



JOHN A. KITZHABER, MD
Governor

June 12, 2012

Deborah Ingram, Assistant Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency
Recovery Directorate
500 C Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20472

RE: Disaster No.: 1733-DR-OR
Second Appeal – Port of Tillamook Bay
PW No.: Alternate Project #13 to Project Worksheet (PW) 93

Dear Ms. Ingram:

This letter is to voice my strong support for the above referenced appeal. This project, known as the Southern Flow Corridor (SFC), will provide critical flood reduction benefits to the major coastal community of Tillamook and State Highway 101 that passes through it.

While there is often agreement about what a problem is, there is often uncertainty or disagreement on the solution. That maxim does not apply here. The SFC project evolved through a consensus driven, collaborative process for problem solving known as Oregon Solutions.

With passage of Oregon's Sustainability Act in 2001, the Governor's Office launched the Oregon Solutions program. Flooding in central Tillamook County was designated as an Oregon Solutions project in 2007.

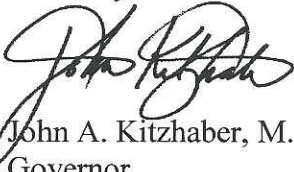
Under the community governance model, Oregon Solutions brought together federal, state and local government agencies with community leaders to agree on the best strategies to mitigate flood events in the Tillamook basin. The team evaluated and prioritized projects that will diminish severe flooding and alleviate flooding damage. New partnerships were formed to expedite projects and leverage funding. The SFC was identified as the single most important project that would accomplish those objectives.

Not only does FEMA's own HAZUS-BCAR computer model demonstrate that the SFC project would be cost-effective, but the completed project would result in one of the largest wetland/salmonid habitat creation projects ever completed in the Northwestern United States.

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My hope is that Oregon and FEMA can continue to build on the success we have both enjoyed in Vernonia, Oregon, another Oregon Solutions project, by working together to complete the SFC project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John A. Kitzhaber". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" being the most prominent.

John A. Kitzhaber, M.D.
Governor
Chair, Oregon Solutions Steering Committee

JAK:gw/lh