

Our state animal (immortalized on our state flag), needs to be removed from Oregon's "predatory animal" list. Currently, due to its classification, beaver hunting and trapping on private land can occur year-round without bag limits. What's more, trap check times for beavers (and all predatory animals) range anywhere from 76 hours to 7 days to 30 days depending on the type of trap and reason for trapping. Beaver are a vital component for Oregon's ecological health, and can provide Oregonians with vast positive benefits, including: Increased wildfire resilience (through natural and effective firebreaks and post-fire habitat); increased water security through wetlands and ponds storing surface and groundwater; and rearing habitat for multiple imperiled salmonid species.

The bill removes the predatory animal status for beaver, which allows Oregon's wildlife experts, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, to manage beaver everywhere in Oregon as it does for the vast majority of wildlife in Oregon, including deer, elk, black bear, wolves, raccoons, fish, and others. It does not preclude the Oregon Department of Agriculture from working with landowners to protect their property, crops, and infrastructure.

The bill encourages the use of non-lethal co-existence tools to prevent beaver-related property and infrastructure damage.