

Submitter: Tim Butler
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2982

February 10, 2025

House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

To: Co-Chairs Helm and Owens and members of the committee.

I am providing my personal support of House Bill 2982 to add additional fees on boats to support invasive species prevention. My concern is the introduction and spread of invasive species that can have major negative impacts to Oregon's water resources. Prevention is our first line of defense of invasive species such as Zebra, Quagga and Golden mussels and aquatic noxious weeds, like Water Primrose and Flower Rush.

As the committee is well aware, Oregon has invested tens of millions of dollars for decades, into watershed restoration and protection of endangered fish species such as salmon. More resources need to go to programs like what is outlined in House Bill 2982 to enable more funding that can support prevention programs such as boat inspections a primary vector, with the potential introduction of invasive mussels and spread of aquatic noxious weeds.

I am a boater and place a high value on Oregon's water resources. I currently sit as a private member on the OISC. I am also the retired Noxious Weed Control Program Manager at ODA.

I encourage the committee to support House Bill 2982.

Sincerely,

Tim Butler
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