



**Clatsop County**  
Board of Commissioners

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April 2, 2019

Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Chair Dembrow and Members of the Committee,

Clatsop County is home to fifty-three (53) separate levee systems that total over 75 miles in length. In unincorporated Clatsop County alone, there are a minimum of 38 tide gates located below sea level. Many of these are in diking districts that have dissolved, and by default the county has now taken over jurisdiction and maintenance responsibilities. Thousands of acres of county agricultural land are dependent on functioning tide gates to prevent flooding.

SB 812 appropriates moneys to fund contracted services for coordination of tide gate permitting. It also provides for two positions within the Department of Fish and Wildlife to provide technical support on tide gate projects, and to provide fish passage engineering services related to tide gates.

Clatsop County recognizes the importance that tide gates serve and supports efforts to facilitate a more efficient permitting process for repairs and replacement. Clatsop County supports SB 812.

Thank you,

Kathleen Sullivan, Vice-Chair  
Clatsop County Board of Commissioners