

Consulting Foresters & Restoration Ecologists

Date: February 3, 2017

To: Oregon State House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee

From: Matt Mellenthin

Habitat Restoration Coordinator for Integrated Resource Management

Board Member of the Calapoola Watershed Council

Subject: HB 2043

Dear Legislators,

My name is Matt Mellenthin, I am the Habitat Restoration Coordinator for Integrated Resource Management and a board member of the Calapooia Watershed Council. I would like to thank you for your service to the residents of our state and for your past protection of our state's natural resources. On behalf of Integrated Resource Management, I urge you to support House Bill 2043.

As a natural resource manager in the state of Oregon, I see firsthand on a daily basis that devastating ecological effects of noxious weeds. It is clear that an adequately funded noxious weed control program at the state level is necessary to help manage our states natural resources responsibly. The success that my firm has had managing habitat restoration projects would not have been possible without the funding and personnel provided by the State of Oregon.

With the uncertainty of non-state funding sources for noxious weed management, it is more important than ever for the State of Oregon to maintain its role as a leader in habitat protection by funding the proposed noxious weed control program.

I urge you to consider supporting in HB 2043 in order to protect our states natural resources.

Sincerely,

Matt Mellenthin

Habitat Restoration Coordinator for Integrated Resource Management

Board Member of the Calapooia Watershed Council

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