



Oregon Council Trout Unlimited

Feb. 23, 2016

Trout Unlimited testimony in support of HB 4122

Chair Anderson and Committee members-

I am here today representing the 3200 members of Trout Unlimited in Oregon and the 160,000 nationwide. Our mission is to protect and restore coldwater watersheds and the native fish which dwell there, in particular trout and salmon. Trout Unlimited is here today to offer our full support for HB 4122.

One of the concerns Trout Unlimited has is the impact of farmed salmon and in particular genetically engineered salmon, will have on wild fish. Both in the operation of these fish farms and when these fish escape into the wild, there is an enormous impact ecologically and genetically on wild trout and salmon. TU recognizes that there is a huge number of people who support fish farms for various reasons such as economics and they have become a much larger part of the fish market. But we still have concerns about farmed salmon and in particular genetically engineered fish.

HB 4122 would just require that packaged fish that are genetically engineered be labeled as such. That would allow consumers to make informed decisions about what type of fish they chose and perhaps help the Oregon commercial fishing industry.

Therefore Trout Unlimited supports HB 4122 as a good bill that allows Oregon fish consumers to make choices. We urge a "Yes" vote on HB 4122.

Tom Wolf,

Executive Director

Oregon Council Trout Unlimited