



## **WaterWatch of Oregon**

### **Protecting Natural Flows In Oregon Rivers**

#### **SB 1154-1** **Testimony of WaterWatch of Oregon** by Kimberley Priestley

**Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire**  
**March 25, 2025**

Founded in 1985, WaterWatch is a non-profit river conservation group dedicated to the protection and restoration of Oregon's rivers and aquifers to sustain fish, wildlife, recreation and other public uses of Oregon's waters. We also work for balanced water laws and policies. WaterWatch has members across Oregon who care deeply about our rivers, their inhabitants and the effects of water laws and policies on these resources.

#### **WaterWatch supports SB 1154-1 being moved to Rules**

SB 1154-1 would update Oregon's 1989 Groundwater Quality Management Act with a coordinated, comprehensive two-step approach. It would direct state agencies would work together to identify and eliminate pollution from all sources, and provide regular reports to the legislature, agency boards and commissions.

Groundwater contamination is increasing in Oregon, putting communities, cultures, economies and ecosystems at risk. Working to eliminate sources of pollution is critical to our state's livability. Steps to update Oregon's approach to addressing and eliminating groundwater contamination is long overdue.

SB 1154-1 is an important bill. We support further discussions and urge the Committee to move SB 1154-1 to Rules.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

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