



## **Crooked River Watershed Council**

**498 SE Lynn Blvd., Prineville OR 97754**

**voice: 541-447-8567 | fax: 541-416-2115**

January 23, 2009

Mike Herrick  
Aquatic Contracting, LLC  
800 NE Tenney Rd., Ste 110  
Vancouver, WA 98685

Dear Mr. Herrick,

I wanted to personally thank you and the crew of Aquatic Contracting for your work on the People's Irrigation District Fish Bypass Channel. The project was a collaboration of NRCS, NOAA/NMFS, USFWS, ODFW, People's Irrigation Company, and the Crooked River Watershed Council to reconnect nearly 56 miles of habitat for reintroduced mid-Columbia summer steelhead in the Crooked River. The criteria for the design was to improve passage over a 7' high by 120' wide concrete diversion dam (one of the oldest in Central Oregon) by creating a nature-like fishway. As you know, this project was the first of its kind to be implemented in this community and has already been highly complemented.

The project was complex in many facets and the diligence of your crew to complete the task at hand was greatly appreciated. Furthermore, the expertise and responsiveness of Aquatic Contracting was instrumental during project implementation given the narrow window of opportunity to construct the bypass channel.

I have recommended Aquatic Contracting to other groups working in conservation/restoration of natural resources in the area and hope that you can build upon your expertise in this field.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Devin Best". The signature is written in a cursive style and is placed on a light-colored rectangular background.

Devin Best  
Restoration Project Manager