



Mission Stewardship Recognition

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission, February 8, 2019

Background

At the October 12, 2018 Commission Meeting, Commissioner Buckmaster requested the support of the Commission to send a letter of appreciation to the Western Rivers Conservancy for their recent completion of a 3000-acre purchase along Thirtymile Creek in the John Day Watershed. The Commissioners in attendance unanimously agreed to send such a letter and to establish a process that supports this type of acknowledgement in the future.

Today, staff has supplied a draft letter of appreciation for your signatures. We have also developed a short, informal process to complete such letters in the future. That process is available below and will be incorporated in to the updated Commission Handbook.

Mission Stewardship Recognition

The Mission Stewardship Recognition is an informal process whereby individual Commissioners may request unanimous consent from the Commission to recognize an organization or individual who has completed a project that contributes to the fulfillment of ODFW's mission: to protect and enhance Oregon's fish and wildlife and their habitats for use and enjoyment by present and future generations.

Requirements

- Projects must have been completed in the last 12 months.
- Projects must have been completed without funding from the State of Oregon.
- Projects must be discreet activities or successes by an organization or individual
- Commissioners must unanimously agree that the project contributes to the fulfillment of ODFW's mission

Process

1. Any Commissioner contacts the Chair to propose a Mission Stewardship Recognition and provides background details about the project.
2. The Chair, in consultation with the Director, will decide if the project meets the requirements. This decision is fully at the discretion of the Chair.
3. If the Chair consents, he/she introduces the request at the next scheduled Commission Meeting during the Other Business portion of the agenda.
4. The Commissioner who submitted the proposal describes the project and the connection to ODFW's mission.
5. If all commissioners present agree to the recognition, a letter will be sent from the Commission Chair to the recipient accompanied by a certificate of recognition.

Example of letter

Sue Dorroff
President
Western Rivers Conservancy
71 SW Oak Street, Suite 100
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Ms. Doroff,

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission is writing to congratulate the Western Rivers Conservancy for your recent acquisition along Thirtymile Creek and the Lower John Day River. Recognizing that the protection and enhancement of Oregon's fish, wildlife, and habitats cannot be accomplished by state and federal agencies alone, the Commission extends our deepest gratitude for engaging in conservation work that exemplifies ODFW's mission.

Your recent effort to acquire Rattray and Campbell ranches, including nine (9) miles of Thirtymile Creek and 10 miles of the John Day River is an impressive achievement that will protect and improve fish and wildlife habitat, preserve cold-water tributaries, create public access, and conserve important sagebrush-steppe habitat. Your work will open access to over 75,000 acres of public land and many miles of access for Oregon's boaters and anglers. The property is within the Lower John Day River Conservation Opportunity Area, as identified in the Oregon Conservation Strategy. This encompasses habitat for 27 Species of Greatest Conservation Need, in addition to the native Steelhead and Chinook salmon as identified by your conservation plans.

Thank you again for your great work to conserve the lands and waters of Oregon.

Sincerely,

Michael Finley
Chair, Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission