

Trout Unlimited, Clackamas River Chapter
Clackamasrivertu.org

February 8, 2024

Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire

Re: Clackamas River Chapter of Trout Unlimited opposes Senate Bill 1590 (Towed Watersports Program)

Dear Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Girod, and Members of the Committee,

Trout Unlimited (TU) is a national organization dedicated to caring for rivers and streams so our children can experience the joy of wild and native trout and salmon. Its mission is “Conserving, protecting and restoring our country’s coldwater fisheries and watersheds.”

Clackamas River Chapter of Trout Unlimited encompasses a large geographical area on the eastside of the Willamette River and is actively engaged in various conservation activities to preserve and enhance the environment for trout and salmon. Our namesake, the Clackamas River, is a major tributary to the Willamette. Many of our over 700 members live within close proximity of the portion of the Willamette affected by this proposed legislation. We enjoy the variety of recreational activities offered on and around the river. For this reason, we are deeply concerned about potential degradation of the river’s ecosystem.

SB 1590 would result in additional deleterious effects on the already declining populations of anadromous fish throughout our region. Therefore, the Clackamas River Chapter of Trout Unlimited opposes Senate Bill 1590.

The existing “towed watersports” program is a reasonable regulatory framework that guards against certain recreational boating activities having negative effects on native fish and water quality in the Willamette Valley.

Thank you for considering this input, and please reach out to me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Ruth Ann Tsukuda
President, Clackamas River Chapter of Trout Unlimited
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