

Submitter: Lynn Herring
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Transportation
Measure: HB3382

Dear State Legislators on the Joint Committee on Transportation,

Out of utmost concern for our coastal and aquatic habitats, I urge you to vote NO on House Bill 3382. Please do not give ports across the state a blank check to dredge our rivers without demonstrating compliance with state or local land use law.

This bill would severely weaken land use regulations on port projects within or adjacent to federal navigation channels on the Willamette River, Columbia River, Yaquina Bay, and Coos Bay. These are some of the most ecologically important and sensitive waterways in our state. This bill would open the door to completely unchecked dredging and heavy industrial development on port-owned lands, with zero regard to ecological or human impacts.

More specifically, this bill could open the door to the disastrous Jordan Cove LNG terminal again. It would remove mitigation requirements for dumping contaminated dredging material in important habitats on islands like West Hayden Island along the Columbia River. It could jeopardize on-going efforts to update Oregon's estuary management plans with direct impacts to fragile estuarine ecosystems so important for wildlife, migratory birds and fisheries.

This bill is not in Oregon's best interest.

I urge you to vote NO on HB 3382.

Lynn Herring