



Oregon Council Trout Unlimited

March 3, 2013

Chair Witt and committee members-

I am Tom Wolf, chair of the Oregon Council Trout Unlimited, a conservation group composed of fishers who strive to restore wild salmonids and their watersheds. Trout Unlimited is in support of HB 2396.

HB 2396 is a bill that should be passed out of your committee for the following reasons.

- 1, Large woody debris is a key component for healthy salmon habitat
2. It provides key structure for salmonids to rest from heavy currents, seek food and providing spawning and rearing habitat.
3. Studies shows that without large woody debris , strong winter flows will wash young salmon smolts away.
4. HB 2396 protects large woody debris in the stream yet has measures in the bill to remove LWD which has hazardous potential.

In closing, Trout Unlimited urges the passage of HB 2396 . It is the best solution to a major need of rivers and streams-Large Woody Debris.