



March 10, 2023

To House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

From: Oregon Association of Conservation Districts

Re: **HB 3099 -1 Chewaucan River Watershed**

Chair Helm and Committee Members,

The Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD) represents Oregon's 45 Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs), special districts governed by elected boards. The Districts protect and enhance soil quality, water quality and quantity, and habitat by supporting voluntary conservation in partnership with private landowners and managers as well as federal, state, and nonprofit partners.

OACD supports HB 3099-1 which sets up a facilitated process for working on long term solutions to water management in the Chewaucan River watershed. This is an important watershed with diverse needs from critical wildlife habitat to irrigation for agriculture. We appreciate that a variety of stakeholders are willing to work together to find balanced solutions. We appreciate that HB 3099-1 provides funding that will assure broad participation from state agencies and stakeholders.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stan Dean".

Stan Dean, Advocacy Committee Chair
Oregon Association of Conservation Districts
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