

Submitter: Sid Smith
On Behalf Of: DragonSports USA
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3314

Dear Co-Chairs Helm and Owens, Vice Chair McDonald, and members of the Committee:

I am writing in support of House Bill 3314 with the “- 1” amendment, to fund design and permitting for a solution to mitigate the harmful cyanobacteria bloom in Ross Island Lagoon.

I am the President of DragonSports USA, a Portland dragon boat paddling organization with nearly 20 teams and more than 2,000 paddlers. We hold a 2-day festival attended by 50-60 teams, including teams from around the country and Canada, in September each year. This study is CRITICAL to the health and well-being of our paddlers and our organization.

I am also a resident of Oregon Yacht Club, a floating home community. We are concerned about the potential impact any proposed solution may have. That's why Oregon State agreed to include a water flow study to better understand potential sediment build-up in the Holgate Channel. The study also needs to include an analysis of ongoing work that ensures any proposed new channel is not blocked by debris or beaver dams.

Please help save our river, fish, wildlife, and recreational opportunities by supporting HB 3314.