



March 28, 2019

Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources
Co-Chairs Rep. Reardon and Sen. Taylor
Senator Frederick
Senator Girod
Representative Hayden
Representative Holvey
Representative Neron
Representative Brock Smith

Re: Trout Unlimited Comments on HB 5035 (Department of State Lands Budget)

Dear Co-Chairs Rep. Reardon and Sen. Taylor and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony on House Bill (HB) 5035. My name is Chandra Ferrari and I represent Trout Unlimited, a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of cold-water fishes, such as trout and salmon, and their habitats. Trout Unlimited has more than 300,000 members and supporters nationwide including over 3,000 in Oregon.

The Department of State Lands (DSL) is responsible for varied and important functions including ensuring protection of Oregon's waterways and wetlands through implementation of the removal-fill program and playing a stewardship role for certain public lands. TU requests that the Committee support the DSL funding packages below.

Shared Goals for Wetlands

POP 104 allows DSL to continue its work with other state, federal, and Tribal partners to build, strengthen and improve the state's ability to better manage aquatic resources. In particular, this POP will help ensure protection of aquatic resources through strategic coordination and implementation of the Oregon Wetland Program Plan and through implementation of a watershed-scale approach to mitigation for wetlands and streams in Oregon.

Elliot State Forest

POP 105 and POP 114 will further DSL's efforts to develop a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and environmental impact statement (EIS) to guide management of the Elliot State Forest following the Land Board's praiseworthy decision to keep it in public ownership. Given the significant attention now placed on this process given the extensive public ownership debate, it is imperative that a sustainable and transparent management plan for the Elliot State Forest be developed.

Complex Agency Projects

POP 107 will provide a permanent position to provide ongoing project management and procurement expertise for complex projects such as Elliott State Forest Public Management, Portland Harbor Superfund, and other high-profile major projects.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chandra Ferrari".

Chandra Ferrari
Senior Policy Advisor
cferrari@tu.org
(916) 214-973