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Spoon Creek Outfitters
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April 11, 2017

House Joint Memorial 11

Dear Committee Members,

The Oregon Outdoor Council strongly supports HJM 11. Mosaic habitat, which includes early seral habitat from timber harvest or wildfire is critical to public land users in Oregon. According to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, between 2015 and 2016 Oregon hunters increased from 264,457 to 335,405. However, our deer population continued to decline due to a lack of sufficient habitat, disease, predation, and poaching.

Members of the committee, as you know, nutrient rich habitat is critical to deer and elk survival, and much of Oregon's public land is lacking sufficient habitat and nutrition. Since the inception of the Northwest Forest Plan in 1994, federal forests in Oregon have seen a staggering decline in the creation of early seral habitat, in some instances as much as a 90% reduction.

As a result, a 2013 study by the Oregon Forest Research Institute, in cooperation with multiple government agencies, found that 87% of Oregon's elk are found on private forestland. It's not surprising to see more and more private landowners charging access fees as a result. Their property offers a "product" (wildlife) at levels that cannot be matched by Oregon's public land with its current management strategy.

Additionally, an on-going blacktail deer study by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife has documented that blacktail deer use grassland/herbaceous habitats significantly more than the agency expected (please see attached exhibit).

The Oregon Outdoor Council urges the committee to support HJM 11. Sportsmen and women make a 1.6 billion dollar economic ripple effect in Oregon annually. For this large (and growing) economic engine to continue supporting rural economies, conservation, and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife a solution to our extensive habitat issue must be reached.

Thank You,

Oregon Outdoor Council Board

DIXON HOME RANGE DATA

9 COLLARS
AVERAGE
= 3.38 Mi²

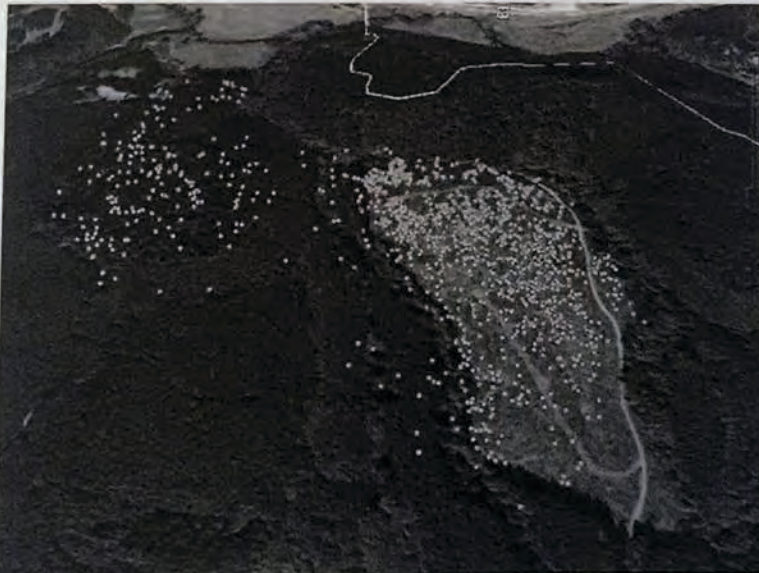
Seasonal movements



HABITAT USE

Examined 40 collars (>71,000 locations)

- Used National Land Cover Database
- Compared available habitat in 95% UD home range with actual locations
- Evergreen Forest and Shrub/Scrub type dominated available habitat
- Collared does used grassland/herbaceous type significantly more than expected



Also doe
locations