

# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

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March 19, 2015

TO: Natural Resources Subcommittee on Ways and Means

FROM: Jim Rue, Director

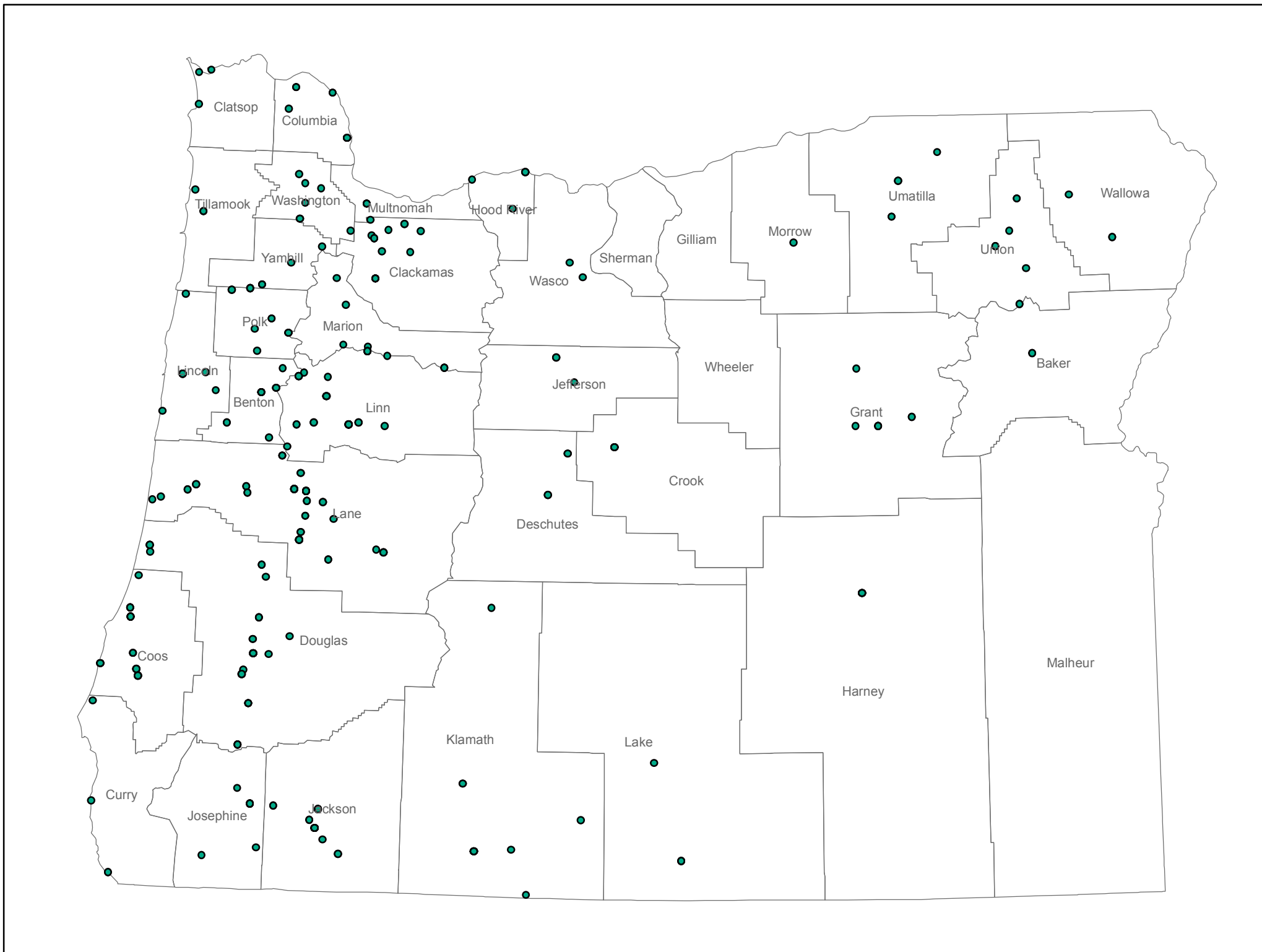
CC: Carrie MacLaren, Deputy Director  
Teddy Leland, Administrative Services Manager

RE: Response to Questions dated March 18, 2015

On March 18, 2015, you asked questions relating to the department's tracking of brownfields. No state agency has a comprehensive list of brownfields, nor tracks redevelopment or reuse, but DLCD is able to provide you this information.

