



February 9, 2023

Senator Jeff Golden, Chair
Senator Fred Girod, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Natural Resources

Re: Trout Unlimited Supports Senate Bill 130

Dear Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Girod, and Members of the Committee,

Trout Unlimited (“TU”) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of cold-water fish (such as trout, salmon, and steelhead) and their habitats. TU has more than 350,000 members and supporters nationwide, including many members in Oregon.

SB 130 would extend the sunset for a tax credit on fish screening devices from January 1, 2024, to January 1, 2030.

TU supports SB 130.

Fish screening devices, by-pass devices, and fishways are types of infrastructure that keep fish in rivers, and out of diversion facilities. For example, the point of diversion for an irrigation canal might have a screen that prevents trout, salmon, or other native fish from swimming down the irrigation canal, or a bypass that sends fish which enter the diversion structure back into the river. Similarly, fishways provide fish passage upstream or downstream of obstructions such as diversion dams.

ORS 315.518 allows a tax credit of up to \$5,000 for taxpayers that install these types of fish-protecting infrastructure. SB 130 simply makes that reasonable tax incentive available for another six years. Trout Unlimited supports this legislation.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments on this bill, and please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

James Fraser
Oregon Policy Advisor
Trout Unlimited
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