



## **HB 2400A**

### **Testimony of WaterWatch of Oregon Submitted to Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources**

**May 4, 2015**

Founded in 1985, WaterWatch is a non-profit river conservation group dedicated to the protection and restoration of natural flows in Oregon's rivers. We work to ensure that enough water is protected in Oregon's rivers to sustain fish, wildlife, recreation and other public uses of Oregon's rivers, lakes and streams. We also work for balanced water laws and policies. WaterWatch has members across Oregon who care deeply about our rivers, their inhabitants and the effects of water laws and policies on these resources.

#### **WaterWatch supports HB 2400**

What HB 2400 does: HB 2400A amends SB 839 (2013) to correct language that was inconsistent with the original intent of the statute. It also ensures that the Reports that resulted from the Seasonally Varying Flow Task Force and the Governance Task Force meet reporting requirements of SB 839.

WaterWatch of Oregon served on both the Seasonally Varying Flow Task Force and the Governance Task Force. HB 2400A originates from those groups. The Task Forces agreed that the existing language of SB 839 did not capture the original intent that seasonally varying flow requirements apply to all new storage projects that are seeking funding under SB 839, regardless of water right permit status. HB 2400A clarifies this point.

Conclusion: WaterWatch urges the Committee to support HB 2400A.

#### Contacts:

Kimberley Priestley, Sr. Policy Analyst, 503-295-4039 x 3, [kjp@waterwatch.org](mailto:kjp@waterwatch.org)  
Jonathan Manton, 541-729-2923, [jonathan@sawneeservices.com](mailto:jonathan@sawneeservices.com)