



To: House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Co-Chair Helm
Co-Chair Owens
Vice-Chair Finger McDonald
Representative Boice
Representative Hartman

Representative Bobby Levy
Representative Marsh
Representative McLain
Representative Scharf

From: Caylin Barter

Date: February 27, 2025

RE: **HB 3106: Support for Water Data Portal – Sustain Pilot and Improve IT Infrastructure**

Co-Chairs Helm and Owens, Vice-Chair Finger McDonald, and Members of the Committee:

Wild Salmon Center supports continued attention to and investment in Oregon's Water Data Portal pilot.

Wild Salmon Center is an international nonprofit headquartered in Oregon that has worked with local partners since 1992 to protect and restore the strongest remaining runs of Wild Pacific Salmon. We use science to drive policy, lead planning processes, and support implementation, and we know that the health of our water resources is directly linked to the recovery of our iconic wild fish and the vitality of our communities and economy. Low streamflows and high water temperatures are stressing even our healthiest salmon runs, and these problems are worsening due to climate change and increased human demand for water.

We support policies that improve our state's understanding and stewardship of our overstressed water supplies, and we believe that public accessibility is critical to public understanding of this public resource. As a result, we have been proud to support past investments in piloting the Water Data Portal. **We are pleased with the beta version recently released by the Department of Environmental Quality and look forward to supporting investments that expand this agency's proof of concept to include additional data types, bringing Oregon closer to truly integrated water resources management.**

Wild Salmon Center recommends continued legislative attention to **upgrading state IT infrastructure and investing in specialized staff** to support this ambitious and important pilot.

Sincerely,

Caylin Barter
Water Policy Director
cbarter@wildsalmoncenter.org

INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

2001 NW 19th Avenue, Suite 200 • Portland, Oregon 97209 USA • Tel: 503.222.1804 • Fax: 503.222.1805
info@wildsalmoncenter.org • wildsalmoncenter.org