

Department of Fish and Wildlife

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May 12, 2017

To:

The Honorable Fred Girod, Co-Chair and The Honorable Paul Holvey, Co-Chair Joint Committee on Ways and Means SubCommittee on Capital Construction



Senate Bill 5505 Shannon Hurn, Deputy Director for Fish and Wildlife Programs Company Smith Interim Deputy Director for Administration

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Senate Bill 5505 establishes the amounts authorized for bonding and other financial agreements.

The Department supports SB 5505 to implement important Deferred Maintenance Projects. The Department's capital assets require repair and replacement of critical elements that are essential for maintaining and enhancing natural resources throughout Oregon.

Many of the Department's facilities are in need of investments to ensure they are able to maintain current operation goals. Over the years, agency offices, storage buildings, maintenance shops, public facilities, hatchery infrastructure, and road systems have fallen into varying states of disrepair. The Secretary of State recognized in its recent performance audit that in 2005 ODFW reported an estimated \$94 million backlog of maintenance needs at facilities across the agency, including hatcheries, offices and wildlife areas.

The Department has worked to address deferred maintenance as resources have become available and the provisions of this bill are an important step in our efforts to restore agency facilities. Continuing to defer maintenance makes projects more expensive in the long-term.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our comments.

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