### [EXTERNAL] OMB Control Number 1018-0088

## Holly A Huchko <Holly.A.Huchko@state.or.us>

Thu 7/9/2020 5:35 PM

To: Info\_Coll, FWHQ <info\_coll@fws.gov>
Cc: Hollar, Kathy <kathy\_hollar@fws.gov>

1 attachments (111 KB)

National USFWS survey ODFW comments FR 2020-10317 submitted 7.09.20.pdf;

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Ms. Baucum or to whom it may concern,

Please see attached for comments from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife on OMB Control Number 1018-0088 regarding the national USFWS hunting and fishing survey. Please let me know if you have any questions.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment, Holly

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Holly Huchko

Endangered Species Act Program Specialist/Sport Fish Restoration Coordinator Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife 4192 N. Umpqua Hwy Roseburg, OR 97471 (541) 464-2185 Holly.A.Huchko@state.or.us

For quickest correspondence regarding Oregon Scientific Take permits, please contact:

<u>Fish.Research@state.or.us</u> (permitting shared inbox)

Holly: 541-464-2185 or Michele: 503-947-6254



### **Department of Fish and Wildlife**

Fish Division 4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE Salem, OR 97302 (503) 947-6201 FAX (503) 947-6202 www.dfw.state.or.us/

July 09, 2020

Comments submitted via email to Info\_Coll@ fws.gov Subject: OMB Control Number 1018-0088, National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife Associated Recreation (FHWAR).



#### Dear Sir/Madam:

Thank you for the opportunity to include comments and information from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) responding to your Federal Register Notice 85 FR 28972, OMB Control Number 1018-0088. Oregon is one of many states and territories that participate in annual funding from the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 669 et seq.) and the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 777 et seq., except 777e-1), also known as the WSFR program.

Specific information was requested (in bold below) regarding the 2022 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation and our responses are in italics below:

(1) Whether or not the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether or not the information will have practical utility;

The national level data is the standard that we use to assess activities and spending on outdoor recreation in Oregon. We use it when working with our outdoor recreation partners and frequently answer questions from the public with FHWAR survey information. The report as a whole is invaluable to our work here in Oregon, and we supplement the survey information with local and state level data from partners.

The FHWAR survey is also essential to USFWS WSFR program and ODFW since coastal states must obligate Sport Fish Restoration program grant funds so that the ratio is equal to the resident marine and freshwater anglers (50 CFR 80.65-66). State agencies are required to either use the FHWAR survey or another statistical survey technique approved by the USFWS. ODFW does not have a current alternative technique, so we rely on the 5 year FHWAR survey to properly obligate our funds so we can continue to participate in the WSFR grant program and use funds to support sport fish management, restoration and boating access in Oregon.

# (3) Ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

In looking at Table C-1 of the 2016 survey, the survey changed from reporting State and National level data collection from 1975-2011 to National only in 2016+. It is our understanding that for future national USFWS FHWAR survey, states will need to pay for state level data if desired but that USFWS will still provide the freshwater/saltwater percent of resident anglers in each state at no cost to states for use of Sport Fish Restoration saltwater/freshwater split. In Oregon, we rely on the national survey to determine our SFR split. If we do not obtain this information at no cost from the survey, we will need to use previous survey data from 2016 rather than current data to allocate our costs.

(4) How might the agency minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of response.

While we understand the need to reduce paperwork and burden, we hope the FHWAR survey can continue to collect information through both mail and digital format to properly portray and survey our angling constituents so there is no barrier to participate in the survey.

We respectfully submit these comments for your inclusion in correspondence on this Federal Register notice. Please direct any questions on these comments to me at below contact.

Sincerely,

Holly Huchko

Sport Fish Restoration Coordinator/ESA Specialist

541-464-2185

holly.a.huchko@state.or.us

cc: Kathy Hollar- USFWS Pacific Region 1