

March 24, 2019

Honorable Kathleen Taylor, Co-Chair
Honorable Jeff Reardon, Co-Chair

Members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources
Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources and Interested Parties

I write this letter in strong support for the Department of State Lands (DSL) funding request for the next biennium. I am a resident of Newport, a business owner (Local Ocean Seafoods) and also the Director of the Oregon Ocean Science Trust (OOST).

The OOST was established by the 2013 Oregon legislature to increase knowledge and understanding of our ocean and coastal resources. OOST is not a government agency, but it is linked to the state by supporting research and monitoring efforts that can help state agencies make better decisions and leverage outside funding for state science priorities. It is an independent non-profit organization. OOST is an all citizen volunteer board, with two non-voting legislators. We have no paid staff. Our staff and administrative support is through DSL.

DSL staff have assisted us in scheduling meetings, preparing agendas, setting up meeting rooms and taking minutes. They also provided expert guidance and support during our recent OAR rules revisions. They provide a valuable service to the OOST and we want to ensure they have funding they need to continue to provide us with these resources.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'LA', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Laura Anderson

Oregon Ocean Science Trust