

**Department of Fish and Wildlife** 

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To: The Honorable Senator Dembrow, Chair Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee

## House Bill 2031A Shannon Hurn, Deputy Director for Fish and Wildlife Programs Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

The Department appreciates the opportunity to comment on House Bill 2031A. HB 2031A would extend the time allowed for a small-scale recreational community to be sited and developed. This bill would also revise the areas on which small-scale recreation communities may be sited.

The Department has concerns specifically relating to the siting of the small-scale recreational community. Section 1, Subsection 5 would exempt the requirements for siting destination resorts in ecologically sensitive areas. Specifically, HB 2031A exempts the consideration for resources inventoried in an acknowledged comprehensive plan provision implementing statewide land use planning goals relating to natural resources, coastal shore lands and hazard areas. The Department is concerned with how these resources, including fish and wildlife habitat, would be evaluated and considered during the review process.

Another concern with the A-Engrossed version of HB 2031A is the exemption to the siting criteria outlined in ORS 197.455, which includes protections for "especially sensitive big game" in eastern Oregon. The specific considerations to "especially sensitive big game" in ORS 197.455 may not be as applicable for Clatsop County, but would be if the developer was siting the resort in eastern Oregon counties.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on HB 2031A.

## **CONTACTS:**

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