

My name is Larry Duyck a constituent of Chair Witt, owner and operator of Duyck Family Farm LLC along with my daughter Jacque Jones. We are located in the North Valley near the towns of Banks and North Plains. This area is part of the Tualatin Watershed.

Branches of the Dairy Creek and McKay Creek flow into the Tualatin river. These creeks are fed by the manmade drainage ditches that flow through the flat low farmland.

Beavers use the creeks as their transportation network. The drainage ditches are where they build their dams, back up water and access the farm fields like ours.

When beavers build a dam in the drainage ditches, they use a combination of sticks and mud. The only way to remove the dam completely is with the use of a backhoe.

The best solution to the beaver problem is to be proactive and have them trapped each year. We use a private trapper who usually catches between 6 and 12 each year. Without the use of trapping the beaver, we will eventually lose our ability to farm 20 acres of our land in production.

Please value the agriculture infrastructure in Oregon.

I need the ability to trap beaver as needed to protect my farm – the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so.

I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Thank you, Larry Duyck