



May 1, 2019

**TO:** Representative Paul Holvey, Chair, House Committee on Rules  
Representative Jennifer Williamson, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Rules  
Representative Carl Wilson, Vice-Chair, House Committee on Rules

**FROM:** Sustainable Northwest

**SUBJECT: Support for House Concurrent Resolution 33**

Dear Chair Holvey and Vice-Chairs Williamson and Wilson:

A reliable water supply is the most imperative and basic need for all Oregonians. The state's water infrastructure and resources provide clean and abundant drinking water, domestic and industrial waste treatment, habitat for threatened salmon and steelhead, supplies that support an \$8.2 billion agricultural industry and other water dependent businesses, and storm and flood management to protect public safety, property, and transportation corridors. But our water infrastructure and practices to sustain these diverse benefits have become increasingly challenged. The result is water pollution, heightened competition for already scarce resources, and a decline in the health of Oregon's iconic rivers and landscapes that support communities, critical wildlife habitat, and countless businesses.

House Concurrent Resolution 33 will initiate an essential dialogue and collaboration between legislators, the Governor, state agencies, tribal governments, water stakeholders and other interests to develop a vision and roadmap for a secure and resilient water future for all Oregonians. An effective process will foster an improved understanding of Oregon's water resources, consumption, infrastructure needs, and prioritization for future investment.

This challenge becomes more complex and expensive with each passing day. It is time to develop a collaborative framework to identify and advance innovative water solutions and investments for improved environmental health and economic benefits. No issue is more significant to the well-being and safety of Oregon. We commend legislators for introducing HCR 33 and working in partnership with the state's diverse group of water stakeholders to chart a path forward for a more sustainable and equitable water future for generations of Oregonians.

Sustainable Northwest looks forward to continued discussion on this critical issue this session and in the coming months and years. For questions, please contact Dylan Kruse at [dkruse@sustainablenorthwest.org](mailto:dkruse@sustainablenorthwest.org). Thank you for your leadership and support for HCR 33.

Sincerely,

Greg Block, President  
Sustainable Northwest