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April 4, 2013

The Honorable Sen. Chris Edwards The Honorable Rep. Ben Unger Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources

Re: Support of ODFW 2013-2015 Budgét

Co-Chairs and staff,

On behalf the Tenmile Lakes Watershed Council members, I am writing to you in support of the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife's budget. We urge you approve this important Natural Resource agency's budget proposal and the future work this funding will support.

I feel that ODFW is one state agency that has done a great job in listening to local ideas from the many stakeholders in Coos County and successfully encompassed this input in their policies and management of the state's fish and wildlife. Over the years, we have successfully worked with ODFW staff on projects ranging from removing barriers to fish to our great Kids Free Fishing Day. ODFW staff can always be counted on to be involved with their expertise and knowledge to ensure all of our projects are successful.

In this upcoming biennium, the Watershed Council is depending on ODFW to assist us in building 6 bridges to improve fish passage, engineering fish passage designs to bring coho back to the Clear Creek subbasin which has be blocked since the 1920s as well as being a major partner in our many education events focused on educating the public on Oregon natural resource issues. These are just some of the future highlights; the point is that all Oregon Watershed Council's need a state agency like ODFW that is actively involved with achieving restoration and recreational goals.

I appreciate your time and consideration in this important matter. I urge you to support ODFW's budget proposal.

Respectfully submitted

Michael Mader

Watershed Coordinator Tenmile Lakes Watershed Council