

I am writing in support of HB2844. I remember learning when I worked at a wildlife rehab facility about beavers and the immense benefit they contribute to ecosystems. Beavers help protect and enhance wetlands and ponds by storing water with their dams. They help to create critical habitat for salmon and other water dwelling species as well as birds and other wildlife. There are so many ways beavers contribute to the well-being of ecosystems, many of which directly benefit humans as well such as increased fire resilience and removing carbon from the atmosphere.

We need to remove the predatory animal status for beavers and allow wildlife experts to manage beavers. It is critical that private landowners are educated about non-lethal methods of protecting crops and property even though lethal removal will not be banned.

Please support this critical bill and provide beavers the protection and status they deserve.

Thank you  
Andrea Kozil