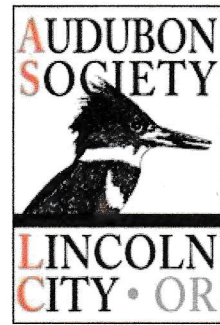

Audubon Society of Lincoln City

PO Box 38 Lincoln City Oregon 97367

www.lincolncityaudubon.org



March 16, 2023

Joint Committee on Transportation

Re: HB 3382

Dear co-Chair Senator Gosek and co-Chair Representative McLain:

The Audubon Society of Lincoln City is a local chapter of the National Audubon Society. Our service area is Lincoln and Tillamook counties on the Oregon coast. Our mission is to encourage residents and visitors to enjoy native birds, other wildlife, and habitats found on Oregon's central coast. One of our core conservation priorities is estuaries. We are actively engaged with local cities, Lincoln County, ports, businesses, other conservation groups, and the tribes on updating the Yaquina Bay Estuary Management Plan. Yaquina Bay is a deepwater port that is also home to thousands of birds, wildlife, and aquatic species. HB 3382 sets out to make the Yaquina Bay Estuary Management Plan effectively meaningless before local entities can even finish updating it.

HB 3382 undermines land use planning laws for all the state's deepwater ports. Authorizing major development projects to proceed without demonstrating compliance with state and local land use law puts valuable public resources of fish, birds, wildlife, and their habitats within our irreplaceable estuaries at risk.

In addition to rendering state and local land use laws ineffective, HB 3382 subverts processes for public involvement in deciding how some projects may affect the places we live, recreate, and work. Oregon has a legacy of public engagement in natural resource management as reflected in Statewide Planning Goal 1: citizen involvement. This bill denies the public opportunities to participate in the review process for port projects in deepwater channels. The bill also sets a dangerous precedent for special interest groups to exempt themselves from state and local laws.

Please reject HB 3382, acknowledging its incompatibility with the Oregon Coastal Management Program. The bill is not in the public's interest.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dawn Villaescusa", is written over a large, light-colored circular mark.

dawn villaescusa, President

dawnv@birdlover.com

Our mission is to encourage residents and visitors to protect and enjoy the native birds, other wildlife, and habitats found on the Central Oregon Coast.