be required to practice certain bear conflict prevention measures and utilize tools such as bear proof containers. Campers and lodges should be held to strict regulations on how to dispose of, carry, and store food and other attractants.
- Preventative measures must be required rather than allowing the senseless and unnecessary killing of black bears along the Wild and Scenic Rogue.

Thank you for considering my input

Beth Wickham

Sent from my iPad

Roxann B Borisch

From: Donna Locke <donna@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 4:23 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Trophy hunting bears along the Wild & Scenic Rogue

I was very surprised and disappointed to learn about the proposal to allow hunting along the Rogue!

Black bear conflict issues are human caused and can be alleviated by people learning and changing behaviors in order to co-exist. We already have known and proven bear avoidance behaviors to employ. Also there is wide availability of bear proof containers that all the rangers and lodges along the Rogue are well acquainted with. If campers and lodge owners adhere to strict regulations on food storage, disposal and other attractants for bears we can avoid unnecessary killing of the bears rather than taking what may seem the path of least resistance by allowing hunting.

I would find it terrifying to personally experience or hear of hunting happening in an area that I frequent and that has year round visitors. Seems like a disaster in the making. Many, many people visit the Rogue throughout the year because of its great beauty and solitude. Introducing hunting into this pristine wilderness is not only unnecessary but unjustified but would also have potential catastrophic consequences!

Please, please do not do this!

Sincerely,
Donna Locke

Roxann B Borisch

From: Maria Valls <MValls@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 4:21 PM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Brown Bear in Wild & Scenic Rogue River

Commissioner:

Hunting brown bears to reduce bear/human interaction is not the solution. This is an uncreative and destructive approach. HUMANS need to be trained as to what THEIR behavior needs to be when in the BEAR'S territory, and they should carry and know how to use bear spray.

Why is killing wildlife always the go-to when Humans have created the problem?

I am an avid hiker, understand that I am in nature to be with whatever is out there. The wilderness is not our personal playground to manipulate and make into our own version of a "wilder Disneyland". It is serious to be out among all the dangers of the wilderness, AND THAT'S WHY WE LOVE IT AND SHOULD RESPECT IT.

I strenuously oppose any plan to hunt bears in the Wild & Scenic Rogue River area, or any other part of Oregon.

Respectfully,
Maria Valls
Portland, Oregon

Roxann B Borisch

From: Debbie Perkins <debbie.ann.perkins@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 4:16 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Bear trophy hunting

The Rogue River area is well loved by all. My sister and brother in law have run the river for 30 years.

It's bear habitat too. Human activity seems to be the problem wherever ever we go. We're constantly encroaching on their habitat.

Humans need to respectful of people and animals that came before us.

Trophy hunting is something that is unnecessary and harmful to the ecosystem.

We must think long term about care for the planet or we'll have more and more of these disruptions that Covid that we are living through now!

Sent from my iPhone

Roxann B Borisch

From: Craig Richter <downstreamcraig@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 3:53 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Bear hunting on Rogue River

I'm writing to disagree with the proposal to hunt black bears in the Wild And Scenic Rogue river corridor. As a past river and annual visitor to the Rogue I'm of the opinion that there is no issue with black bears that warrants killing them for sport while endangering other river users and spoiling the overall experience that people seek when visiting the river. Please do not allow expanded hunting on the Rogue river.
sincerely,

--

Craig Richter
DownStream Distribution LLC
541 953 6423
fax 971 732 7798

Roxann B Borisch

From: Peter Fahy <pbfahy@peak.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 3:48 PM
To: ODFW
Subject: Objection to Proposed Bear Hunting Season on Wild and Scenic Rogue River

I am writing to strongly object to the proposed bear trophy hunting season on the Rouge River. It is bad policy and frankly, unconscionable.

Please reevaluate the wisdom of this decision.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Peter Fahy
Attorney at Law (ret.)

Roxann B Borisch

From: Mary Closson <maryclosson@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 3:45 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Proposed Trophy Hunting Seasons - Wild & Scenic Rogue River

Dear ODFW Commissioners Hatfield-Hyde, Labhart, Spelbrink, Wahl, Wolley and Zarnowitz:

I'm writing to you today because I'm deeply concerned about protecting the bears and other wildlife along the wild and scenic Rogue River. I have been an Oregon resident for 30 years (I moved here on July 15, 1990) and, since that time, I have been an advocate for protecting our environment, including all wildlife. This is why I'm opposed to the proposed trophy hunting season along the Wild and Scenic Rogue River.

This proposal is not only harmful to bears, but also to the thousands who recreate in this area every year. Indiscriminate killing does not address conflicts with bears and other wildlife, and we find it misleading to guise this proposal as a conflict prevention effort. In fact, this proposal could result in more conflicts as killing mother bears orphans cubs who are then more likely to be involved in human conflicts.

Year after year, people are drawn to the Rogue River for its incredible beauty and ability to see wildlife throughout the year. There are public safety issues that hunting along this highly recreated river will bring.

Black bear conflict issues are entirely a human-caused problem. To prevent conflicts, people need to change their behavior and understand how they should conduct themselves in areas where bears are present. This is why I believe that recreators should be required to practice certain bear conflict prevention measures and utilize tools such as bear proof containers. Campers and lodges should be held to strict regulations on how to dispose of, carry, and store food and other attractants.

Preventative measures must be required rather than allowing the senseless and unnecessary killing of black bears along the Wild and Scenic Rogue.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Mary Closson

Mary Closson
P.O. Box 3826
Wilsonville, Oregon 97070
maryclosson@msn.com
Mobile: 503.320.9757

Roxann B Borisch

From: Diane L <dianneshasta@fastmail.fm>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 3:34 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Proposed trophy hunting Black Bears Rogue

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have just now heard of this proposal for trophy hunting and am writing to you re this matter. I have spent over 25 years as a rafter on the Wild and Scenic section of the Rogue and feel this issue re Black Bear conflict is a human caused problem and that people's behavior is what needs to be changed as I have witnessed misconduct or sloppy camping behaviors. The emphasis should be on education of recreators, be they hikers or rafters.

I've always been drawn to the area by its beauty and also, chance to see wildlife- including bears. I would imagine that unrestrained killing would also affect the dynamics of the bear's family - killing a mother bear for example.

What about safety of rafters or hikers with hunters in the area?

This is a very bad proposal in the many ways I have mentioned and I am completely against this proposal! Education should be the emphasis.

Regards, Diane Longcore

Roxann B Borisch

From: Leslie Hunter <lhunter@uoregon.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 3:23 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: I always think Oregon is better than this.

To Whom It May Concern and I hope that's you,

I read this morning on an email from the Sierra Club that trophy hunting of grizzly bears in Montana has been stopped. I was very relieved. Just hours later I hear that ODFW is considering opening up the Rogue River to trophy hunters so they can murder bears. I can't believe that in this day and age people still get off on the pre-meditated murder of furry families. I'm shocked and saddened that our own Rogue River is being considered a killing ground for our bears. I've hiked and rafted the Wild and Scenic Rogue many many times. It would never be a beautiful, peaceful and scenic place for me again if trophy hunters are allowed to roam wild on a government sanctioned killing spree. Don't they have anything more useful to do? How about working to conserve what we have?

Are you aware that ODFW has a bad reputation when it comes to protecting wildlife? I would like to see the ODFW turn towards conservation and become advocates for protecting our wild areas and their residents.

Very sincerely,

Leslie E. Hunter
Eugene, Oregon

Roxann B Borisch

From: Clea Partridge <cleatree@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 3:18 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Proposed black bear trophy hunting along Rogue River

Hello,

I'm writing to express my intense hope that you will consider AGAINST moving forward with a trophy hunting season for black bears along the Wild and Scenic Rogue River. Thousands of people recreate in this area and black bears have become desensitized to people in the area. This puts them at higher risk of being unable to run away when humans are present which negates the morals of "fair chase" hunting.

Killing bears could also result in orphaning cubs whose mothers are killed which makes them more likely to be involved in conflicts with humans. These types of conflicts are human-caused, just like many other wildlife/human conflicts and indiscriminate killing does not scientifically address real ways to mitigate these issues.

Please do not move forward with this proposal.

Thank you,
Clea Partridge

Roxann B Borisch

From: Michelle Blake <widerchange@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 3:18 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Reject bear hunting on the Rogue River

Members of the Commission:

We Oregonians know what a treasure the Rogue River is. People are drawn to it for recreational activities and for an experience of the wild areas that are becoming increasingly scarce, both for the enjoyment of humans and the survival of native wildlife.

Bear hunting does not fit in a wild and scenic recreation area, and it does not solve any of the problems it's intended to cure. Multiple studies have shown that indiscriminate killing of wild carnivores disrupts their social structure, removes larger and more established male adults, and results in *increased* conflicts with humans and livestock.

We must hold producers responsible for safeguarding the livestock animals they place into the landscape without resorting to killing the native animals. It is ineffective and inhumane. Bear conflicts are entirely human-caused and humans must be accountable for their prevention, without sacrificing bears, either in the name of livestock protection or recreational hunting.

Please reject this plan. We don't want bear hunting in the Rogue.

Michelle Blake
Salem



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Roxann B Borisch

From: Shannah Praus <shannah557@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 3:13 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Trophy hunting bears

Apparently many people have not seen the kind police officers in two different areas in the wilderness, who helped a mother bear that had more than three baby Cubs. Upon trying to get them all across the road, the runt baby bears secured the kind hearted officers help. Apparently black bears are not as aggressive as people perceive them to be. And they were holding them in their arms. We don't have them as pets. Some people want to help animals, not hurt them. Please do not allow this trophy hunting endeavor. Let them live in their wildlife habitat in peace.

Thankyou,
Shannah

Roxann B Borisch

From: Laurel Hines <laulehines@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 3:13 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Re Trophy hunting of bears

To Whom It May Concern,

I am opposed to allowing trophy hunting of bears along the “wild and scenic” Rogue River area. The Rogue River is a popular hiking and boating place. I have been hiking in the Rogue River area several times. I am an avid wildlife viewer and I long to see a bear again.

