

Fish Screening Task Force

Member Application

Attachment 2



The Oregon Fish Screening Program assists with the installation and maintenance of fish screens to prevent fish loss in ditch and pump water diversions. The Fish Screening Task Force advises the department on fish screening program development, implementation, monitoring, technology, funding and reporting. For more information on the Fish Screening Task Force visit https://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/screening/task_force.asp.

Two positions are currently open:
One Position Representing **Agricultural Interests**
One Position Representing **Fishing or Fish Conservation**

Please apply by **September 30, 2025**

This form is used to obtain general information for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife concerning the qualifications of applicants for the Fish Screening Task Force. This information may be used in publicizing the activities of the task force. To complete this form electronically, use the tab feature to move from cell to cell.

Personal Information

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| Name: | Harry Bither | | |
| Legal Residence: | [REDACTED] Echo Oregon 97826 | | |
| Business Address: | [REDACTED] Echo Oregon 97826 | | |
| Telephone: | HOME | WORK | CELL [REDACTED] |
| Occupation: | Irrigation Director | | |

The Fish Screening Task Force consists of seven members appointed by the Fish and Wildlife Commission. Each member serves for a term of two years and may be re-appointed for a maximum of three terms. Task Force members represent the following interests: Agricultural, Fishing or Fish Conservation and the Public-at-large.

Two positions are open: one for a representative of agricultural interests and one representing Fishing or Fish Conservation. Please identify which position you are applying for and describe your association with and ability to represent that community.

I am applying for the Fish Screen Task Force position that represents the agriculture community and interest. Working at Threemile Canyon Farms as the Irrigation Director has enabled me to connect with the irrigated agriculture community by interacting with local farmers and irrigators on projects throughout our region. It is through these interactions that I believe I could represent the needs or articulate the concerns of irrigated ag.

Use the space below to tell us why you are interested in being a member of the Fish Screening Task Force, why you think you would make a good task force member, or what you hope to learn as a member of the Fish Screening Task Force.

I am interested in becoming a member of the fish screen task force because I would like to gain knowledge on the usage of screens in different environments and the effect they have on their surroundings. I'd like to make sure the agriculture community has a voice at the table and that voice has had end user experience. I believe I would make a good task force member, because I can listen to others' opinions, work as a team member, and I strive for a successful outcome that is efficient, effective and sustainable. If granted the opportunity to be a member on the task force, I would like to learn others' opinions and needs for fish screens around Oregon.

Use the space below to describe any work experience or involvement that has provided you with the knowledge, skills, or abilities to successfully represent the interests of the position you are applying for and fulfil the duties of a member of the Fish Screening Task Force. Make sure to include involvement in representing or advising organizations or interest groups, and experience working with public or private boards and commissions.

- You may attach a resume or work history supplement, if desired.
- Please be specific and define your role

(For example: working with organized groups, providing testimony, agency processes, or leadership roles.)

At Threemile Canyon Farms, I have been tasked with developing the construction process of a new pumping station on the Columbia River. The new station will take the place of the farm's existing station, which I maintain. The design, layout, and scheduling revolves around salmonids. The knowledge I have gained going through this process will help represent the agriculture position on the Task Force. I currently maintain and operate a pump station on the Columbia River along with two pumping stations on the Umatilla River. Through maintaining the screens at these sights and the dredging requirements, I have gained skills and knowledge that may be useful on the task force.

Describe your experience and interest in fish screening, water related issues, or other natural resource topics. Describe what you believe are the main issues facing fisheries or natural resource management in Oregon and identify which issues are important to you and why.

Because of my role at Threemile Canyon Farms, I have had experience with fish screening on the Columbia River and Umatilla River. This experience has either come from the maintenance of the existing screens or the design process of the new screening system for a new pumping station. I have also been involved in ASR water projects that will help stabilize ground water. I have worked alongside OFDW and other federal wildlife officials to help count and relocate threatened wildlife species such as the Washington Gound Squirrel.

In my opinion, one of the main issues facing fisheries and the management of other natural resources in Oregon is the public's lack of knowledge of the processes and procedures put in place to protect these resources. I believe bridging the gap of what is perceived and what is factual, and having the data presented to the public in a clear format that backs the processes and procedures would go a long ways. Gaining this type of knowledge and being able to relay it to the agriculture community along with representing the needs of agriculture is one of the main reasons for this application.

REFERENCES: *Please list up to three references that we may contact.*

| NAME and AFFILIATION | EMAIL ADDRESS | PHONE NUMBER |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|
| Greg Harris Threemile Canyon Farms | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] |
| Greg Juul G2 Farming | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] |
| Dan McCarty McCarty Ranches | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] |
| | | |

As a citizen of the United States, I will accept appointment to the Fish Screening Task Force if selected by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Harry Bither
(Signature)

10-26-2025

(Date)

A typed signature is acceptable when completing the form electronically

Please send this completed application to Katherine.E.Nordholm@odfw.oregon.gov or:

Fish Screening and Passage Program
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, Oregon 97302

Fish Screening Task Force

Member Application



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Personal Information

| | | | |
|--------------------------|---|------------|---------------------------|
| Name: | Alex Hardison | | |
| Legal Residence: | [REDACTED] Bend OR 97703 | | |
| Business Address: | | | |
| Telephone: | HOME _____ | WORK _____ | CELL: _____ [REDACTED] |
| Occupation: | Conservation Nonprofit Communications Manager | | |

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Two positions are open: one for a representative of agricultural interests and one representing Fishing or Fish Conservation. Please identify which position you are applying for and describe your association with and ability to represent that community.

