

Submitter:

Matt Greer

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Rules

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB1153

I want to confirm that new restrictions will not be put on current water permits, water rights, or those streams already providing water to existing rights.

I understand there are many needs to be addressed on many waterways in Oregon. I strongly encourage the State to focus on removing illegal camps from along our fish bearing streams. Just this week my daughter and I used a net and pike pole to remove the following caught up behind a log on the Columbia River: sleeping bag stuff sack filled with marijuana cuttings, random plastics, large garbage can, empty can of pepper spray, nylon gun holster, and a 2' x 2' piece of drywall.

The farmers and ranchers I have met take care of the land they are stewards of because it takes care of them. We are one of those families with a small woodlot that has a water right off a nearby stream. We are also a family that enjoys boating, fishing, and camping. As a lifelong Oregonian, former President of a moorage that became a certified clean marina under my administration, I implore the state to allocate resources toward preventing and eliminating pollution from homeless camps instead of seeking out penalties and additional restrictions on current water rights holders who draw from faraway tributaries of our major economic and recreational engines, the Willamette and Columbia.