I have hiked my whole life, and am now a healthy senior hiker. I have never been bothered by a bear, and have rarely seen them. I have only spotted bear in the distance. They stay away from humans unless harassed or inappropriately lured in by carelessly or purposefully left out human food.

Oregon wildlife should be for all; they should not be for hunters to kill, stuff, and hang the skin on a wall. Every year there are fewer hunters, and more wildlife viewing hikers like me. So it is inappropriate to expand hunting.

Please do not allow bear trophy hunting on the Rogue!

Laurel Hines, Salem Oregon

Roxann B Borisch

From: John Kline <jkline999@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 3:06 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: No Bear Hunting on the Rogue

Hello!

I strongly oppose any program that allows killing bears for "sport". What an absolutely absurd idea, morally and ethically misguided, and cruel. Animals, including black bear, have a right to live in coexistence with all other life forms, including humans, on the lands around the Rogue River.

John Kline
Eugene, OR 97402

Roxann B Borisch

From: Larry Thompson <thompson14ster@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 2:52 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Trophy hunting of bears along pristine Rogue River is NOT OK

To prevent conflicts with bears, people need to change their behavior and stop luring bears with thoughtless garbage and food handling. Camping and lodges must be held to strict regulations on how to dispose of, carry, and store food items. The lack of such rules has taught the bears to associate people with food. Even ODFW's own biologists say allowing bear hunting along the Rogue River won't change anything. It is basically an opportunity to facilitate trophy hunting of bears and an excuse to increase an already bloated bear hunting season.

Lawrence Thompson

Roxann B Borisch

From: Patti Knollman <pattiknollman@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 2:46 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Rogue and Black Bears

Our family has enjoyed several rafting trips on the Rogue River and marvel at this pristine river with amazing scenery and wildlife. We have seen the bears and in one instance, a mom and cub on a log on the river. We kept well out of their way and waited for them to return to the forest before rafting on. While camping, we placed our provisions in the fenced in area provided by your department. We did hear the bears one night! The Rangers gave a thoughtful and thorough talk before we started our rafting trip to explain how we should conduct ourselves to keep both us and our provisions safe. This proposal is not only harmful to bears, but also to the thousands who recreate in this area every year. Indiscriminate killing does not address conflicts with bears and other wildlife, and we find it misleading to guise this proposal as a conflict prevention effort. In fact, this proposal could result in more conflicts as killing mother bears orphans cubs who are then more likely to be involved in human conflicts. Prevention and education are key to maintaining this pristine environment---not unnecessary killing of Black bears.

Please reconsider. Thank you for your time and efforts.

Patti and Paul Knollman
Powell Butte, Oregon
541-788-4107

Roxann B Borisch

From: David Simone <lightworks@mindspring.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 2:38 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: ODFW Bear hunt

ODFW Staff,

I am a long time Rogue River rafter, kayaker and hiker. In fact we just did an extended float trip on the Rogue over the 4th of July weekend. We saw no bears on the 6 days on the river. Last year we did a Rogue River trip and saw no bears.

In the 40 or so trips we've done on the Rogue, bears have not been a major problem. We've seen them, had them lurking outside camp, had them come through camp while we slept but this is humans sharing their territory - they live there.

I do not think ODFW should open a bear season on the Rogue. It seems the ODFW is trying to enact this new ruling without public comment - yes covid 19 has changed things, but having a 2 hour call in with very little notice is disingenuous and doesn't give an opportunity for all user groups to comment.

Bears belong on the Rogue, it's their home. The forest service and BLM need to increase the number of bear fenced areas and educate people on how to best avoid bear interactions. People are the visitors - don't shoot the bears.

David Simone
84569 Laughlin Rd.
Eugene, OR 97405
541 683-7189
lightworks@mindspring.com

Roxann B Borisch

From: martymccall@hevanet.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 2:09 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Rogue River Bear Trophy Hunting

With all due respect, I am EXTREMELY opposed to the make-no-sense of trophy hunting of black bears along the Wild & Scenic Rogue River. Alternatively, I support preventative measures to avoid potential bear/human conflict. I have rafted and camped (more than once) on the Rogue River and am well aware of, and have practiced, preventative measures which all rafters & campers can be educated about and required to carry out.

PLEASE kill this senseless trophy hunting proposal, NOT the bears!!!!

Thank you,

Marty McCall

Roxann B Borisch

From: dbeau@efn.org
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 2:03 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Trophy hunting for black bears -- Rogue River

To The ODFW Commission:

I've rafted the Rogue River Wild and Scenic region. I have done studies of the indigenous peoples lifeways on the lower Rogue River, between Agness and Illahe. I've presented the results of my studies at regional conferences. Occasionally I've seen Black Bears making their way along the river. These shy creatures do become acclimated to human presence. They are omnivorous, so will search for opportunities for nourishment — a survival trait we humans share.

It is wrong to create trophy hunting for black bears in Rogue River's Wild & Scenic corridor, I believe. There is much more to learn before ODFW would institute a program such as this. For one, the risk of more rifle hunters to the many recreationists - fishermen, hikers, rafters, etc. I ask the Commission to step back, review options, and make the best informed decisions for all users — and our native wildlife.

Thank you,

Douglas Beauchamp
Lane County, Oregon

Roxann B Borisch

From: Andrea <andreasheer_2@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 1:56 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Oppose trophy hunting

Dear ODFW Commissioners

I am writing in opposition to the proposed bear trophy hunting season for the Wild and Scenic Rogue River. Trophy hunting is unethical. The wild and scenic area should remain a safe haven for wildlife -- not a hunting ground for those looking to mount an animal's head as a trophy.

Our wildlife needs our protection, our advocacy, our compassion. I love the Rogue River and go there often.

If there are any human-bear conflicts, the humans must do better. Humans need to take preventative measures, most are so common sense like using bear proof containers. All lodges, campers and visitors should be required to practice bear safety measures.

No trophy hunting on the Wild and Scenic Rogue River.

Thank you
Andrea Kozil

Un-chain a dog today!
www.fencesfordo.org

Roxann B Borisch

From: Crystal Elston <crystal.elston@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 1:47 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Black Bear Trophy Hunting

Dear ODFW Commission:

I am writing to express my opposition to opening up hunting season of black bears in the Spring and Fall seasons.

It seems to me that instead of fixing the real problems, ODFW once again would rather just kill more animals and enable hunters instead of implementing and enforcing preventative measures where animal/people conflicts occur. And like other measures ODFW has presented in the past this does not identify problem animals and will result in indiscriminate kills. During Spring you have mother bears who are nursing. While hunting does exist and while problem animals may need addressing, these animals are still very much a part of our diverse ecosystem, are sentient beings, and should be protected and cared for with as much effort as possible when people are the problem...that includes Mamas, Papas, and Baby Bears! they need a chance to thrive before regular hunting season begins.

It is important to remember that Black bear conflict issues **are entirely a human-caused problem**. People need to change their behavior and understand how they should conduct themselves in areas where bears are present and recreators should be required to practice certain bear conflict prevention measures and utilize tools such as bear proof containers or be fined, charged, or incur other penalties. It is their very disregard for the rules that causes ongoing problems **and will not stop until they are held accountable**. Campers and lodges should be held to strict regulations on how to dispose of, carry, and store food and other attractants. Actions & Consequences.

Also this is an area of beauty that people come to enjoy and be in nature, not watch animals lives being taken right before them. There is a climate here for mishap as well if you have people recreating and hunting in the same areas. Just ripe for something to go wrong. I have also heard of the potential for lazy unethical hunting to occur in situations like this where bears (animals in general) can be targeted from boats or while standing on shore. That is not in alignment at all with the fair chase ethic of hunting. Standing around and waiting for something to come to you doesn't seem like sport and its this very behavior that you are opening this up to. A quick bang out for a big bear pelt.

I strongly urge you not to do this. I am waiting to see this commission step up and protect animals from people and put guidelines and practices in place that are based on Science, based on facts, and where humans are accountable for their role in things that go wrong, while being fair to hunters as well. There needs to be a very fair balance here.

Thanks for your time.

Crystal Elston

Roxann B Borisch

From: Nancy Ashton <nashton184@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 1:36 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: What!

For goodness sakes,...Where will a thought process like this one lead?

Sent from AOL Mobile Mail
Get the new AOL app: mail.mobile.aol.com

Roxann B Borisch

From: Debra Merskin <dmerskin@uoregon.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 1:35 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Opposition to proposed Trophy Hunting Seasons along the Rogue

Hello,

I am writing to you as a citizen of Oregon, a fan of the Rogue River area, and concerned human being as it comes to our precious wildlife to urge you NOT to allow this senseless and unnecessary hunting of bears. I make this request based on several points:

KEY POINTS:

- This proposal is not only harmful to bears, but also to the thousands who recreate in this area every year. Indiscriminate killing does not address conflicts with bears and other wildlife, and we find it misleading to guise this proposal as a conflict prevention effort. In fact, this proposal could result in more conflicts as killing mother bears orphans cubs who are then more likely to be involved in human conflicts.
- People are drawn to the Rogue River for its incredible beauty and ability to see wildlife throughout the year. There are public safety issues that hunting along this highly recreated river will bring.
- Black bear conflict issues are entirely a human-caused problem. To prevent conflicts, people need to change their behavior and understand how they should conduct themselves in areas where bears are present. Recreators should be required to practice certain bear conflict prevention measures and utilize tools such as bear proof containers. Campers and lodges should be held to strict regulations on how to dispose of, carry, and store food and other attractants.
- Preventative measures must be required rather than allowing the senseless and unnecessary killing of black bears along the Wild and Scenic Rogue.

