



April 7, 2015

KATE BROWN
Governor

Carl Schreck
Chair, IMST
C/o Oregon State University
Department of Fisheries & Wildlife
104 Nash Hall
Corvallis, OR 97331-3803

Dear Professor Schreck,

Thank you for your February 27, 2015 letter regarding the Independent Multidisciplinary Science Team (IMST) and recommendations regarding scientific review of natural resource issues. I value the time and expertise you and other IMST members have given to Oregon. Thank you for your thoughtful recommendations.

Senate Bill 202, introduced at the request of Governor Kitzhaber, proposes a task force to develop recommendations to update Oregon's independent science review for natural resource issues. As you know, agencies, the Governor and the Legislature are confronted with difficult, complex and controversial public policy questions. An independent science review process that has the confidence of interested parties and the public can help inform decision-makers who need to consider science as well as environmental, social and economic factors in their adoption of policies and program implementation.

As drafted, SB 202 was a starting point for discussion with interested stakeholders. My staff is considering the IMST's recommendations, along with recommendations of other interested organizations, in developing amendments to Senate Bill 202.

I appreciate your recommendations that science review for natural resources should be independent, multidisciplinary and meaningful. Your list of recommendations includes more detailed suggestions for how a future review process would achieve these goals; these are the type of details the proposed task force would need to consider.

Sincerely,

Governor Kate Brown

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