

Sent: Wednesday, April 10, 2013 12:23 PM

To: Reiley Beth

Subject: Testimony Supporting SB 838: Moratorium on Suction Dredging in Salmon Habitat!

Strongly Support Senate Bill 838, an act to enact a moratorium and create a new regulatory framework for the practice of suction dredge mining in Oregon's streams and rivers. Support the goals of SB 838 and urge members of the committee to vote in favor of this bill as well as amendments to require the implementation of the new regulatory framework. This proposal to the legislature would protect salmon habitat, create a fee structure to pay for reasonable enforcement of the rules and safeguard other aquatic species and water quality while simplifying the permit process.

One glitch in the bill is that there is no requirement that the regulations to protect salmon be enacted. Enact the recommended new regulations, otherwise all of those suction dredges will be back on the Rogue, Illinois, Umpqua and throughout Oregon in 2018.

Oregonian's want Senate Bill 838 passed, and ensure that it requires the future protection of our treasured rivers, fish and way of life!

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