



April 6, 2013

The Honorable Senator Chris Edwards, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources  
900 NE Court Street  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Senator Edwards:

This is a letter of support for the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife's programs. Douglas Timber Operators has the pleasure of working with ODFW staff in various capacities.

ODFW staff has been intimately involved with our Umpqua Fishery Enhancement Derby for the past 21 years by participating in a multitude of levels of this popular community event. Our Derby has grown to become the premier event of its kind in Oregon with a catch-and-release steelhead derby, events for students and a banquet/auction all to raise money for our local fishery. To date we have contributed more than \$1 million dollars in matching funds to over 400 fishery enhancement, restoration and educational projects in the Umpqua Basin. ODFW is a critical partner in the success of this event.

We are very appreciative for the assistance and cooperation by ODFW for Rock-ED. Rock-ED is a project that began some four years ago with a vision to build an outdoor education center at Rock Creek Fish Hatchery with a focus on natural resource education. The building is nearing completion with an opening date slated for this summer, fulfilling our goal of providing a safe outdoor opportunity for students to experience and learn about our natural resources.

ODFW staff also participates as guest speakers from time to time for our Douglas Timber Operators monthly breakfast meetings both in Roseburg and Coos Bay. They cover various activities within ODFW and keep us current on issues that are important to our membership.

The ODFW programs are important to the state as a whole and we are certainly appreciative and supportive of our local office.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,  
Douglas Timber Operators

  
Bob Ragon,  
Executive Director

Umpqua Fishery Enhancement Derby

Audrey Barnes  
DTO Executive Assistant, Derby Organizer

Cc: Roy Elicker, ODFW Director