I am applying for the position representing Fishing or Fish Conservation interests. I am a conservation-oriented sport angler and native fish advocate with professional and volunteer experience focused on protecting and restoring habitat for Oregon's native migratory fish. My work centers on balancing ecological needs with the realities of water use, land management, and infrastructure, and I have experience engaging collaboratively with diverse stakeholders—including irrigators, conservation organizations, agencies, and the public—to advance durable, science-based solutions.

Use the space below to tell us why you are interested in being a member of the Fish Screening Task Force, why you think you would make a good task force member, or what you hope to learn as a member of the Fish Screening Task Force.

I am interested in serving on ODFW's Fish Screening Task Force to support effective, science-based strategies that reduce fish entrainment and improve survival of native migratory fish across Oregon's watersheds. Fish screening is a critical but often under-recognized component of fish conservation, particularly in heavily managed river systems where irrigation diversions and water withdrawals intersect with sensitive life stages of salmonids and other native species.

As both a conservation advocate and sport angler, I value the ecological, cultural, and recreational importance of healthy fish populations. I believe the work of this Task Force is essential for aligning conservation goals with diverse water uses. I hope to contribute my watershed-scale perspective, policy awareness, and communication skills, while also deepening my understanding of fish screening implementation, prioritization, and funding frameworks across the state.

Use the space below to describe any work experience or involvement that has provided you with the knowledge, skills, or abilities to successfully represent the interests of the position you are applying for and fulfil the duties of a member of the Fish Screening Task Force. Make sure to include involvement in representing or advising organizations or interest groups, and experience working with public or private boards and commissions.

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- Please be specific and define your role

(For example: working with organized groups, providing testimony, agency processes, or leadership roles.)

Since June 2024, I have served as the Crooked River Steward for Native Fish Society, where I advocate for sustainable water management solutions that improve habitat conditions for native fish. My work focuses on instream flow restoration and broader watershed resilience, issues that are closely tied to diversion practices and the effectiveness of fish screening in protecting juvenile and adult fish from entrainment.

Through my professional role with Central Oregon LandWatch, I have worked to examine irrigation-driven water management in the Upper Deschutes Basin and its impacts on steelhead habitat restoration. This work has provided me with direct experience navigating the regulatory and policy landscape governing water use, including the Deschutes Basin Habitat Conservation Plan, the Endangered Species Act, and state-level water resource management processes. These experiences have strengthened my ability to evaluate how screening requirements interact with irrigation infrastructure, agricultural needs, and conservation objectives.

Additionally, I have served on the Board of Directors for Envision Bend since February 2024, gaining experience in collaborative governance, strategic decision-making, and consensus-building within a diverse board structure. This role has reinforced the importance of clear communication, respectful dialogue, and long-term thinking—skills directly applicable to serving effectively on the Fish Screening Task Force.

Describe your experience and interest in fish screening, water related issues, or other natural resource topics. Describe what you believe are the main issues facing fisheries or natural resource management in Oregon and identify which issues are important to you and why.

Living in Bend, I have developed a strong interest in the management of anadromous and resident fish populations in highly regulated river systems like those within the Deschutes Basin. While fish passage often receives greater public attention, I recognize that fish screening at irrigation diversions and water withdrawals is equally critical to preventing mortality and supporting population recovery, particularly for juvenile fish.

I am especially interested in how screening standards, maintenance, and funding mechanisms can be implemented in ways that are both biologically effective and practical for water users. My academic experience at the University of Washington, where I supported a task force working with the Tulalip Tribes on salmon recovery in the Puget Sound region, further shaped my understanding of how development, water infrastructure, and fish protection measures intersect across complex landscapes.

More broadly, I believe Oregon's main natural resource challenges include balancing increasing water demand with climate-driven hydrologic changes, protecting sensitive native fish species while sustaining agricultural economies, and ensuring that conservation tools like fish screening are adequately resourced and enforced. These issues matter to me because effective, collaborative resource management is essential to sustaining Oregon's fisheries, rural communities, and outdoor heritage for myself, my community, and future generations.

REFERENCES: *Please list up to three references that we may contact.*

| NAME and AFFILIATION | EMAIL ADDRESS | PHONE NUMBER |
|--|----------------------|---------------------|
| Daniel Ritz, Native Fish Society Coordinator | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] |
| Amy Stuart, ODFW Deschutes Watershed Manager and District Fish Biologist (retired) | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] |
| Liz Perkin, ODFW Fish Biologist | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] |

As a citizen of the United States, I will accept appointment to the Fish Screening Task Force if selected by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

(Signature)

A typed signature is acceptable when completing the form electronically

Alex Hardison

(Date)

31 December 2025

Please send this completed application to Katherine.E.Nordholm@odfw.oregon.gov or:

Fish Screening and Passage Program
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, Oregon 97302