



**CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF
COOS, LOWER UMPQUA AND SIUSLAW INDIANS
TRIBAL GOVERNMENT**

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March 6, 2025

House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Oregon State Legislature Building
900 Court St. NE
Salem Oregon 97301

**RE: Support for Eelgrass Action Bill (HB 3580) and Rocky Habitat
Stewardship Bill (HB 3587)**

Dear Co-chair Helm, Co-chair Owens, and Committee Members:

This letter is sent on behalf of the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians (“CTCLUSI” or “Tribe”) in support of the Eelgrass Action Bill (HB 3580) and the Rocky Habitat Stewardship Bill (HB 3587).

Since time immemorial, the Tribe and its members have occupied areas of the Oregon Coast. Our members relied upon and continue to rely upon a healthy coastal ecosystem to support the fish and wildlife that our members harvest to support cultural activities, subsistence, and commercial endeavors. Now more than ever, these resources are threatened – including impacts from port development, energy development, and other actions. These two bills will provide essential protection for the coastal ecosystems that many fish and wildlife depend upon.

The Tribe appreciates that HB 3580 would set up a task force involving the Tribe, agencies, scientists, local communities, and others. While the Tribe strongly supports HB 3580, we would recommend that section 2(1), (2), and (3) be amended to specifically include Tribes in the development and implementation of the site management plans.

Thank you for your leadership in advancing these bills and we appreciate your consideration of these comments.

Respectfully,

Brad Kneaper
Chair, Tribal Council
Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower and Siuslaw Indians