

April 10, 2013

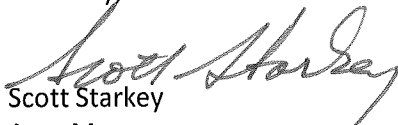
The Honorable Sen. Chris Edwards, Co-Chair  
The Honorable Rep. Ben Unger, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources  
Oregon State Capital  
Room H-178  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear House Ways and Means Committee:

The Campbell Group manages timberland all across western Oregon and has been an enthusiastic supporter of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and their Salmon Trout Enhancement Program for years. We continue to be impressed with the level of dedication and professionalism and that ODFW's staff has for not only the fishery but for our local economy. Our healthy local fisheries are a testimonial to the relentless effort and leadership of the local biologists. They have developed a program that allows our entire community, especially our school-aged kids, to experience our fall Chinook and winter steelhead fisheries first hand. Nearly every child in our community has played a part in sustaining our abundant fishery. We have overcome what once seemed to be insurmountable obstacles in achieving strong runs of salmon and steelhead with the guidance of ODFW's staff. These efforts have resulted in a multi-million dollar economic impact to our community due to increased recreational fishing in our region. We are so impressed with the local biologist's work with our school classes that we donate over \$10,000 a year to support their natural resource education programs. These donations along with other donations from that we have helped gather from our local timber companies have bought land and build a state of the art fish hatchery and education center at Morgan Creek that is valued at over \$2 million.

On behalf of The Campbell Group and our community, I would like to go on the record in adamant support of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's budget. ODFW's programs that support recreational fishing in Southwest Oregon have been an economic driver for our region and state. Additionally, the hands-on natural resource education that they provide is second to none. The leadership and supervision that ODFW provides to our STEP facilities is critical to maintaining this first class program and economic engine for our region. We emphatically encourage you to support the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Your investment into the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is an investment in the future of Oregon.

Sincerely,

  
Scott Starkey  
Area Manager

Cc: Roy Elicker, ODFW Director