Thank you,

Dr. Debra Merskin

Debra Merskin, Ph.D.
Professor
School of Journalism & Communication
University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403
T 541.346.4189
E dmerskin@uoregon.edu
Website: animalsandmedia.org

Roxann B Borisch

From: melindamccoy1@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 1:33 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Proposed bear killing in the Rogue River Scenic Area

To whom It May Concern,

Bears are a natural part of the Rogue River Scenic Area. I've been there several times and was thrilled to see them foraging beside the river.

Humans cause conflict with bears when they are irresponsible. Please require preventative measures not senseless slaughter of bears.

Thank you for reading this from an Oregonian who loves to recreate in this great state.

Melinda McCoy
503-246-7416

Roxann B Borisch

From: Paige Powell <paigepowell@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 1:30 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Cc: ping powell
Subject: DO NOT ALLOEW TROPHY HUNTING along the Wild and Scenic Rogue River

Dear OFWL Departmernt,

Please remember how angry and vehemently disgusted the Oregon public was when Governor Brown appointed a trophy hunter, Curt Melcher, as Director of OFWL last year!!
The PR and shame were global and he was out of there fast!

Covid-19 has made Oregon citizens rethink how important animals and nature is in our state -ESPECIALLY WILDLIFE.

I urge you to ban trophy hunting along the Wild and Scenic Rogue River.

Thank you,

Best Wishes,

Paige Powell

--

Paige Powell

New Email: paigepowell@gmail.com

Roxann B Borisch

From: Gail Battaglia <gailbattaglia2@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 12:54 PM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Bear hunting on the Wild & Scenic Rogue River

Hello,

I'm writing to voice my concerns and objections regarding the possibility of opening the Wild & Scenic Rogue River area to bear hunting.

While I see that the season will be limited to Nov thru April, I still strongly object to this change. People utilize this area year-round.

I am an avid backpacker and rafter in that area. I love seeing the wildlife, especially the bears. This is a place where they can mostly live in a wild environment. As a rafter/backpacker, I realize that I am entering their domain. I realize that they will likely be attracted to food that I bring. I realize that even when I take the strongest precautions to lock up and clean up my food, we may be raided by bears. It's to be expected. To state that the bears are a problem is completely off base. To refer to them as a resource is dispicable!

There are so many places in Oregon to hunt bears. No shortage there. Let them have this place as a mostly safe environment.

I strongly oppose the hunting of bears on the wild & scenic Rogue River.

Thank you for your time.
Sincerely,
Gail Battaglia
Roarke Ball
3996 Little Applegate Rd
Jacksonville, OR 97530

Roxann B Borisch

From: Ericka Rodriguez <ericka@axiologybeauty.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 12:36 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Opposing trophy hunting

Hello,

This email is expressing my deep opposition to the proposed trophy hunting seasons along the Wild and Scenic Rogue River. We need to save the bears!

Thank you,

--

Ericka Rodriguez 805-444-4630

Founder | [Axiology](#)

AXIOLOGY

 I'm using [Inbox When Ready](#) to protect my focus.

Roxann B Borisch

From: Lora Meisner <lmgb@earthlink.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 12:18 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: re: Rogue River Bears

Expires: Tuesday, October 13, 2020 12:00 AM

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) DO NOT open up the Wild and Scenic area of the Rogue River to trophy hunting of black bears during the spring and fall hunting seasons. Spring bear hunts are particularly cruel because it often results in the killing of mother bears who are seeking food for themselves and their newborn cubs after winter hibernation. As well, shooting bears from boats as they forage on gravel bars and the shoreline is not fair chase hunting.

Let us remind you that ODFW is the state **agency charged with protecting our state's wildlife, needs to follow the best available science**. Trophy hunting does not resolve nor prevent conflict.

This problem is caused by people, not bears.

In this area, bears are habituated to people, and are actually encouraged by uninformed visitors to come close to people for that "special photo." To prevent conflicts people need to change their behavior and understand how they should conduct themselves in areas where bears are present. All persons should be required to practice certain bear conflict prevention measures. There are tools available to hikers in certain campgrounds including food and garbage hoists, bear boxes and electric fences. Camping and lodges should be held to strict regulations on how to dispose of, carry, and store food items. The lack of such rules and use of best practices have taught some bears to associate people with food.

Allowing trophy hunters to kill bears is not the answer. Education and behavior change is.

But, why is trophy hunting always the go-to for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife? That needs to change.

Please protect the black bears along the Wild & Scenic Rogue River! That's your job and our taxes pay your salaries.....PROTECT don't slaughter our wildlife. Time for you to change your MO.

Lora Meisner & Glenn Baly
1347 Spyglass Court SE
Salem, OR 97306
503-588-6924

Roxann B Borisch

From: Randy and Pam Comeleo <rottyler@peak.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 11:35 AM
To: odfw
Subject: Comments on Hunting Black Bears on the Rogue River

Dear Chair Wahl and Commissioners,

I am writing to express my opinion that black bears should not be killed by hunters along the Wild and Scenic Rogue River. I am also writing because the "listening session" phone line was busy every time I tried to call-in and leave my comment between 5-7 pm on Tuesday, June 14.

Rather than attempting to kill our way to fewer conflicts with bears, ODFW needs to address the root causes of bear-human conflicts: (1) insufficient education of river users on how to coexist with bears, (2) lack of enforcement of rules requiring clean camps, and (3) no mandatory requirement to use bear deterrents like portable electric fencing around camps.

Hunters floating down the Rogue looking for bears to kill will not be able to determine which riverside bears are problematic unless they are "caught in the act". As ODFW Rogue District wildlife biologist Steve Niemela [said](#), hunting bears along the river is "not going to fix the problem, because there are always going to be bears down there".

Wildlife researchers in Alaska have found that portable electric fences can be used to train 1000-pound brown bears to stay away from camps. Electric fencing is so effective that once bears have been zapped, the charger can be removed and bears will continue to treat the fence as if it was still electrified.

Electric Fences for Bear-Country Campers:

http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=wildlifeneews.view_article&articles_id=174

ODFW places too much emphasis on providing trophy hunting opportunities for a dwindling number of hunters rather than serving the millions of Oregonians who enjoy wildlife in a non-consumptive way.

Black bears along the Wild and Scenic Rogue River should be allowed to live unexploited to be enjoyed as a symbol of Wild Oregon.

Respectfully,

Randy Comeleo
Corvallis, Oregon

Roxann B Borisch

From: Gillianne Kolb <gkolb@earthlink.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 11:36 AM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Cc: gkolb@earthlink.net
Subject: Bear killing Rogue River

To : ODFW

I am deeply disturbed at hearing the proposed plan to allow bear hunting in the area of Rogue River.

My St.Louis family and I come for 2 weeks every year for camping, floating and hiking this beloved area.

It's scenic , lush , pristine beauty and wildlife are the very heart of vacationing families such as ours . People who share the same love for one of Oregon's most naturally beautiful protected parks and the experience of purity it can still offer.

That is why it is heart breaking to hear you are willing to offer this keepsake to the unethical, cruel and totally unnecessary sport of bear killing.

Studies have shown that the species do not seem to overpopulate when left alone to nature . Left alone the population thins , reducing competition for food and the need for them to leave the woods and interact with humans.

This area is a heritage and jewel in your hands whose unique qualities do not need to be bloodied in the media and hearts of all of us who come here.

Do not be fooled into thinking that the bear killing will not disturb the eco system and eventually the draw from out of state tourist trade looking for an untainted experience.

I urge you to please reconsider something this ugly from happening to Rogue River and all of us who come to delight in her wildlife untouched !

Thank you,
Gillianne Kolb
St.Louis,Mo.

Roxann B Borisch

From: Bill Haaf <billhaaf@verizon.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 10:54 AM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Cc: Bill Haaf
Subject: my concern

I Have hiked and rafted along the Rogue. It is beautiful.
I urge you to not kill the black bears for trophy hunters . lets learn to coexist.
Thank you
Bill haaf
610-675 7131

Roxann B Borisch

From: Craig Stillwell <stillwec@sou.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 9:41 AM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Don't allow hunting of bears on the Rogue River!

I oppose the ODWF proposal for hunting bears on the Wild and Scenic Rogue River for the following reasons:

- Spring bear hunts are particularly cruel because they often result in the killing of mother bears who are seeking food for themselves and their newborn cubs after winter hibernation.
- Shooting from boats at bears as they fish on gravel bars and the shoreline is akin to shooting fish in a barrel. As at Yellowstone, these bears are now accustomed to human presence. In fact they are actually encouraged to come close to people by lodges and rafting/kayacking outfits to give their guests a thrill.
- Bears are not the problem. Humans are. And killing bears is not the answer. Changing human behavior is.
- To prevent conflicts people need to change their behavior and stop luring bears with careless garbage and food handling. Camping and lodges should be held to strict regulations on how to dispose of, carry, and store food items. The lack of such rules has taught the bears to associate people with food.
- Even ODFW's own biologists say allowing bear hunting along the Rogue River won't change anything. It is basically an opportunity to facilitate trophy hunting of bears and an excuse to increase an already bloated bear hunting season.
- Killing of predators is not scientifically warranted or ethically acceptable. Their populations are self-regulating for a myriad of evolutionary reasons.
- Bears should be able to live in peace in their prime habitat in one of the most pristine parts of Oregon. Human behavior must change.

Dr. Craig R. Stillwell

Roxann B Borisch

From: deeperez@charter.net
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 9:14 AM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: STRONGLY OPPOSE killing bears along the Rogue River

I raft and hike along the Rogue many times each year. I could not be more strongly opposed to ODFW latest plan to kill animals in their natural habitat, so doing nothing more than living. I'm so sick of ODFW being nothing but a killing agency catering to bloodthirsty hunters! It's your job to protect wildlife-not slaughter animals.

Bears are not the problem. Humans are! Manage the humans.

