



Thursday, June 1, 2023

TO: Members, Oregon House Rules Committee

RE: Opposition to HB 3382

Dear Chair Fahey and Members of the House Rules Committee,

On behalf of Portland Audubon, I want to take this opportunity to express my client's continuing opposition to HB 3382 and urge the House Rules Committee to take no further action on it this session.

I do want to recognize the tremendous efforts of Rep. Khanh Pham, Rep. Gomberg, and members of the Joint Transportation Committee to craft and adopt amendments that alter the bill from its categorically unacceptable original form. The changes reflect robust stakeholder conversations and incorporate substantial feedback from the conservation community and Oregon Tribes. The current version substantially narrows the potential scope of harm to Oregon's submerged and submersible lands.

Regardless, the clear intent of this legislation is to expedite dredging in Coos Bay on lands currently zoned Natural Aquatic and Conservation Aquatic. The stated goal is to bypass existing land use processes to facilitate dramatic expansion of the existing navigation channel at the behest of politically connected private developers. The appropriate venue for these conversations is the Coos Bay Estuary Management Plan process, which is currently underway.

We respectfully urge the committee to protect the unique and ecologically sensitive Coos Bay estuary from further degradation by industrial developers and refrain from making a "Do Pass" recommendation on HB 3382.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter.

Warm regards,

Kyle

Kyle Linhares (he/him)
Principal, Steadfast Advocates, LLC
503-536-3338