



March 19, 2013

The Honorable Jules Bailey
Chair, House Energy and Environment Committee
Room 347 - State Capitol Building
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: House Bill HB 3337/State Policy on Ecosystem Services

Dear Representative Bailey:

The Port of Portland supports House Bill 3337, as it is a step in the right direction for expanding the policy on ecosystem services. The bill broadens the application of market-based approaches and provides a more beneficial and cost-effective means to approach restoration projects and protection of ecosystems.

Furthermore, we support a process to develop a uniform and consistent application of ecosystem values and categories. In addition, it should be noted that this legislation will reward Oregonians for being stewards of a broad range of natural resources within the state that are valuable to Oregon's citizens.

We appreciate the fact that this legislation does not mandate that any agency promote or engage in the ecosystem service markets, rather it simply allows these markets to be promoted as good state policy because of the many environmental and economic benefits. It opens up the possibilities available to the Port and others for generating mitigation credits and could enable a greater return on investments in mitigation that recognize the larger range of ecosystem services.

The Port of Portland believes this is a business-friendly solution to meeting environmental mitigation or regulatory requirements, is good for the environment, and has the potential to promote the development of good jobs in the ecosystem services markets.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Sperry
Environmental Affairs Manager

c: Representative Chris Garrett
Representative Vic Gilliam