- Spring bear hunts are particularly cruel because they often result in the killing of mother bears who are seeking food for themselves and their newborn cubs after winter hibernation.
- Shooting from boats at bears as they fish on gravel bars and the shoreline is akin to shooting fish in a barrel. As at Yellowstone, these bears are now accustomed to human presence. In fact they are actually encouraged to come close to people by lodges and rafting/kayacking outfits to give their guests a thrill.
- Bears are not the problem. Humans are. And killing bears is not the answer. Changing human behavior is.
- To prevent conflicts people need to change their behavior and stop luring bears with careless garbage and food handling. Camping and lodges should be held to strict regulations on how to dispose of, carry, and store food items. The lack of such rules has taught the bears to associate people with food.
- Even ODFW's own biologists say allowing bear hunting along the Rogue River won't change anything. It is basically an opportunity to facilitate trophy hunting of bears and an excuse to increase an already bloated bear hunting season.
- Killing of predators is not scientifically warranted or ethically acceptable. Their populations are self-regulating for a myriad of evolutionary reasons.
- Bears should be able to live in peace in their prime habitat in one of the most pristine parts of Oregon. Human behavior must change.

Michael Reynolds
301 Gangnes Dr.
Talent, OR 97540

Roxann B Borisch

From: Jane Bicquette <jbicquette@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 9:08 AM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Cc: jbicquette
Subject: Trophy hunting along the Rogue

Dear ODFW,
Please reconsider your course regarding bear hunting in the wild and scenic Rogue River areas.

I am strongly opposed to the inhumane practice of trophy hunting.

During this time of global threats, including wildfires and climate change, we should be finding ways to protect wildlife habitat so that we can preserve and protect our wildlife. Limiting human interference in wildlife habitat and thus with wildlife, as well as educating people on practices and behaviors that respects wildlife and habitat, can go a long way to helping our bears. ODFW needs to take a bold and protective stance for our wildlife.

Your path of allowing trophy hunting sets us back as a state and as a people by allowing old ways and old solutions to prevail at a time when new solutions and strong protections for wildlife are vital. Vital for the future of Oregon. Vital for the future of wildlife and vital to health and well being of all on this planet. We have seen enough of the damage and horror of human interference. Allowing such violence against wildlife is shameful, and a backward way of thinking about wildlife. You can and should do better. For us all, including and especially for the bears.

Thank you.

Jane Bicquette
Sherwood, OR

Roxann B Borisch

From: Courtney Scott <courtney@scottwork.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 9:03 AM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: stop hunting of black bears on the Rogue River

Dear ODFW,

I strongly urge you to halt any plans to allow hunting of black bears along the scenic Rogue River. It is cruel, unnecessary, and it interferes with any other kind of recreation along the river. Who wants to hear gun shots and feel threatened from the proximity of gun fire while hiking or boating? Please think of all users of this beautiful area and ban this kind of activity.

Sincerely,
Courtney Scott
1701 SE 49th Ave.
Portland, OR 97215

Roxann B Borisch

From: Dee Perez <outlook_63C946540D12BCA2@outlook.com> on behalf of Dee Perez <deeperez@charter.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 9:03 AM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: DO NOT kill bears along the Rogue River

I was appalled to learn – only yesterday! – that ODFW wants to allow hunters to start slaughtering bears along the wild and scenic Rogue River. As usual, ODFW is reacting with brute force, cruelty, and non-scientific reactionism. Shame on you for trying to sneak this through!

Spring bear hunts are particularly cruel because it often results in the killing of mother bears who are seeking food for themselves and their newborn cubs after winter hibernation. As well, shooting bears from boats as they forage on gravel bars and the shoreline is not fair chase hunting.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), the state agency charged with protecting our state's wildlife, needs to follow the best available science. Trophy hunting does not resolve nor prevent conflict.

This problem is caused by people, not bears.

In this area, bears are habituated to people, and are actually encouraged by uninformed visitors to come close to people for that “special photo.” To prevent conflicts people need to change their behavior and understand how they should conduct themselves in areas where bears are present. Recreators should be required to practice certain bear conflict prevention measures. There are tools available to hikers in certain campgrounds including food and garbage hoists, bear boxes and electric fences. Camping and lodges should be held to strict regulations on how to dispose of, carry, and store food items. The lack of such rules and use of best practices have taught some bears to associate people with food.

Allowing trophy hunters to kill bears is not the answer. Education and behavior change is.

Dee Perez
4553 Wolf Run Dr.
Medford, OR 97504

Roxann B Borisch

From: KAREN KUNDE <karenkunde@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2020 8:04 AM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Oppose Trophy Hunting of Bears on the Rogue

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing in opposition to the proposal to use trophy hunting of bears as a wildlife management tool along the Wild and Scenic Rogue River. I request that you do a more broad environmental and economic analysis of multiple options of how to actually address the problem, which is a people problem, involving handling of food.

I live in Washington and have family in Oregon, and spend time and money in your state for wildlife watching. I would be very disappointed to see your state move in a direction like this, without a more thorough public comment opportunity. I think there are much better ideas out there, and your agency should be more creative in its approach, instead of falling back on crude tools.

I especially oppose putting mother bears feeding cubs at risk, as well as opening up the possibility of injured wildlife escaping into the woods. You will greatly diminish the experience of the river by the public and you will bring harm to its wildlife and your agency's reputation. Please do not go forward with this proposal.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Karen Kunde
9718 Sixth Avenue NW
Seattle, WA 98117
(206)245-5643

Roxann B Borisch

From: jg xxx <golick@efn.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 11:39 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: OPPOSED TO ALLOWING TROPHY HUNTING OF BEARS IN THE WILD SCENIC SECTION OF THE ROGUE RIVER.

I COULD NOT GET THROUGH TO LEAVE THIS MESSAGE ON YOUR PHONE THIS EVENING, YOUR PHONES WERE JAMMED WITH CALLS I'M GUESSING.

SO I'M WRITING THIS TO LET YOU KNOW,

THAT I AM ABSOLUTELY OPPOSED TO OREGON'S PLAN TO ALLOW TROPHY HUNTING OF BEARS IN THE WILD AND SCENIC SECTION OF THE ROGUE RIVER.

I RAFT AND BOAT THROUGH THERE AND CAN THINK OF NO GREATER BUZZ-KILL TO THAT BEAUTIFUL EXPERIENCE, THAN HEARING OR SEEING OR KNOWING THAT TROPHY HUNTING OF OUR BEAUTIFUL WILDLIFE, IN THIS CASE OUR RESIDENT BEARS, IS THREATENING THEIR PEACEFUL EXISTENCE THERE.

I SUPPORT SHARING LIFE HERE WITH OUR WILD BREOTHEREN, NOT KILLING THEM.

JAN GOLICK
140 E 37TH AVE
EUGENE OR 97405

Roxann B Borisch

From: Lynn Fitch <urselynn@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 11:24 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Trophy Hunting of Black Bears Along the Rogue River

Hello,

I am adamantly against the non-scientific proposal from the ODFW will open up the Wild & Scenic area of the Rogue River to trophy hunting of black bears during the spring & fall hunting seasons. Spring bear hunts are particularly cruel because it often results in the killing of mother bears who are seeking food for themselves and their newborn cubs after winter hibernation. As well, shooting bears from boats as they forage on gravel bars and the shoreline is not fair chase hunting. Trophy hunting does not resolve nor prevent conflict. This problem is caused by people, not bears. Thank you for your time and consideration. Please contact me if you have further questions.

Lynn Fitch
503-863-0407

Roxann B Borisch

From: Kristi Weeks <kristi531@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 10:55 PM
To: Odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Bears along Rogue River

Please do not allow hunting of bears in the Wild and Scenic Section of the Rogue River. Bears are not the problem, humans are. Killing bears is not the answer.

Spring bear hunts are particularly cruel because they often result in the killing of mother bears who are seeking food for themselves and their newborn cubs after winter hibernation. **Shooting from boats at bears as they fish on gravel bars and the shoreline is akin to shooting fish in a barrel.**

To prevent conflicts people need to change their behavior and stop luring bears with careless garbage and food handling. Camping and lodges should be held to strict regulations on how to dispose of, carry, and store food items. The lack of such rules has taught the bears to associate people with food.

Even ODFW's own biologists say allowing bear hunting along the Rogue River won't change anything. It is basically an opportunity to facilitate trophy hunting of bears and an excuse to increase an already bloated bear hunting season. **Killing of predators is not scientifically warranted or ethically acceptable. Their populations are self-regulating for a myriad of evolutionary reasons. Bears should be able to live in peace in their prime habitat in one of the most pristine parts of Oregon.**

Sent from [Outlook Mobile](#)

Roxann B Borisch

From: Karen Perkins <karenperkins@mindspring.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 10:14 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Bear trophy hunting on the Rogue

I am a boater who runs the Rogue 1-2 times a year. The opportunity to see bears is a rare event for most people, and one that is common along the Rogue. Any problems they create are due to us inhabiting their territory. We have no business hunting them and it's totally unsportsmanlike to do so in the river corridor, where it's like shooting fish in a barrel

Roxann B Borisch

From: Lisa Mirhej <lfmirhej@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 9:51 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: trophy hunting of black bears on the Rogue Wild and Scenic

Dear Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife,

I would like to express my strong opposition to trophy hunting of black bear on the Rogue Wild and Scenic River. It is unfair to bears to kill them so that they don't get close to humans. It is the responsibility of humans to act in ways that do not attract bears. Hunting bears from boats is unfair and inhumane, as is killing mother bears and therefore leaving their cubs to suffer and starve to death. Current science shows that this kind of hunting is not effective in decreasing bear/human conflicts. Please do not allow trophy hunting of bears along the Rogue to happen.

Thank you for your consideration,

Lisa Mirhej

From: Diana Huntington <fitten@earthlink.net>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 9:23 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Strongly Opposed to Rogue River Bear Killing!

Bears are not the problem. Humans are.

