

March 26, 2021

Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Committee Members,

I'm Taylor Dodrill, a Margaret A. Davidson Fellow at the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve in Charleston and a graduate student at Portland State University.

My research fellowship is focused on monitoring for harmful algal blooms and understanding the nutritional value of microalgae as a food resource for shellfish.

Microalgae are an important part of coastal food webs, but harmful algal blooms, which are becoming more common with climate change, can render shellfish unsafe for human consumption. This puts fisheries of ecological, cultural, and economic importance at risk. As an estuary home to oyster aquaculture and recreational clam and crab fisheries, the South Slough Reserve is a great place to learn more about the microalgae that provide food for shellfish. I hope they will be able to use my research to guide management of these coastal resources.

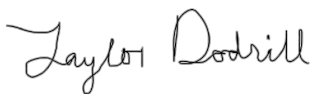
For scientists who want to make a difference, the South Slough Reserve is an amazing place to work and learn. I wish everyone who studies coastal science could have the same opportunity.

This kind of work is only possible because of the Department of State Land's partnership with NOAA and the National Estuarine Research Reserve System.

I am so grateful for the state of Oregon's support for research and continued education. Thank you for creating opportunities for young scientists like myself at South Slough Reserve.

I'll be sure to pay it forward.

Sincerely,



Taylor Dodrill

