## SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

## Department of Fish and Wildlife Elliott State Research Forest Habitat Conservation Plan

To: Ways and Means Full Committee

From: Natural Resources Subcommittee

Carrier: Senator Anderson

On March 6th, the Natural Resources Subcommittee heard a request from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife for approval to submit a federal grant application.

The Department is seeking approval to apply for this grant opportunity on behalf of the Department of State Lands, to support work on the Elliott State Research Forest Habitat Conservation Plan amendments. The amendments will include two additional endangered species: the western pond turtle, and the western ridged mussel. Grant funding would be utilized for baseline surveys of the two proposed new species, draft amendments to the current Habitat Conservation Plan, and preparation of required supplemental National Environmental Policy Act documentation. There is a 25% cost share requirement, which the Department of State Lands plans to meet through in-kind with existing staff.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends approval of the submission of a federal grant application by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, in the amount of \$395,000, for Elliott State Research Forest Habitat Conservation Plan survey work and amendments.