



June 2, 2025

Senate Committee on Rules

Re: Redsides Chapter of Trout Unlimited Supports Senate Bill 1153

Dear Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Bonham, and Members of the Committee,

Trout Unlimited (TU) is a national organization dedicated to caring for rivers and streams so our children can experience the joy of wild and native trout and salmon. Based in the Eugene-Springfield area, the Redsides Chapter of TU was established in 1998 and has a membership of nearly 700 individuals and businesses. Our work focuses on conservation and restoration in the McKenzie, Middle Fork Willamette, and Umpqua River basins as well as community-building, and angling education efforts. As Redsides members, we consider ourselves incredibly fortunate to have easy access to these inspiring waterways and fisheries.

The Redsides Chapter of Trout Unlimited supports Senate Bill 1153.

As anglers and conservationists, we value native and wild Oregon fish because of the relationships they foster – with rivers and other places of natural beauty, with other anglers and outdoors-lovers, and with ourselves, as we learn how to be better stewards of the environment and better neighbors. Fly fishing for Oregon trout, salmon, steelhead, and other species is a timeless tradition cherished in our state and without proper protection for Oregon's water and rivers, this pastime could cease to exist.

The Redsides Chapter of Trout Unlimited believes that Senate Bill 1153 helps ensure water management doesn't degrade fish or water quality in Oregon. We believe this bill safeguards our world-class rivers and streams — and the fish, water quality, and recreational values they support — by ensuring voluntary water right changes won't further diminish streamflows and harm fish or fish habitat. This narrow fix closes a loophole and brings modern environmental values into Oregon's outdated water right transfer review process. For these reasons and others, **we ask you to please support Senate Bill 1153 – to modernize Oregon's water laws by adding an environmental review to the process for approving proposed water right *changes* – by passing it out of Senate Rules and moving it on to the Senate Floor for a vote.**

Thank you for considering this input, and please reach out to me if you have any questions. Sincerely,

Andy Archer
Vice-President
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