



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

Department of Environmental Quality

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May 12, 2014

Todd Peplin
Oregon CIG Program Manager
1201 NE Lloyd Blvd, Suite 900
Portland OR 97232

Re: Proposal to USDA NRCS Oregon Conservation Innovation Grants Program for *Extending the Klamath Tracking and Accounting Program: Building a joint platform for tracking water quality improvements in the Klamath for NRCS and the Comprehensive Agreement*

Dear Mr. Peplin:

Oregon DEQ supports the proposal to adapt the Klamath Tracking and Accounting Program to the recent Upper Klamath Basin Comprehensive Agreement in a way that directly relates to achieving the water quality conditions supportive of native fish and other beneficial uses. The Klamath Tracking and Accounting Program provides a mechanism to quantify outcomes of individual actions taken to improve water quantity and quality as well as implement water quality trading and other conservation incentive programs.

We are acutely aware of the water quality challenges in the Klamath Basin and the ongoing efforts by tribes, conservation organizations, NRCS, and others to address these challenges. I strongly encourage your support of this Conservation Innovations Grant proposal to help capture this opportunity. We look forward to a successful collaboration with our partners on this project.

Sincerely,

Dick Pedersen
Director

DP:rn

cc: Carrie Sanneman, Willamette Partnership
Gene Foster, Environmental Solutions, DEQ
Dennis Ades, Operations, DEQ
Ranei Nomura, Western Region, DEQ

