Raszka Shelley

From: David Harrison <harrirad@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 6:14 AM

To: Raszka Shelley

Subject: House Bills 3515 and others

To the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee:

I am writing to oppose a series of anti-predator bills being considered by your committee. Foremost among these is HB 3515, which would prohibit the state from ever protecting wolves under the state Endangered Species Act. Wolves are a vital part of our natural systems in Oregon, and I personally have toured riparian areas denuded by deer and elk because there are no wolves to keep their numbers in check. This harms salmon and steelhead reproduction, as it leaves waters in these streams unprotected by shade and raises their temperature.

HB 2050 would exempt counties from the state law which prohibits hound-hunting of cougars. Oregon voters already let their intentions be known on this issue. HB 3140 and 3188 would authorize the study of predator control districts. Predator control is a 19th-century concept which predates a modern understanding of the vital role played by predators in natural systems. It has no place in 21-century natural resource management.

I urge you to oppose these ill-conceived bills. Thank you for considering my input.

David Harrison 585 Washington St S Salem, OR 97302