



Trout Unlimited

March 8, 2017

Trout Unlimited testimony on HB 2485

Chair Helm and Committee members-

My name is Tom Wolf, here representing the 3200 members of Trout Unlimited here in Oregon and the 155,000 nationwide. Trout Unlimited's mission is to protect and restore native wild salmonids and their habitat. This mission means that Trout Unlimited staff and members are involved in many areas including protecting and restoring instream flows. Because of HB 2485's impact on instream flows-or potential impacts-TU has concerns and asks for amendments to address concerns.

Trout Unlimited's main concerns is a lack of sideboards that are currently available in state statues pertaining to water transfer regulations. TU hopes that HB 2485 would have adequate safeguards such as-

1. Requiring that WRD and/or ODFW signify that the project will "benefit fish passage" and have a public hearing.
2. Is this bill specifically needed? - as there seems to be adequate provisions in existing statues to cover the needs of this bill.

So, Trout Unlimited echoes the concerns of Waterwatch and the agencies. If this bill could be amended to meet our needs and those of others, Trout Unlimited would possibly be supportive of this bill.