



The League of Women Voters of Oregon is a 100-year-old grassroots nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government. We envision informed Oregonians participating in a fully accessible, responsive, and transparent government to achieve the common good. LWVOR Legislative Action is based on advocacy positions formed through studies and member consensus. The League never supports or opposes any candidate or political party.

June 29, 2020

To: DSL Rules Coordinator
775 Summer St. NE, Suite 100
Salem, OR 97301
Email: rules@dsl.state.or.us

Re: Rules Governing the Oregon Ocean Science Trust (OOST)

Since the League's testimony on behalf of the creation of OOST in 2013, nothing has changed as dramatically as the accelerated impact of rising ocean temperatures and the devastation of ocean acidification and hypoxia on Oregon's fishing industry. Our coastal areas bear the brunt of this change, exacerbated this year by the economic devastation wrought by COVID-19 on small businesses and tourism dependent cities and towns along the entire coast of Oregon.

Without understanding the science behind coastal and nearshore management efforts - towns, small cities and the marine industries that depend on thriving ocean ecosystems for survival, are at risk of failure not only in the short term but long term development of new industries whose ultimate successes depend on scientific data to support their economic and ecological risk.

Without a sustained and ongoing funding source OOST cannot fulfill the mandate that created it in 2013.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon supports rules allowing OOST to enhance the state's capacity for peer-reviewed scientific ocean and coastal research by establishing and executing a competitive grant program to conduct research and monitoring related to Oregon's ocean and coastal resources.

We urge the support of administrative rules that will allow OOST to fulfill its intended mission established in 2013 and thank you for the opportunity to publicly speak on this rule change.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca L. Gladstone".

Rebecca Gladstone
LWVOR President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peggy Joyce".

Peggy Joyce
LWVOR Coastal Portfolio