

Submitter: Casey Kulla

On Behalf Of: Oregon Wild

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Measure: HB2929

As an irrigator and the state forest policy coordinator for Oregon Wild, I support HB 2929, which gives Oregon Water Resources Department the authority to move quickly when water sources are illegally being used or harmed. Oregon Wild works to protect and restore Oregon's wildlands, wildlife, and waters as an enduring legacy for future generations. Our concern is that in a hotter and drier world, clean and abundant water will be one of Oregon's most precious resources; unpermitted water use can quickly drain aquifers and streams, harming people, fish, and amphibians. Unpermitted water impoundments can abruptly cut off stream flows and springs, risking whole populations of fish and sources of drinking water.

Thank you for your time and your attention to this vital matter! Responding quickly is key; responding justly is crucial.