The department is working with brownfield program staff at the Department of Environmental Quality, Infrastructure Finance Authority, and the Oregon Health Authority on an OHA-led project to take a broad look at brownfield redevelopment, overall community health, and community prosperity. The project is still in refinement. We are looking at diminished and abandoned mill sites, the occurrence of reuse and the conditions of nearby communities to report on the effectiveness of ORS 197.719 in spurring reuse. ORS 197.719 authorizes industrial use and the extension of urban services on former mill sites outside of urban growth boundaries.

Attached are a map of locations affected by mill closure (not exact mill locations) from Department of Forestry data and a draft of our project template. There is no existing map of actual mill site locations although we hope to use DLCD GIS capabilities to create a useful map for this project by combining several sources of data. At some point the state could consider funding a comprehensive brownfield and mill site mapping project.



# COLLABORATION MULTIPLIER ANALYSIS

Goal: Gain a shared understanding of Mill sites

Karen Homolac - Collaborator 1

**Expertise:**

**Desired Outcomes:**

**Key Strategies:**

Gil Wistar - COLLABORATOR 2

**Expertise:** environmental regulation and enforcement, DEQ/ECSI database

**Desired Outcomes:**

1) restore or enhance environmental conditions at these sites, based on investigation and cleanup, as needed; 2) create a healthy and sustainable local environment, both as a result of site remediation and from envisioning – and perhaps implementing – long-term site uses the community wants; and 3) help build bridges to the future for a community, including its businesses, organizations, and residents.

**Key Strategies:** restoring, maintaining, and enhancing the quality of Oregon’s air, water, and land

**WHAT RESULTS/OUTCOMES CAN BE ACHIEVED TOGETHER?**

Mill site status (vacant, redeveloped – to what/how)  
 Quantity of Mill sites  
 Mill site locations  
 Mill site footprint on statewide scale  
 Environmental concerns,  
 Land use zoning opportunity for each  
 Use constraints according to zoning, or economic interests  
 Economic considerations  
 Health promoting opportunities

**WHAT PARTNER STRENGTHS CAN THE COLLABORATIVE UTILIZE?**

Tom –GIS capacity to map Mill sites, contribute land use layer  
 Karen –EcoNW MFA statewide economic analysis of brownfields, contribute layers to GIS  
 Gil – provide DEQ data on environmental concerns for Mill sites  
 Kari – provide statewide data layers that highlight health priorities

**WHAT STRATEGIES/ACTIVITIES CAN 2+ PARTNERS WORK TOGETHER ON?**

Karen and Tom –provide data that identifies where Mills are  
 Gil –work with Tom to integrate statewide data on known environmental concerns into the GIS platform  
 Kari – work with Tom to integrate statewide data on chronic disease, food access, income/poverty, and proximity to residential, etc.  
  
 All – contribute support in response to rural community need through a pilot project approach

Tom Hogue - COLLABORATOR 3

**Expertise:**

Oregon land use  
 Economic development planning

**Desired Outcomes:**

Coordinated “ask” backed with data and plan  
 Ranked opportunities  
 Practical how-to guides for communities

**Key Strategies:**

Data rich mapping (see <http://oregonexplorer.info/>)  
 Outreach and implementation partners (RDI, Ford FF)  
 Enable needed changes (RST, IFA, LCDC others)  
 Work with LOC and AOC (esp if legislation needed)

Kari Christensen - COLLABORATOR 4

**Expertise:** [Social determinants of health](#); Health focused community engagement; Aligning redevelopment with opportunities that meet unmet health needs and improve health and quality of life

**Desired Outcomes:**

Improved understanding of the landscape of opportunities to improve health through rural redevelopment of Mill sites  
 Criteria that identifies opportunities with regard to health and other interests for brownfield redevelopment

**Key Strategies:**

Leveraging public health resources to characterize Mill sites  
 Building relationships with partners who can help achieve rural response and redevelopment goals