

Submitter: Sharon Waterman

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: HB3464

I am a Coos County Rancher and timber owner and I oppose HB 3464. I spent the last ten years of my life working on the "predatory animal" issues in our County. Because we are a coastal community, beavers are a huge problem. Due to their foraging habits and/or building activities, beavers cause flooding and property damage. Beaver activity can result in damage to timber, crops, orchards, ornamentals or landscape plants. Beaver dams and the subsequent increased water levels jeopardize the integrity of roads, culverts, dikes and other human structures plus agriculture crops. Landowners need to be able to "manage beaver population" as they see fit and on a timely basis without having to go through a permit and reporting process. By definition, beavers are "predatory animals" and "rodent" and need to remain under that classification. As a timber owner, we cannot cut the trees along the stream banks but the beaver can. I urge you to oppose HB 3464 and leave the beaver as a "predatory animal" and "rodent."