- Spring bear hunts are particularly cruel because they often result in the killing of mother bears who are seeking food for themselves and their newborn cubs after winter hibernation.
- Shooting from boats at bears as they fish on gravel bars and the shoreline is akin to shooting fish in a barrel. As at Yellowstone, these bears are now accustomed to human presence. In fact they are actually encouraged to come close to people by lodges and rafting/kayacking outfits to give their guests a thrill.
- Bears are not the problem. Humans are. And killing bears is not the answer. Changing human behavior is.
- To prevent conflicts people need to change their behavior and stop luring bears with careless garbage and food handling. Camping and lodges should be held to strict regulations on how to dispose of, carry, and store food items. The lack of such rules has taught the bears to associate people with food.
- Even ODFW's own biologists say allowing bear hunting along the Rogue River won't change anything. It is basically an opportunity to facilitate trophy hunting of bears and an excuse to increase an already bloated bear hunting season.
- Killing of predators is not scientifically warranted or ethically acceptable. Their populations are self-regulating for a myriad of evolutionary reasons.
- Bears should be able to live in peace in their prime habitat in one of the most pristine parts of Oregon. Human behavior must change.
-

Roxann B Borisch

From: j m <jcohan09@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 9:00 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: No to Black Bear trophy hunting!

Hello,

I called several times this evening during the listening session and reached a busy signal. I want to make sure you hear from the people who feel very strongly that the possibility of allowing trophy hunting of Black Bears is not only immoral, but the wrong way to fix the problem. We are in their habitat, not the other way around, and humans need to learn the correct way to interact with wildlife instead of allowing the killing of bears - some of whom will be mothers to young cubs. Many people in our state would strongly disagree with this decision. Please put the animals' welfare at the forefront, and in doing so look for more creative solutions.

Sincerely,
Jenna Cohan
(541) 363-2521

Roxann B Borisch

From: Wanda Nelsen <wanelsen@mind.net>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 8:59 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Black Bear Hunts

To Whom it May Concern:

Bears have a needed place in the animal hierarchy. They should be left alone to fulfill it. Please do not approve bear hunting.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Wanda Nelsen

Sent from my iPhone

Roxann B Borisch

From: Bala <sbala.gt@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 8:45 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Allowing black bear hunting along the Rogue River

Hello,

I am a resident of Oregon and a frequent visitor to the scenic wilderness areas around Rogue River. I come to learn that you're considering allowing hunting of black bears along the river and I'm writing to express my opposition to it and urge you to reconsider your move.

Black bear control is not achieved by hunting them out but by ensuring they do not habituate among human settlements. Many places in the country have achieved this by using bear-proof dumpsters, educating the area residents and visitors to campgrounds, lodges and trails about how to avoid bear contact. It is puzzling why ODFW is considering this extreme move. With wildlife in the country in decline, this move is especially backwards-looking.

I urge the commission to reconsider this move and not introduce black bear hunting to the wilderness around Rogue river which is an Oregon treasure.

Thank you
Bala Seshasayee

Roxann B Borisch

From: Brad <bsheldon13@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 8:37 PM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Rogue river bear hunting

Dear ODFW

I would like to object to the plan to allow bear hunting in the spring and fall along the Rogue River. in this time of increasing pressure on the environment, the flora and fauna of the rogue river should be protected to the full extent of the law. This includes the apex predator of the region. I did not believe there is natural evidence of an overpopulation of bears (such as bear malnutrition). rather the increase incident of bear human encounters can be attributed to the failure of humans to apply good bear country practices. To solve this problem there should be more vigorously enforcement of the laws and regulations that govern how visitors to the region behave. In other words,do not blame the bears for human error. Many tourists visit Oregon solely for the opportunity to enjoy this wilderness and its wildlife. This plan would be both a cruel tragedy for bears and their offspring, and an economic error.

Brad Sheldon

Sent from my Verizon Motorola Smartphone

Roxann B Borisch

From: Alice Elshoff <calice58@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 8:10 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Bears

Why are we just now hearing about this? Do not allow trophy hunting of bears on the wild and scenic Rogue River. Spring hunting when Moms are actively out feeding cubs or shooting from boats as they fish! That's disgusting. They belong there. Educate people on how to live with bears nearby instead!

Respectfully,
Alice Elshoff

Roxann B Borisch

From: Marilyn Coomber <macoomber@rocketmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:30 PM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Trophy hunting of black bears

Hello there:

Please do not open up the Wild and Scenic area of the rogue River for black bear trophy hunting during the spring and fall hunting season. I am highly discouraged that you want to pass a mis-guided, out dated, cruel practice that no longer fits within our society. This proposal from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife that would open up the Wild and Scenic area of the Rogue River to trophy hunting of black bears needs to be halted. Spring bear hunts are always cruel because it often results in the killing of mother bears who are seeking food for themselves and their newborn cubs after winter hibernation. As well, shooting bears from boats as they forage on gravel bars and the shoreline is not fair chase hunting.

Everyone loves **live** animals...except for a few who should seek other constructive hobbies.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) should follow the best available science. Trophy hunting does not resolve nor prevent conflict.

The problem is caused by people not bears. They are often encouraged by uninformed visitors to get close to people for that one special photo.

To prevent conflicts people need to change their behavior and understand how they should conduct themselves in areas where bears are present. There are tools available to hikers in certain campgrounds including food and garbage hoists, bear boxes and electric fences. Camping and lodges should be held to strict regulations on how to dispose of, carry, and store food items. The lack of such rules and use of best practices have taught some bears to associate people with food.

We really need you to re-consider this action, for the welfare of our families and friends as well.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Coomber
Oregon resident
503-251-2390
20400 SE Helzer Way
Damascus, OR. 97089

Roxann B Borisch

From: Judy Petullo <judyveggienet@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:24 PM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Bears

I read with great disappointment of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's plan to open the Wild and Scenic area of the Rogue River to trophy hunting of black bears. This seems misguided on many levels. Visitors to this area and around Oregon love Oregon for it's scenic beauty and diverse animal populations.

One of the ways to reduce conflicts with people is to educate visitors.

Camp grounds and lodges should have regulations set in place on how to store, carry and dispose of food. In addition tools should be made available such as food and garbage hoists, bear boxes, fences, etc.

It is greatly problematic to me that it seems that ODFW seems mostly willing to do away with Oregon's animals at the drop of a hat rather than coming up with creative ways to solve problems other than killing.

People encroach and take over animal habitats and then when the animals want to still use that land they're killed. When will this mindset of ODFW change. It's old thinking.

Judy Petullo

Roxann B Borisch

From: Jennifer Siebert <jsiebert22@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:23 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Strong opposition to proposed trophy hunting along Wild & Scenic Rogue River!

Dear ODFW,

I am writing to offer my strong opposition regarding the proposal to allow trophy hunting along the Wild and Scenic Rogue River.

Firstly, the problem is increased human activity and an unwillingness to alter or correct behavior. Offering this proposal as a way to “cull” the numbers of black bears is a misguided solution. This has been the case with other species and continues to be in this case.

Avid sportsman who pride themselves on hunting for sustenance deem trophy hunting disrespectful, disgraceful, wasteful and misguided.

By advocating and presenting this proposal, ODFW is saying they side with this apathetic and wasteful mentality that represents trophy hunting, seemingly in an indignant way, going against protecting and responsibly managing Oregon wildlife, revealing on ongoing questionable integrity.

You have the opportunity to take a new and different approach, killing of animals must cease in being the “go to” answer to solve issues.

I urge you to RETHINK your direction. I would challenge the the logic offered by your biologists and challenge the way we penalize our wildlife with killing. The majority of Oregonians are tenaciously against this as the “go to” method and look to ODFW to responsibly find NONLETHAL means to manage wildlife.

Additionally, the proposed spring hunt is additionally cruel and deplorable in that often result in the killing of mother bears who are simply seeking food for their newborn cubs.

Thank you for considering this perspective.

Jenny Siebert
Newport, Oregon

Roxann B Borisch

From: Laura M. Ohanian <lmo@efn.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:22 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Bear Hunting Proposal Along the Wild and Scenic Rogue

To the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife:

I am under the impression that you're supposed to be the agency charged with protecting Oregon's wildlife, but your actions consistently show that your primary interest is serving hunters -- who constitute a miniscule proportion of our population. How can you, in all good conscience, consider allowing trophy hunting of black bears during the spring and fall hunting seasons, when recreators and tourists are no longer around to witness the bloodbath? This plan is cruel, misguided, and unscientific -- bears are not the problem, humans are. Killing bears is not the answer, changing human behavior is.

Spring bear hunts are particularly cruel because they often result in the killing of mother bears who are seeking food for themselves and their newborn cubs after winter hibernation. Shooting from boats at bears as they fish on gravel bars and the shoreline is akin to shooting fish in a barrel. As at Yellowstone, these bears are now accustomed to human presence, in fact they are actually encouraged to come close to people by lodges and rafting and kayaking outfits to give their guests a thrill.

To prevent conflicts, people need to change their behavior and stop luring bears with careless garbage and food handling. Camping and lodges should be held to strict regulations on how to dispose of, carry, and store food items. The lack of such wise rules has taught bears to associate people with food.

Even ODFW's own biologists say that allowing bear hunting along the Rogue River won't change anything. It's basically an opportunity to facilitate trophy hunting of bears and an excuse to increase an already bloated bear hunting season.

Killing of predators is not scientifically warranted or ethically acceptable. Their populations are self-regulating, and have been for millenia, for a myriad of evolutionary reasons.

Bears should be able to live in peace in their prime habitat in one of the most pristine parts of Oregon. Human behavior must change.

Please consider shelving this terrible plan.

Thank you,
Laura M. Ohanian
P.O. Box 811
Eugene, OR 97440

Roxann B Borisch

From: TAMI MCNERNEY <mntnb@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:15 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: No bear hunting along rouge river

Dear Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission, I am expressing my opposition to the proposed trophy hunting seasons along the Wild and Scenic Rogue River.

