



April 9, 2019

From: Audubon Society of Portland

To: House Committee on Agriculture and Land Use

Re: HB 2436-2

Position: Oppose

Dear Representative Clem and Members of the House Committee on Agriculture and Land Use

I am writing on behalf of Audubon Society of Portland in opposition to HB 2436-2. HB 2436 would direct the Department of State Lands to develop legislative recommendations to be introduced during the 2020 regular session for partial assumption by DSL to administer permits for the discharge of dredge or fill materials under section 404 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act. We believe that partial assumption of the administration permits by the state of Oregon would undermine important consultations with the federal government as well as Native American Tribes. These checks and balances are critical to protecting the integrity of our rivers, streams and wetlands. This bill does not appear to us to be streamlining but rather an elimination of critically important steps for ensuring compliance with federal environmental laws.

We urge the committee to vote no on HB 2436-2.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Bob Sallinger

Conservation Director

Audubon Society of Portland