



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DOUG ROBERTSON JOSEPH LAURANCE SUSAN MORGAN

1036 S.E. Douglas Ave., Room 217 • Roseburg, Oregon 97470 • (541) 440-4201

April 8, 2013

The Honorable Sen. Chris Edwards, Co-Chair
The Honorable Rep. Ben Unger, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources
Oregon State Capitol, Room H-178
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Co-Chairs Edwards and Unger,

Please accept this letter as my support for the ODFW's budget proposal.

Douglas County is an economically disadvantaged area. Our current unemployment rate is 11.3%, lagging the state average of 8.4%. Creating and retaining jobs is a big issue for us.

ODFW has many programs that enhance our ability to retain jobs. Programs that provide fish for recreational and commercial fishers also create jobs for guides and outfitters across the county, and for the crabbing and fishing fleet that uses Salmon Harbor as a home port. Recreational fishers come to Douglas County from around the world to enjoy our varied and excellent fishing opportunities. They stay in our motels, RV parks and campgrounds, and spend money at our restaurants and outfitters.

Programs that manage wildlife populations enhance our recreational hunting opportunities. Other wildlife management programs protect forage land for cattle and sheep production, and help our livestock producers deal with predators that destroy their market animals.

Fishing and hunting, as well as livestock production are important aspects of our local economy. As you are well aware, jobs created by those who provide goods and services to these sectors are also significant economic drivers.

I enthusiastically and respectfully urge you to support the ODFW's budget proposal so that these important programs can continue to positively impact our economy.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions or need more information.

Sincerely,

Susan Morgan
Douglas County Commissioner