

Thank you for considering this important bill on behalf of a more reasonable legal classification of beavers, and the appropriate management actions by ODFW that would accompany it.

The science is clear that the work of beavers provides benefits which would otherwise cost hundreds of thousands of dollars in restoration, repairing streams and the ecosystems to which healthy beaver populations are crucial. Beavers do the work of slowing down water as it moves down stream, thus increasing summertime supplies and reducing the loss due to warming. They are also crucial to salmon habitat. There are proven ways to prevent deleterious effects like loss of desired trees, blocking of culverts, and bridge and road issues.

This is an opportunity for Oregon, The Beaver State, to right the wrongs of ignorance in regard to natural systems, and reap the economic benefits of working with nature's engineers.

Best regards,
Linda Tarr
Port Orford, OR