



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

## Department of Fish and Wildlife

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Rick & Kim Martin  
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### To Whom It May Concern:

This is a letter of reference for Rick and Kim Martin who are Host volunteers for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). They began their Host career at my office, the Northwest Region Office in Clackamas, in February 2006. They then volunteered for a seven month seasonal Host position from March 2006 until October 2006 at St. Louis Ponds near Gervais. While at St. Louis, I maintained regular weekly contact with them. I highly recommend Rick and Kim Martin for any position, paid or unpaid, to which they apply.

Rick and Kim are both excellent volunteers with a strong work ethic, and are dedicated, honest, responsible, mature individuals. They communicate well with the public and took care of St. Louis Ponds as if it were their own property. St. Louis Ponds is a day-use area managed by our Sauvie Island Wildlife Area staff that work more than an hour away. The Hosts are the only on-site representatives of the Department and also work with Marion County Parks to maintain the 260 acre property. It is a multiple use area, with its primary emphasis as a warm-water fishing area, its secondary emphasis as a dog training and dog trial area, as well as a popular place for locals to walk, hike, and picnic.

Rick with his public safety background was able to train the users to depart at the expected closing times. On his own initiative, Rick also maintained an ongoing computer log that kept staff apprised of what was happening out at St. Louis. They communicated frequently with staff, but no major issues arose the entire season. With very old and often non-functioning equipment, they kept the extensive grounds free of litter, pruned, mowed and looking its very best. Plus, with their photography skills, they documented the ongoing progress of the work they did.

They brought a wealth of skills to the position—public safety, computer, photography, public service, communication, and groundskeeping. They were willing to learn new skills, such as Kim learning to mow using a tractor, and they were always willing to go the extra mile. It was an asset that they previously owned and produced a local monthly fishing magazine and are avid fishers themselves. They far exceeded our expectations for Hosts at St. Louis Ponds and definitely raised the bar for future Host volunteers.

We cannot thank Rick and Kim enough for all they did and wish them well on their next endeavors and adventures. They will always be welcome as Hosts for ODFW.

Sincerely,

Jennell Hoehne  
Volunteer Program Coordinator