

THEODORE R. KULONGOSKI
GOVERNOR



September 18, 2008

Jack Shipley, Chair
Applegate Partnership & Watershed Council
P.O. Box 899
Jacksonville, Oregon 97530

Dear Chair Shipley:

The interest of the Applegate Partnership and Watershed Council in bringing stakeholders to the table to discuss aggregate mining issues in your watershed is much appreciated. In addition, I have reviewed letters of support from Jackson and Josephine County Commissions to designate the Applegate sustainable aggregate project as an Oregon Solutions project.

Based on the initial assessment that was completed for the project, I believe that an Oregon Solutions process will assist you in identifying the conditions and studies needed for sustainable gravel extraction in the Applegate watershed and will help to identify potential pilot projects. By this letter, I am designating Applegate sustainable aggregate project as an Oregon Solutions project and appointing Josephine County Commissioner Dwight Ellis and Jackson County Commissioner C.W. Smith to serve as the co-conveners.

There is a critical need to determine how much gravel can be mined from our rivers without detriment to fish habitat and the river system. A team of state, federal, and local governments, along with private and civic partners will address the economic, environmental, and community needs for sustainable aggregate mining in the Applegate River watershed.

This work is challenging and exciting because it has the potential to serve as a model to develop a balanced strategy for aggregate management in other areas of our State.

Sincerely,

THEODORE R. KULONGOSKI
Governor

TRK:rn:lj

Cc: Commissioner Dennis C.W. Smith
Commissioner Dwight Ellis
Commissioner Dave Toler, Josephine County
Commissioner Jim Raffenburg, Josephine County
Commissioner Dave Gilmour, Jackson County
Commissioner Jack Walker, Jackson County
Jeff Griffin, Economic Revitalization Team
Jane Bacchieri, Governor's Natural Resources Office
Steve Greenwood, Oregon Solutions