

Submitter: Owen Wozniak

On Behalf  
Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On Natural  
Resources

Measure: SB5509

Dear Subcommittee Members,

I am testifying to the importance of the Wildlife Coexistence Funding Package. I urge you to include this package in the proposed budget for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. As a resident of Portland who frequently travels across the region, I see a growing number of human-wildlife conflicts. These are tragic and avoidable. The funding package benefited from thoughtful deliberation among conservationists, the wildlife experts, and the Oregon State Police, among others.

The grants and extra ODFW staff, focused on educating and engaging people across the state, will be an important step both in reducing human-wildlife conflicts and building a more mutually supportive and rewarding relationship between people and wildlife. Please support it.