



February 1, 2012

JOHN A. KITZHABER, MD
Governor

Umatilla Forest Collaborative Group Administrative Committee
c/o Elaine Eisenbraun
North Fork John Day Watershed Council
691 N Highway 395
P.O. Box 444
Long Creek, OR 97856

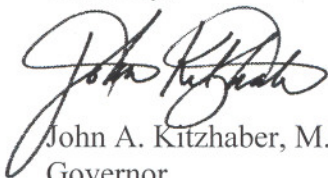
Dear Commissioner Davidson, Judge Webb, Ms. Warness, Mr. Lillebo, and Mr. Kelly:

I have received the request for the Umatilla Forest Collaborative Group's (UFCG) Kahler Restoration Planning project to be designated as an Oregon Solutions project. After reviewing the project and the assessment conducted by Oregon Solutions staff, I believe this project supports Oregon's Sustainable Community Objectives. Therefore, by this letter, I am designating this as an Oregon Solutions project and appointing **Eastern Oregon University President Bob Davies** as the convener for this effort.

The Oregon Solutions approach helps bring together potential partners in a neutral and collaborative way to address issues and opportunities. The project will support formalizing the UFCG as a stand-alone, well-supported community forest health collaborative. By identifying common interests and opportunities to integrate and leverage investments and resources, this project has the potential to strengthen the ties between non-profit interest groups, private sector and government agencies on the ground.

I am pleased to see that you are working collaboratively to find a sustainable solution to the forest health issues on the Umatilla National Forest and thank you, the Administrative Committee, for taking a lead role in this approach. Please keep the Governor's Office updated on your progress and thank you for your work and enthusiasm.

Sincerely,



John A. Kitzhaber, M.D.
Governor

JAK:lrh

c: UFCG Administrative Committee Members
Commissioner Mark Davidson, Union County
Judge Mark Webb, Grant County
Tim Lillebo, Oregon Wild
Scott Fairley, Governor's Office, Eastern Regional Solutions Coordinator
Brian Kelly, Hells Canyon Preservation Council
Jim Johnson, Oregon Solutions
Lindsay Warness, Boise Cascade
Brett Brownscombe, Governor's Natural Resource Office