

March 4, 2025

Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water  
Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court St. NE  
Salem, OR 97301

**RE: Support for House Bill 3314 – Ross Island Lagoon Water Quality Improvements**

Dear Co-Chairs Helm and Owens and Members of the Committee,


On behalf of Lloyd EcoDistrict, I strongly support House Bill 3314, which will provide essential funding to address harmful algal blooms (HCBs) in the Ross Island Lagoon. This investment will help mitigate the environmental and public health threats of stagnant water in the lagoon. It will also improve the habitat for juvenile salmon and enhance the overall ecological health of the lower Willamette River.

As a community-based sustainability nonprofit, Lloyd EcoDistrict has worked closely with the Human Access Project (HAP) to activate and reconnect Portlanders with the Willamette River. Over the last two years, our Duckworth Summer Wednesdays event series brought 7,500+ attendees to the Kevin J. Duckworth Dock, demonstrating the growing community interest in safe and accessible water recreation. Unfortunately, toxic algal blooms forced us to cut our season short in 2023, an urgent reminder of the need for immediate action to restore water quality in the Ross Island Lagoon.

The harmful algal blooms in Ross Island Lagoon are a solvable issue. This project will restore river flow and reduce water temperatures and pH levels, creating healthier conditions for aquatic life and ensuring the safety of community members who depend on the river for recreation. The proposed funding of \$1 million will directly support engineering, permitting, and project management efforts in partnership with Oregon State University, bringing this critical initiative closer to implementation.

Lloyd EcoDistrict strongly urges your support of HB 3314. Investing in our river's health is an investment in our community's resilience, environmental justice, and long-term sustainability. Thank you for your leadership on this issue.

Warmly,



Kristin Leiber  
Executive Director, Lloyd EcoDistrict  
[kristin@ecolloyd.org](mailto:kristin@ecolloyd.org)  
214.906.5735