



Oregon Senate Committee on Environment & Natural Resources
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. N.E., Room 347
Salem, OR 97301

MEASURE: HB 4006A
EXHIBIT: 7
2012 SESSION S ENV. & NAT. RESOURCES
DATE: 2/21/12 PAGES: 1
SUBMITTED BY: Heidi Martin

Dear Committee members,

Fred Warner Jr.
Commission Chair
fwarner@bakercounty.org

The Baker County Natural Resource Advisory Committee, and the Baker County Board of Commissioners, strongly urges the passage of HB 4006.

Tim L. Kerns
Commissioner
tkerns@bakercounty.org

The changing of the word "may" to **shall** ensures coordination with counties concerning fish and wildlife management and will provide a seat at the table for actions that may negatively impact Oregon counties and their citizens who are under increasing regulatory and financial pressure in dealing with listed species. Further strengthening of the language to give specific directions to ODFW regarding working with affected cities and counties will bring economic impact considerations into the equation.

Carl E. Stiff, M.D.
Commissioner
cstiff@bakercounty.org

This bill is greatly needed to give the natural resource base of Oregon a voice in wildlife management policies impacting private lands on which a majority of wildlife depend for their habitat and food source. It may improve working relationships and tolerances for wildlife impacts and depredation on private lands.

The Baker County Natural Resource Advisory Committee is comprised of citizens representing all of the natural resource base of the county – mining, private timber, public land permittees, ranchers and farmers; as well as recreationists, environmentalists and the public at large. The Baker County Board of Commissioners adopted the Natural Resource Plan for Baker County on December 22, 2010. It requires that agencies consult, cooperate and/or coordinate any actions impacting the natural resource base. The plan speaks to the custom, culture and economy of Baker County for each of the above listed citizen interests.

We support this bill because it brings state law governing actions of ODFW regarding potential listing of threatened or endangered species in line with the Baker County Natural Resource Plan. It also guarantees that ODFW hears the concerns and alternatives from the resource based economy. This should allow for better decision making processes in the future.

Sincerely,

for Fred Warner Jr., Chairman
Baker County Board of Commissioners

{Signed by Heidi Martin, Executive Assistant, in Commissioner Warner's absence}