I left a voicemail tonight and following up on this important matter.

Thank you,

Tami Mcnerney

Truckee, Calif 96161

Sent from my iPhone

Roxann B Borisch

From: Becky Ramage <alicechristen75@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:14 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Please End Trophy Hunting Along the Rogue River

To All Whom It Concerns:

Please end trophy hunting of wild animals, such as Black Bears, along both sides of the Rogue River. I have gone on several rafting trips, lead by guides, down the Rogue River, and I loved seeing the wild animals along the way, including Black Bears, and many other species of wild animals, and I want all of the wild animals to be kept alive in their natural habitat and for other people to enjoy seeing while on rafting trips along the scenic Rogue River.

Thank you.

Rebecca L. Ramage

Roxann B Borisch

From: Aaron Helfrich <aaron@helfrich.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:12 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Bear hunting Rogue

I fully support hunting bears on the Rogue River year around. With the same ODFW regulations in other areas.

Aaron Helfrich
www.Helfrich.com
1950 Yolanda Avenue
Springfield, OR 97477
541-726-5039
541-913-7220

"Eventually, all things merge into one, and a river runs through it. The river was cut by the world's great flood and runs over rocks from the basement of time. On some of the rocks are timeless raindrops. Under the rocks are the words, and some of the words are theirs. I am haunted by waters." Norman Maclean, A River Runs Through It

Cancellation Policy: Due to the nature of our business with limited launch dates, trip size and commitments to lodges and guides, deposits are non-refundable. However, if we can refill your cancelled seats at full price, we will refund all fees received. If we must cancel a trip due to unsafe conditions, you will be refunded in full. We strongly recommend trip insurance which can be purchased through Travel Guard, Travelex and others.

Roxann B Borisch

From: cheryl platt <fromcher@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:10 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Bear Trophy Hunting

Please note that our family is opposed to the idea of spring and fall trophy hunting of black bears on the Rogue River. Keep the Rogue wild and scenic, and protect the remaining bear populations.

Thank you,
Cheryl and Jeff Morris
Bend, OR

Sent from my iPad

Roxann B Borisch

From: Angela Murdock <angela_murdock@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:10 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Oppose Trophy Hunting Seasons along Rogue River

Hello,

I, my friends, and my family are all Oregonians who appreciate our wildlife. We strongly are opposed to trophy hunting along the Rogue River (or for any trophy hunting, period). In our opinion, the ODFW always goes to trophy hunting for the answer to our problems. This is so upsetting and wrong! The problems with the bears are the people, not the bears. Please protect our state's wildlife and follow the best available science. Trophy hunting does not resolve or prevent these issues. We need education and a behavior change.

Thank you for your time,

Angela & Manuel Norse

4039 Oakman St S

Salem, OR 97302

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Roxann B Borisch

From: Lustig Ingrid <ingridlustig22@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 7:09 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: bear hunting on the Rogue

Dear Commission,

I vehemently oppose hunting bears on the Rogue River. Everything about this proposal is wrong and needs to be abandoned.

Thank you.

Ingrid Lustig

Bend, OR

541-848-1587

Roxann B Borisch

From: Maurya Kaarhus <siochain@pacinfo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:54 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Killing bears on the Rogue

To: ODFW

Please reconsider and cancel the plan to kill bears on the Rogue.

It is a designated wild and scenic river. A wilderness should be expected to remain wild, including wildlife. I've boated the Rogue many times, and have seen bears, always across the river from campsites. They don't seem to be a threat to boaters or fishermen. If they are, then the humans on the river need to adapt and learn how to best coexist in bear territory. There are other places where bear hunters are allowed. Bears are an important part of the wilderness ecosystem. Nature is better at regulating and balancing it's ecosystem than humans are.

Our state, country and planet have very few truly wild places left. These few remaining places are unique, and should preserved with their wildlife intact.

Thank you. Maurya Kaarhus, Eugene.

> Sent via my faster-than-Wi-Fi and totally safe HARD-WIRED internet
> connection

Roxann B Borisch

From: SRSJOY@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:41 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Stop bear hunting along the rogue River

Please do not allow bear hunting along the Rogue River. We need Wildlife alive and we do not need wild men and killer people hunting bears. Sallie Rose Sandler

Sent from my iPhone

Roxann B Borisch

From: ANNETTE GREEN <gscent@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:27 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Trophy hunting of bears

I am writing, from New York City, to express my opposition to the trophy hunting sessions proposed along the beautiful Rogue River. Protecting our wildlife and nature's bounty must take priority over such cruel personal satisfaction. Your attention to this proposed unrestricted activity is most appreciated.

Sincerely

Annette Green

Sent from my iPhone

Roxann B Borisch

From: Pamela Pearson <pamelakpearson@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:28 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: BEARS - NO HUNTING

The telephone line was consistently busy unable to leave a message.

REQUESTING, STRONGLY, No Hunting of Bears - Southern Oregon along Rogue it is their home we, humans, intrude on their habitat.

Pamela K Pearson Wardscreek Road, Rogue River, OR 97537

Roxann B Borisch

From: Christine White <pchristinewhite@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:11 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Trophy hunting bears on the Rogue River

I would like to express my opposition to your recent proposal to hunt black bears in the spring and the fall. What is especially cruel about this proposal, is that you would kill mother bears foraging for food for their young in the spring. Also, shooting a bear from a boat seems wrong headed in so many ways and the epitome of cruel hunting practices. Please consider a more scientific approach that will allow the vast majority of Oregonians to continue enjoying our wildlilfe, instead of obliterating them.

Thank you, Christine White
955 NW Chelsea Loop
Bend, OR 97703

Roxann B Borisch

From: Jane Marsh <janemarsh6100@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 5:54 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Comment Regarding Proposed Black Bear Trophy Hunting along Rogue River

My name is Jane Marsh, I live in Eugene, OR. I am a Rogue River enthusiast. I am calling to register my opposition to the proposed black bear trophy hunting seasons in the Spring and Fall along the Rogue River.

I think this proposal is misguided and cruel. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) needs to follow the best available science regarding both human and bear behavior. Trophy hunting does not resolve nor does it prevent conflict. Even worse, it is cruel. Opening up the Wild and Scenic area of the Rogue River to trophy hunting of black bears during the spring often results in the killing of mother bears who are seeking food for themselves and their newborn cubs after winter hibernation. As well, shooting bears from boats as they forage on gravel bars and the shoreline is not fair chase hunting.

The problem is caused by people, not bears. Allowing trophy hunters to kill bears is not the answer. Education and behavior change among humans is. Yosemite National Park does a good job of this. In fact, conflicts between people and bears in Yosemite have fallen dramatically as people and bears have learned new lessons over the years. A recent article on NPS.gov under "Bear Management" states:

"Yosemite National Park managers work to protect the American black bear in Yosemite National Park so that it can continue its healthy existence for future generations of visitors to see. The challenge: The species, by its nature, can easily be corrupted by human errors, such as approaching too closely or poor food storage practices. For these reasons, research is on the forefront. As scientists learn more, the emphasis, in some cases, is on managing the behavior of humans rather than the behavior of bears."

In this area along the Rogue, bears are habituated to people, and are encouraged by uninformed visitors to come close for that "special photo." To prevent conflicts people need to learn some simple tips and then change their behavior accordingly. This must be enforced. Recreators should be required to practice certain bear conflict prevention measures. There are tools available to hikers in certain campgrounds including food and garbage hoists, bear boxes and electric fences. Camping and lodges should be held to strict regulations on how to dispose of, carry, and store food items. The lack of such rules and use of best practices have taught some bears to associate people with food.

Don't blame bears for bad human behavior. Humans have intruded in the bears' habitat. I feel it is misguided and cruel to kill bears just because they associate humans with food. We need to be better than this!

Thank you.

Jane Marsh

Roxann B Borisch

From: jodi ellis <j.ellis1@outlook.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 5:48 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: BEAR HUNTING

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I TRIED TO CALL EARLIER BETWEEN 5-7 AND THE LINE WAS CONTINUALLY BUSY. MY HUSBAND AND I BOTH OPPOSE THE HUNTING OF BEARS ALONG THE WILD AND SCENIC PART OF THE ROGUE RIVER. PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW THIS. SINCERELY, MR. & MRS. HICE.

Roxann B Borisch

From: katherine hearn <kathearn1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 5:47 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: proposal to hunt bears along the Wild and Scenic Rogue River

Trophy hunting belongs in the past. This is a cruel 'sport' and responsible for the extinction of many animals. It is especially cruel to open it up in the spring when killing a mom leaves the babies without a mother. This is also a Wild and Scenic area. Who wants to see animals killed while enjoying nature? In this day and age there is no reason to trophy hunt. I strongly oppose trophy hunting no matter what animal. It is killing just to kill and the time has come to stop.

Thank you,
Katherine Hearn
97223

Roxann B Borisch

From: allison <alliesw@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 5:38 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Trophy hunting must be banned!

- I am against trophy hunting for the following reasons:
- Spring bear hunts are particularly cruel because they often result in the killing of mother bears who are seeking food for themselves and their newborn cubs after winter hibernation.
- Shooting from boats at bears as they fish on gravel bars and the shoreline is akin to shooting fish in a barrel. As at Yellowstone, these bears are now accustomed to human presence. In fact they are actually encouraged to come close to people by lodges and rafting/kayacking outfits to give their guests a thrill.
- Bears are not the problem. Humans are. And killing bears is not the answer. Changing human behavior is.
- To prevent conflicts people need to change their behavior and stop luring bears with careless garbage and food handling. Camping and lodges should be held to strict regulations on how to dispose of, carry, and store food items. The lack of such rules has taught the bears to associate people with food.
- Even ODFW's own biologists say allowing bear hunting along the Rogue River won't change anything. It is basically an opportunity to facilitate trophy hunting of bears and an excuse to increase an already bloated bear hunting season.
- Killing of predators is not scientifically warranted or ethically acceptable. Their populations are self-regulating for a myriad of evolutionary reasons.
- Bears should be able to live in peace in their prime habitat in one of the most pristine parts of Oregon. Human behavior must change
- Thank you, Allison Anderson, Meridian, MS

Roxann B Borisch

From: Leslie Burpo <leslieburpo1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 5:35 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Opposition to Trophy Hunt Along Rogue River

Dear ODFW,

I've been trying to call in to the public listening session to voice my opposition to the proposed trophy hunting season along the Rogue River, but the line is busy.

