



DATE: April 16, 2015
TO: Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources
RE: SB 5019: Support of Oregon Department of Forestry Budget

Co-Chairs Representative Rayfield and Senator Devlin:

Washington County Board of Commissioners is offering our support for the Oregon Department of Forestry Budget outlined in SB 5019. In addition the Department's program option packages outlined as well deserve support. These budgeted items provide the Department of Forestry the necessary combination of State general fund investment and other resources funding level capable of carrying out the mission of the Department.

From added funds for wildland fire protection to additional investments in water quality research and monitoring as well as new general funds for recreational support on state forests ODF's budget is an important investment for all of Oregon.

It is also important to recognize the contribution of private landowner funding of wildland firefighting. We believe finding a balance is an important component of the budget for the long term.

Sincerely,

James McCauley
Washington County
Government Relations