



December 7, 2016

KATE BROWN  
Governor

Jim Seeley  
Wild Rivers Coast Alliance  
57744 Round Lake  
Bandon, OR 97411

Alexis Brickner  
Gorse Action Group  
Coos Watershed Association  
PO Box 388  
Coos Bay, OR 97420

Dear Jim and Alexis:

It has come to my attention that you have requested the designation of an Oregon Solutions project for the mitigation and removal of the highly flammable and invasive gorse plant in the Southern Oregon coast region. After reviewing your request letter and assessment conducted by Oregon Solutions staff, I agree to designate the mitigation and removal of gorse populations as an Oregon Solutions project. I also appoint you, Jim Seeley and Alexis Brickner, as co-conveners to lead a team of public, private, non-profit, and civic partners toward innovative community solutions that address the mitigation and removal of the gorse populations plan in the Southern Oregon coast region. I request that as co-conveners you convene the appropriate partners to serve on the project team.

The Oregon Solutions approach helps bring together partners in a neutral and collaborative way to address issues and opportunities. With a highly populated area in the city of Bandon surrounding the "donut hole," comes the obligation to manage the severe fire hazard caused by the highly flammable and invasive gorse plant.

I am pleased to see that many partners have been working collaboratively to address these issues. The Oregon Solutions process can build upon the work already accomplished by the Gorse Action Committee. By integrating and leveraging resources, this project has the potential to decrease a serious fire hazard in the Southern Oregon coast region and return lands to a workable and usable condition.

Please keep the governor's office updated on this effort. Thank you for your work and enthusiasm thus far.

Sincerely,

Governor Kate Brown

KB:lh

cc: Alex Campbell, Southern Oregon Regional Solutions Coordinator  
Steve Greenwood, Oregon Solutions Director  
Gorse Action Group

