



MEASURE: SB 1511  
EXHIBIT: 42  
2012 SESSION SENY. & NAT. RESOURCES  
DATE: 2-2-12 PAGES: 1  
SUBMITTED BY: Brent Davies

Members of the Oregon Legislature  
Oregon State Capitol  
Salem, Oregon 97301

January 30, 2012

Dear Members of the Oregon Legislature:

This letter is to express Ecotrust's strong support for SB 1511 and HB 4126. Ecotrust had both staff and board level involvement in the process that led to these bills through active participation in the Ecosystem Services and Markets Working Group and the Ad Hoc Advisory Group. With the passage of SB 1511 and HB 4126, we see immediate opportunities to create new and maintain existing jobs and to restore and protect natural watershed processes and, in turn, the high quality of life we enjoy here in Oregon.

Ecotrust has a twenty-year history of working with rural Oregonians to assist them in creating and accessing new markets for their products and services. This bill will increase the economic ties between our rural and urban communities. Market approaches to complying with regulations will create additional economic opportunities for landowners and small businesses, while increasing the restoration and protection of critical services provided by careful, long-term land and water stewardship. These services include providing clean and abundant water, carbon sequestration, flood control, soil and sediment retention, high quality habitat for native flora and fauna, recreational opportunities, and much more. **SB 1511 and HB 4126 will help make the restoration and protection of these ecosystem services more economically viable for rural landowners, resulting in more resilient Oregon communities and ecosystems.**

The passage of SB 1511 and HB 4126 will also make the process of complying with environmental regulations more cost effective for businesses and for the government agencies tasked with enforcing these regulations. We are also confident that the passage of SB 1511 and HB 4126 will lead to greater environmental and community benefits, because agencies will be coordinating better with state conservation plans and with other agencies to produce higher quality projects with measurable, longer lasting value.

Thank you for supporting this bill. I would be delighted to answer any questions you might have or further assist in the passage of this bill in any way.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brent Davies".

Brent Davies  
Director, Forests and Watersheds