



Rogue River Guides Association

“Giving back to the resources that support us”

“Since 1968”

April 28th, 2009

To: The honorable Senator Margaret Carter
District 22
RE: State budget cuts

Dear Senator Carter,

Our members are extremely concerned of possible budget cuts to our (OSP) Oregon State Police - Fish & Wildlife Division.

Fishing is our livelihood and any time a fish is caught illegally, mostly by snagging, it takes money from our pockets and our states pockets. Not to mention ruining the chances of catching a fish in that area for hours.

You may already know that each salmon caught legally creates over one-thousand tourism dollars for our economy from guide fees, hotel, licences, restaurants, fuel, tackle, boats, bait, etc. Our state even makes money from salmon licence plates. Plus, many of our customers are coming from all over the country. They don't come here to buy radishes. They come here to fish for salmon!

We must protect our resources and without a strong presence of OSP - Fish & Wildlife Officers the illegal fishing and hunting will escalate out of control. Overnight!

OSP Fish & Wildlife Officers are already under staffed, any more reduction in force would cost many times what might be saved in our budget.

It is our request that any mention of OSP Fish & Wildlife Division budget cuts be avoided to start with.

Let's keep the loss of local and state resources, which adds up to revenue, in mind.

Best regards,

Gene Gros
President
Rogue River Guides Association

PO Box 449, Phoenix, Oregon 97535