

**Testimony to the House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural  
Resources and Water  
On HB 2100**

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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 does not support HB 3100 as written.

The Integrated Water Resources Strategy (IWRS) is Oregon's acknowledgement of the need for highly coordinated water management in our state. We should be looking to strengthen the implementation and functionality of the IWRS, not adding impediments to that work.

OEC recommends removing Section 1(6)(g), which requires additional process and workgroups, and Section 2, which sets up an advisory committee. Both of these will slow implementation of the IWRS, without contributing substantively to the work assigned to the agencies by the strategy. Oregon's natural resources agencies are ever more assiduous in providing opportunities for public involvement and input. They have heeded the concerns brought forward by water justice advocates, local community members, conservation organizations and others about the need for open, inclusive involvement of diverse communities and voices in the state's water planning and implementation work.

Rather than spend scarce agency resources on setting up and managing additional workgroups and a large advisory committee, we should more fully fund the agencies to move forward with the recommendations and programs contained in the IWRS. To that end, we recommend funding for Oregon Water Resources Department's POP 101, which will allow a full-time staffer to be focused on ensuring the effective implementation of the IWRS.

We support the existing statutory framework of the IWRS, with the caveat that Section 1(9) of HB 3100, which extends the regular updates of the IWRS from five to 10 years could be a welcome addition. This is a more realistic reflection of how long programmatic implementation of water management may take before showing real world results.

If the committee desires to support a longer update timeline for the IWRS, then OEC urges you to delete HB 3100 Section 1(6)(g) and Section 2 from the bill language. Alternatively, we urge you to oppose HB 3100, and direct your attention to fully funding the staffing needs of our natural resources agencies.