So, instead, please accept this email as my comment in opposition.

My opposition to the proposed trophy hunting season is based on many factors, just three of which I will list here:

1. The timing of the hunt (Spring) is inhumane, leaving cubs without their mothers. Responsible hunters care about wildlife, care about the ecosystem, and behave so as not to cause needless suffering.
2. Hunting along the river is not sportsmanlike, as it puts the hunter at an unfair advantage while the bears are preoccupied by fishing.
3. I've read that even ODFW doesn't believe that bear hunting along the Rogue River will improve any environmental conditions or benefit wildlife.

Why would ODFW even consider this hunt?

Please don't cater to the worst of humanity in your effort to please; Rash decisions made now by ODFW will affect our perception of ODFW in the future. Please stick to your best principles.

Leslie Burpo

Roxann B Borisch

From: June Stephens <junebirdart@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 5:31 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Black Bears at Rogue River

Dear ODFW Commissioners:

I am completely opposed to the trophy hunting of black bears at any time, especially spring hunting where mother bears are killed whilst seeking food for themselves and newborn cubs. This is cruel, inhumane, and unnecessary. People who purposely go out and kill animals for "fun" are pathological.

Black bears are not the problem! The bears are not at fault! The problem is too much human encroachment upon the bears and other wildlife resulting in ignorant people doing what they should NOT be doing to or around bears and other wildlife!

The solution is **educating** the public to respect wildlife and to establish guidellines for the protection and preservation of our precious wildlife!

Thank you for your time.

June Stephens

--



Roxann B Borisch

From: Samantha Bruegger <sbruegger@wildearthguardians.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 5:25 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: In opposition to increased black bear hunting on the wild and scenic Rogue River

Dear Commissioners,

WildEarth Guardians opposes proposed black bear hunting on the Wild Scenic section of the Rogue River. This proposal, disguised as a wildlife "conflict" solution, is nothing more than a trophy hunt by another name. "Culling," a nicer way of saying killing, native carnivores has proven to be ineffective and in many cases, exacerbates the issue. Furthermore, it appears that in addition to already permitting bear hunting in the area, Wildlife Services is also killing upwards of 70 black bears in Curry County annually. This war on bears need not be expanded into the little protected area they have left.

Wildlife coexistence measures are far more effective than the sledgehammer, lethal removal, approach. If ODFW truly wants to reduce bear conflict, please consider the below waste management practices:

1. Education: program to empower recreators to properly store food and reduce attractants.
2. Require bear boxes for those camping on the river.
3. Promote pack-in take out waste management.
4. Ensure all public disposal sites are bear proofed.

There are also many peer-reviewed scientific studies on bear conflict reduction, none in the recent decade have found that recklessly increasing lethal management improves conflict conditions. I am available at any time for questions.

Thank You,

Samantha Bruegger

--



SAMANTHA BRUEGGER

***Wildlife Coexistence
Campaigner***

She/ Her/ Hers

(970) 363-4191

www.wildearthguardians.org



Roxann B Borisch

From: Grace Jackson <gracejks@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 5:23 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Opposed to bear hunting

Categories: Forwarded to Wildlife

Hello-

I strongly oppose trophy hunting for bears in the Rogue River. I love the outdoors and the wildlife that make it so special. Please protect these animals in your care!

God bless.

Grace Jackson

--
Best,

Grace Jackson

Director/ Producer

Houseblend Films

310.880.0458 | www.houseblendmedia.com

***Please consider the environment before printing this email.**

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Roxann B Borisch

From: Hillary Tiefer <hillarytiefer@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 5:21 PM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Trophy hunting of bears

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission

Dear Commissioners,

I appreciate the natural beauty of Rogue River and have visited the river often. I taught for a number of years at Rogue Community College as well as Southern Oregon University. I have a great love of nature and I also respect nature and know that I should be respectful of it. For example, I know I should not attempt to leave food at campgrounds to lure bears to the area.

I am seventy and after all these years I still ask myself the question: why do other people have no compassion for other living creatures? Why do people enjoy killing bears, turning them into rugs, and hanging them on walls as trophies? These people, with a lust for killing, even want to hunt bears in the spring while the mother bears search for food for their cubs. If these bears are killed the cubs will starve to death! I wonder over and over, year after year, why people enjoy the hunt and enjoy inflicting terror and pain. What sort of people are these?

I enjoy living in Oregon and hope I have contributed to teaching many of its residents over the years to properly write (including the Grants Pass Police Department) and also understand and appreciate literature. I wish Oregon was a more humane state and respected its wildlife. Please end this trophy hunting of bears.

Sincerely,

Hillary Tiefer, PhD English

Roxann B Borisch

From: Karen Salley <karensalley@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 5:19 PM
To: ODFW.WildlifeInfo@state.or.us
Subject: bear hunting in Southern Oregon

I am very concerned about the proposal to allow bear hunting on the Wild and Scenic Rogue River. Please put me on the list of people to contact regarding any proposals that might come from this effort.

Larry Laitner
801 Pinecrest Terrace
Ashland, OR 97520

Roxann B Borisch

From: Sharon Stroble <sestroble@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 5:18 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: BEAR HUNTING

I totally oppose the proposal to allow trophy hunting of bears along the Rogue River. Bears are not the problem. Let's start valuing our bears instead of treating them as though they are expendable.

SINCERELY

SHARON STROBLE

sestroble @mac.com

Sent from my iPhone

Roxann B Borisch

From: Jeannie Peterson <jeanniejots@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 5:17 PM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Trophy Hunting of Bears

The proposal to allow trophy hunting of black bears along the Wild and Scenic Rogue River is completely unacceptable. And the fact that it was proposed by the very agency created to protect our wildlife makes it particularly onerous.

Spring hunting would be allowed. That often results in the killing of mother bears out searching for food for themselves and their new babies. Killing the mothers would result in the babies dying a slow and painful death.

The proposal also would allow shooting bears from boats. The bears would be foraging along the shore. That does not sound like fair chase hunting.

Trophy hunting, in and of itself, is deplorable. Killing for the sake of a rug or animal head on your wall.

Trophy hunting does NOT resolve nor prevent human/bear conflicts. That problem is caused by PEOPLE, not bears. In that area of The Rogue, bears are used to people and are actually encouraged by some uninformed visitor to come closer to them. To prevent conflicts, people need to be educated to change their behavior and learn how to conduct themselves when bears are present.

Allowing trophy hunting is NOT the answer. Why is ODFW's go to plan always some form of killing wildlife????

Thank you for your time and attention.

Jeannie Peterson
Creswell, OR

Roxann B Borisch

From: John D. Vandenberg <john.vandenberg@klarquist.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 5:14 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Proposed Bear Hunting Along the Rogue

I write to oppose your proposal allowing spring and fall hunting of bears along the Rogue River.

Apart from being inhumane, it does not address the core problem. The Dept. instead should promulgate regulations requiring training, education and certification of campers in that area, so that they know how to behave so that bears will not associate humans with sources of food. It is a privilege to visit such areas and we all need to earn that privilege.

I tried to reach your comment call line but the number has been busy since 5:00.

I live in rural Sherwood, Oregon.

I have asked my State Representative, Courtney Neron, to contact you about this as well.

The Department's proposal is disappointing, and you do not have antiquated computer systems to blame. Only yourselves. Please reconsider.

John D. Vandenberg
503-380-5779

Roxann B Borisch

From: job1club <job1club@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 4:57 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Stop trophy hunting of bears in the Wild & Scenic section of the Rogue River

Dear Commission,

I oppose ALL trophy hunting black bears during the spring and fall hunting seasons (i.e., when recreators and tourists won't be around to witness the bloodbath)

- Spring bear hunts are particularly cruel because they often result in the killing of mother bears who are seeking food for themselves and their newborn cubs after winter hibernation.
- Shooting from boats at bears as they fish on gravel bars and the shoreline is akin to shooting fish in a barrel. As at Yellowstone, these bears are now accustomed to human presence. In fact they are actually encouraged to come close to people by lodges and rafting/kayacking outfits to give their guests a thrill.
- To prevent conflicts people need to change their behavior and stop luring bears with careless garbage and food handling. Camping and lodges should be held to strict regulations on how to dispose of, carry, and store food items. The lack of such rules has taught the bears to associate people with food.
- Even ODFW's own biologists say allowing bear hunting along the Rogue River won't change anything. It is basically an opportunity to facilitate trophy hunting of bears and an excuse to increase an already bloated bear hunting season.
- ***Killing of predators is not scientifically warranted or ethically acceptable. Their populations are self-regulating for a myriad of evolutionary reasons.***
- ***Bears should be able to live in peace in their prime habitat in one of the most pristine parts of Oregon. Human behavior must change.***

Thank you for your consideration
NJ Serek

Roxann B Borisch

From: Ruth Kastner <ruthekastner@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 4:50 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Please cancel plans to allow expanded hunting of bears along Rogue River.

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to express my alarm at the proposal to allow trophy hunting of bears along the Rogue River. Please withdraw this proposal.

It is scientifically unsound, cruel, and explicitly violates your mission to "protect and enhance Oregon's fish and wildlife and their habitats for use and enjoyment by present and future generations." It is not based on "sound science" as added under your mission statement. Even ODFW's own biologists say allowing bear hunting along the Rogue River won't improve anything.

