



# OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION

Protecting Oregon's Wildlife, Habitat and Hunting Heritage

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February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020

Chair Witt and Members of the House Committee on Natural Resources:

For the record I am Al Elkins representing the Oregon Hunters Association. I am here today in support of HB 4091 that establishes Sage-Grouse Mitigation Program Fund.

Over the years OHA has worked with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and various pro-sage grouse groups in efforts to restore, protect, enhance and increase habitat for sage grouse. We have and continue to:

- Be a player on the Statewide Planning Committee as we have devoted staff time and expenses as a member of the committee.
- Advocate for the funding of the planning process through to help protect and restore Oregon's sage grouse.
- Support and continue to support the efforts of legislators, organizations and the Governor's office to develop a working strategy to help protect Oregon's Sage Grouse.
- Fund projects to help maintain and restore important Sage Grouse habitat.
- Contribute monies for GPS collars to monitor the response of Sage Grouse to catastrophic wildfires in southeast Oregon in the core of their habitat.
- Provide volunteers to capture the birds and collar them.

OHA supports the establishment of this fund to help protect and preserve Oregon's Sage Grouse. Please support HB 4091.

That concludes my testimony I would be glad to answer any questions.