



March 5, 2025

Joint Committee on Transportation

**Re: Support for Efforts to Address 6PPD-Q Tire Pollution (HB 3362)**

Dear Co-Chairs Gorsek and McLain, Co-Vice-Chairs Starr and Boshart Davis, and Members of the Committee,

Trout Unlimited is known in Oregon and throughout the nation for its work in restoring riparian and instream habitats in collaboration with government agencies, conservation organizations, and private landowners. The 3,400 Oregon members of Trout Unlimited are affiliated with our grassroots entity, the Oregon Council of Trout Unlimited.

**OCTU is deeply concerned about the effects of 6PPD-Quinone on native fish (especially coho salmon), and we support the concept of mitigating that harm by addressing acute sources of related pollution.**

6PPD is a chemical that recent science has shown is extraordinarily toxic to coho salmon. Unfortunately, it is also a common ingredient in vehicle tires; as tires wear down, 6PPD and other materials are left on and alongside roadways. In the fall, when the first rains raise water levels and signal coho salmon to return, 6PPD washes into streams and can cause significant die-off events for coho salmon just before the fish spawn.

HB 3362 would implement a sales tax on tires and direct revenues to several different purposes, including: efforts to clean stormwater and reduce 6PPD loading, wildlife crossing construction, and rail infrastructure investments. OCTU has mixed feelings on the specific mechanism of raising revenues for these efforts via a tire tax, but we strongly agree with the need to dig-in and address 6PPD pollution issues. We recommend a few resources as background on 6PPD and its effects on salmon, including:

- Presentation from Dr. Ed Kolodziej (U. Washington) to Trout Unlimited, *Toxic Tires & Trout: The Research, Impact, and Next Steps* (Feb. 2, 2023)<sup>1</sup>
- Presentation from Todd Hanna (Mt. Hood Community College) to ODFW Commission, regarding 6PPD and coho in Gresham's Beaver Creek (February 13, 2025)<sup>2</sup>
- Presentation from Katie Holzer (City of Gresham) to ODFW Commission, regarding 6PPD and coho salmon in Gresham area streams (February 13, 2025)<sup>3</sup>

OCTU greatly appreciates the sponsors and this Committee for considering the issue of 6PPD pollution. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mark W. Rogers  
Chair, Oregon Council of Trout Unlimited

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<sup>1</sup> See following video link from 5:49 to 35:37 marks: <https://vimeo.com/troutunlimited/toxictiresandtrout?share=copy#t=349.633>

<sup>2</sup> See following video link from 47:03 to 55:42 marks: [https://www.youtube.com/live/HjAQ7FaKcUw?si=oLj83\\_G3klHwSzEC&t=2823](https://www.youtube.com/live/HjAQ7FaKcUw?si=oLj83_G3klHwSzEC&t=2823)

<sup>3</sup> See following video link from 1:16:39 to 1:23:55 marks: <https://www.youtube.com/live/HjAQ7FaKcUw?si=OXjG0s65puNYmNEe&t=4599>