



Representative Brad Witt
House Committee on Natural Resources
State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 2834-1—Wildlife Corridor & Safe Road Crossing Plan

Dear Chair Witt and Committee Members:

We urge your favorable consideration of HB 2834-1, a bill to preserve habitat connectivity for Oregon wildlife and reduce vehicle-wildlife collisions.

Oregon's population growth and associated infrastructure – homes, roads, and utilities – has reduced wildlife habitat across the state. Climate change compounds the effect by forcing native species to move, adapt, or die.

We need to link survivable habitats using wildlife corridors and safe road crossings as envisioned by HB 2834-1.

Our support isn't theoretical. It's based on a practical analysis of connectivity opportunities in the far northeast corner of Oregon, an area that includes ODFW's Wenaha Wildlife Area. The region is rich in potential collaborators from ranchers interested in conservation easements to tribal nations and federal agencies. Our research suggests that similar opportunities exist elsewhere in Oregon.

Thank you.

Christina deVillier

Darilyn Parry Brown, Executive Director
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Greater Hells Canyon Council
La Grande, Oregon

