



## South Fork John Day Watershed Council

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09/29/2021

To Whom it May Concern.

Subject: John Day Fish Habitat program

The South Fork John Day Watershed Council (SFJDWC) service area covers over 546,000 acres of public and private ownerships. The Watershed has been designated as the South Fork Conservation Opportunity Area, Murderers Creek Mule Deer Initiative Area, Murderers Creek Wild Horse Management Unit, and essential winter and summer habitat for big game.

The SFJDWC has worked cooperatively with the John Day Fish Habitat program and local land managers on numerous habitat improvement projects, most recently the Murderers Creek and Deer Creek Watershed critical habitat protective fencing, Tex Creek Riparian Enhancements, and Murderers Creek Ranch House Riparian Enhancements. The John Day Fish Habitat program provides valuable technical assistance in project development, implementation, and the ability to leverage funding to accomplish these projects. We have also experienced successful implementation due to the excellent reputation that the program has with private landowners and land managers. This program works to find common ground between the needs of ag producers and protection of sensitive habitats.

Through these cooperative efforts the SFJDWC is better suited to complete our mission to maintain and enhance the health of the South Fork John Day River watershed and the long-term economic stability of the region, foster a better understanding of the multiple resources, represent broad and diverse geographies and interests, and work collaboratively to carry out voluntary watershed restoration activities.

The SFJDWC strongly supports the John Day Fish Habitat program and looks forward to future partnership opportunities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amy Stiner".

Amy Stiner  
Executive Director  
South Fork John Day Watershed Council