To prevent conflicts, people need to change their behavior and stop luring bears with careless garbage and food handling. Camping and lodges should be held to strict regulations on how to dispose of, carry, and store food items. The lack of such rules has taught the bears to associate people with food.

Spring bear hunts are particularly cruel because they often result in the killing of mother bears who are seeking food for themselves and their newborn cubs after winter hibernation. Shooting from boats at bears as they fish on gravel bars and the shoreline is akin to shooting fish in a barrel. As at Yellowstone, these bears are now accustomed to human presence.

The extermination of predators is neither scientifically warranted nor ethically acceptable. Their populations are self-regulating for a myriad of evolutionary reasons. Bears should be able to live in peace in their prime habitat in one of the most pristine parts of Oregon.

Please, cancel this inhumane and irresponsible plan immediately.
Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Ruth E. Kastner

Roxann B Borisch

From: Yahoo! <classylady1@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 4:26 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Our family is vehemently opposed to plan to allow trophy hunting of bears!

Our family loves bears!

We are telling Oregon that our family is vehemently opposed to your plan to allow trophy hunting of bears in the "Wild and Scenic Section" of the "Rogue River"!

Your state's unexpected new proposal comes from the "Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife" ("ODFW"), the agency charged with protecting Oregon's wildlife, but, whose actions repeatedly show your primary interest is serving hunters! "ODFW"'s plan would allow trophy hunting of black bears during the spring and, fall, hunting seasons (i.e., when recreators, and, tourists won't be around to witness the bloodbath!)

Your evil plan flew under the radar until a media outlet picked up on it yesterday.

- Bears are not the problem. Humans are!

We could go on, at length, regarding why "ODFW"'s plan is cruel, misguided, and, non-scientific, but, here is an overview:

- Spring bear hunts are particularly cruel because they often result in the killing of mother bears, who are seeking food for themselves, and, their newborn cubs, after winter hibernation.
-
- Shooting from boats at bears, as they fish on gravel bars, and, the shoreline, is akin to shooting fish in a barrel! As at Yellowstone, these bears are now accustomed to human presence! In fact they are actually encouraged to come close to people by lodges, and, rafting/kayaking, outfits to give their guests a thrill!
-
- Bears are not the problem! Humans are! And, killing bears is not the answer! Changing human behavior is!
-
- To prevent conflicts, people need to change their behavior, and, stop luring bears with careless garbage, and, food handling. Camping, and, lodges, should be held to strict regulations on how to dispose of, carry, and, store food items! The lack of such rules has taught the bears to associate people with food!
-
- Even "ODFW"'s own biologists say allowing bear hunting along the "Rogue River" will not change anything! It is basically an opportunity to facilitate trophy hunting of bears, and, an excuse to increase an already bloated bear hunting season!
-
- Killing of predators is not scientifically warranted, nor ethically acceptable! Their populations are self-regulating for a myriad of evolutionary reasons!
-

- Bears should be able to live in peace in their prime habitat in one of the most pristine parts of Oregon. Human behavior must change!

Please reconsider your murderous plan that caters to trophy hunters, and, deprives the nature loving public of sights of these iconic bears!

DIANE M. KASTEL AND FAMILY

Roxann B Borisch

From: Michelle MacKenzie <michellehmackenzie@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 4:20 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Oppose Planned Bear hunt Along Rogue River!

I write to oppose the planned trophy hunt of Oregon's black bears along the Rogue River. This is unethical because these bears are accustomed to humans and, as they fish along the river, they are particularly vulnerable to being shot and killed.

To the extent that the hunt is motivated by the desire to prevent conflicts with humans, ODFW should be spending its funding on educating humans to coexist and not lure bears with garbage and other food that is not properly contained.

Finally, any spring bear hunt should be banned as such hunts are especially barbaric. Mother bears are frequently killed and their cubs starve to death. Fish and wildlife departments often try to get around this by telling hunters that they cannot kill a bear with cubs but mothers will often stash their cubs while searching for food. Thus, the mothers appear to be single bears and are subject to being shot and killed.

For the foregoing reasons and many more, I oppose the planned hunting of bears along the Rogue River.

Sincerely

Michelle MacKenzie

Roxann B Borisch

From: debhoushour@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 4:16 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Trophy Hunting of Bears

ODFW.

Trophy hunting of bears – especially along the Rogue River - is vile and reprehensible. I highly recommend you drop this idea. Our bears are our wild and free predators. A necessary component of a wild and scenic ecosystem. Please reconsider this terrible and save the bears from this disgusting and totally unnecessary fate. What is the purpose of killing our iconic bears for FUN! It's disgusting. Please leave our wild bears alone.

Thank you

Debbie Houshour

Landowner along the South Fork of the Coquille River

Roxann B Borisch

From: ESandberg <takingflight01@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 3:48 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: No trophy hunting of black bears

Please do not allow trophy hunting of black bears along the rogue. This is a people problem, not a bear problem.
Thank you.
Elan Sandberg

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

Roxann B Borisch

From: Michael Barkman <mabarkdog@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 3:44 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Trophy bear hunt along Rogue

Please don't sanction bear hunting along the Rogue. I raft the Rogue at least a couple times each year. I consider my favorite place on earth; my sanctuary. I like seeing the bears by the river. They haven't given me any problems as I use common sense precautions. Knowing that the bears are there enhances the sense of the are being indeed wild. We have already stressed the population by reducing the number of anadromous fish that return, not to mention the disruption caused by so many People that use the river.

Please, let the Rogue remain wild as possible for the bears.

Michael Barkman

Roxann B Borisch

From: S. O. Rooney <rooneyandmuldoon@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 2:04 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: No to Black Bear Trophy Hunting

Dear ODFW,

I am writing to vehemently call for a refusal of permission to trophy hunters along the Rogue River. Not only is hunting bears along the riverbank unfair, it also increases the likelihood of accidents, especially accidents involving innocent tourists.

Hunting the bears in the spring is cruel and unfair, risking mothers and their cubs.

The main thing that I am indignant about? Why are these trophy hunters who want to butcher innocent animals always given preference over my interests, and permission to flout my spiritual values? I do not believe in killing these animals, especially on public land.

The Rogue River belongs to the public. The Rogue is my river too.

Thank you,
Susan Rooney MA GGCP

Roxann B Borisch

From: Samantha Bruegger <samkbruegger@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 1:10 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: No Bear Hunting on the Rogue

As an Oregonian, I enjoy hiking and rafting whenever I can. I also deeply appreciate all of Oregon's wild places and wildlife. I was disappointed when I recently learned that ODFW intends to expand black bear hunting along the Wild & Scenic section of the Rogue River.

I do not want expanded hunting opportunities for the few that hunt. I do not want more black bears to be killed. The majority of Oregonians oppose trophy hunting, which, this plan is, although dressed up in a conflict prevention outfit.

Time after time science has demonstrated that killing more of a species does not decrease conflict. Particular to bears, there are many, many far better and scientifically proven ways to decrease conflict. Please do not insult the intelligence of Oregonians by saying this is to reduce conflict. A trophy hunt is a trophy hunt, no matter what you try to mislead the public to believe.

I oppose this fully.

Warmest Regards,

Samantha Bruegger
970.531.6720

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Roxann B Borisch

From: Terri Rise <terririse@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 12:44 PM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Your trophy hunting solution

STOP allowing these hunts for a select few who don't care about Oregon or the wildlife that calls it home. Your commission does NOTHING helpful to our wildlife and I wish you were run by responsible Oregonians. But you're not. Allow your commission to start killing our bears because a couple of idiot campers did not follow the rules. These animals are part of our State. And, most Oregonians want the wildlife protected, NOT HUNTED! So disappointing to have to believe that this is your solution to these wonderful animals that are welcomed and beloved by my fellow Oregonian.s

Sincerely,

Theresa Hass-Rise

Roxann B Borisch

From: miraclepieco <miraclepieco@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 12:40 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Opposed to Black Bear Hunting Season On Rogue River

Dear ODFW,

I voice my opposition to the proposed Black Bear hunting along the Wild And Scenic Rogue River. The bears are a part of the local heritage, and part of the "Wild" designation of the river. Not to mention the danger to the large number of rafters and tourists in the area at any given time.

Respectfully,

Rodger Hoyt
Glendale, OR

Roxann B Borisch

From: Linda Rentfrow <lrentfrow@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 12:08 PM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Black bear trophy hunting

Please stop the idea of black bear trophy hunting. We need all animals to be safe and have a good life.

Sent from my iPhone

Roxann B Borisch

From: Philip Mandel <phmand@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 11:16 AM
To: ODFW.Commission@state.or.us
Subject: Opposed to the proposed trophy hunting seasons along the Wild and Scenic Rogue River

To Whom it May Concern,

This proposal from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife would open up the Wild and Scenic area of the Rogue River to trophy hunting of black bears during the spring and fall hunting seasons. Spring bear hunts are particularly cruel because they often result in the killing of mother bears who are seeking food for themselves and their newborn cubs after winter hibernation. As well, shooting bears from boats as they forage on gravel bars and the shoreline is not fair chase hunting.

ODFW needs to follow the best available science. Trophy hunting does not resolve nor prevent conflict.

In this area, bears are habituated to people, and are actually encouraged by uninformed visitors to come close to people for that “special photo.” To prevent conflicts people need to change their behavior and understand how they should conduct themselves in areas where bears are present. Recreators should be required to practice certain bear conflict prevention measures. There are tools available to hikers in certain campgrounds including food and garbage hoists, bear boxes and electric fences. Camping and lodges should be held to strict regulations on how to dispose of, carry, and store food items. The lack of such rules and use of best practices have taught some bears to associate people with food.

Allowing trophy hunters to kill bears is not the answer. Education and behavior change is.

I encourage the Commission to vote down this proposal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Philip Mandel
6135 SW Erickson Ave
Beaverton OR 97008