

Submitter: Maria Farinacci

Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation

Measure: HB3382

Oregon Joint Committee on Transportation State Capitol

900 Court Street NE Salem, Oregon 97301

Subject: Concerns regarding House Bill 3382 and the Coos Estuary Management Plan

Co-Chair McClain, Co-Chair Frederick, and members of the Committee, for the record, my name is Maria Farinacci, and I am a resident of Coos Bay.

I oppose HB3382-4 as a resident of Coos Bay, a local teacher, a surfer, a fisher, and live and recreate along the waters of the Coos River. I live here with my family and neighbors who rely on our rivers and bay.

Activities in the estuary and Coos Bay need public consultation, involvement, and adherence to the Coos Estuary Management Plan before crafting proposals that are within our jurisdiction. Any proposed changes to the regulations governing our waterways should prioritize public participation and consider the recommendations of the Coos Estuary Management Plan. The plan was created through extensive collaboration among local stakeholders, scientific experts, and governmental agencies, ensuring a balanced approach that reflects the needs and aspirations of our community. Ignoring or bypassing this plan would undermine the efforts and progress made towards achieving a sustainable and thriving Coos Bay.

The south coast does not need to be saved from poverty by sacrificing our estuary. We need sustainable and ecological solutions for our communities.

My primary concerns include:

- This project will have a detrimental effect on Estuarine Resources, without full careful review.
- The mitigation strategy is an unrealistic mitigation proposal. Please understand it would be impossible complete. No meaningful mitigation proposal could adequately compare to the area affected, and there is no such thing as 100% mitigation!
- HB 3382-4 Sets a Dangerous Precedent for Oregon- by removing existing requirements for large scale channel modification or dredging in Coos Bay.
- HB 3382-4 Threatens generations of Coastal Economies
- HB 3382-4 is at odds with Oregon's Climate Goal
- Authorizes certain ports to construct, maintain and improve deep draft navigation channel improvements without demonstrating compliance with state or local land use law.

Our community needs to address many needs for the residence of Coos Bay and Coos County. Our area needs investment in ecological and sustainable industry. We need healthy fisheries, local regenerative agriculture, access to healthy food and water, safe roads, and bridges. There are many ecological or “green” solutions to the issues we face in the rural south coast. However, this bill and plan to deep dredge the port of Coos Bay is not ‘green’ and it ignores the science and negative ecological impacts. There are many experts of natural resources who oppose this bill for scientific and credible reasons. Please listen to this testimony and the many community members who also oppose this bill.

Sincerely,

Maria Farinacci