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MEASURE: SB 1511
EXHIBIT: 59
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SUBMITTED BY: Ty Montgomery

January 27, 2012

RE: Support of SB 1511 and HB 4126

Dear Members of the Oregon Legislature,

I am writing you to express our support for SB 1511 and HB 4126 and their principle foundations of expanding state policy relating to ecosystems and authorizing state agencies to allow use of credits for ecosystem services as compensatory mitigation. We truly believe making ecosystem services markets more efficient, effective and equitable will enhance Oregon's landscape and be beneficial for our fish, wildlife and people.

Our company has been working with the Willamette Partnership on the Counting on the Environment project, the flagship ecosystem services pilot project in Oregon. As developers of web-based tools and standards-based applications, we are responsible for the programming of the Ecosystem Crediting Platform (ECP). The ECP is an online tool that will help developers and landowners design conservation projects that create ecosystem credits according to the protocols agreed to by 25 federal, state, and local agencies as well as conservation organizations and potential buyers and sellers of ecosystem service credits.

We also work closely with the Oregon office of Defenders of Wildlife as the developers of The Conservation Registry, a site that shares detailed information about conservation efforts in Oregon and beyond. This site will also serve as a resource for those interested in approved metrics, methods and other information related to Ecosystem Credits.

These projects and other conservation-driven efforts have represented a significant portion of our business for many years. Like our clients, we are committed to using innovative tools and methods to ensure a better environment and believe strongly in the benefit of ecosystem services markets in Oregon and other states. With your support, this sound approach to encouraging good conservation will continue to grow and expand in the future.

Sincerely,

Ty Montgomery
Managing Director
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