

**Testimony to the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural
Resources and Water
On HB 3163**

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Founded in 1968, the Oregon Environmental Council (OEC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, membership-based organization. We advance innovative, collaborative and equitable solutions to Oregon's environmental challenges for today and future generations.

Oregon Environmental Council supports HB 3163. However, we would like to see certain amendments to the current bill language that would bring the bill into alignment with the recommendations of the Work Group on State-Supported Regional Water Planning & Management.

Place-based planning (PBP) is an integral part of coordinated, inclusive, geographically specific and scientifically sound state-level water management. Place-based planning does not supplant or override state regulations. Rather, working within those sideboards, local groups can plan for their own water future. Bringing together local stakeholders to collaboratively design a water future that supports a healthy environment, provides clean and safe drinking water and a viable economy is key to ensuring Oregon's resilience and adaptability in the face of climate change, drought and shifting demographics.

Amending HB 3207's language to align with Recommendations F and P from [the Report of the Work Group on State-Supported Regional Water Planning & Management](#) will improve this bill as will integrating the proposed redline amendments submitted by Trout Unlimited.

OEC urges you to support an amended version of HB 3163 that includes changes that align with the Work Group's report.