

Submitter: Charles Rogers

On Behalf Of: Williams Creek Watershed Council

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: HB3464

We represent an organization in Williams and Applegate Valley concerned with salmon habitat and the recovery of native wildlife. We support HB3464, an important change of the status of the Beaver in Oregon from "predatory status" to that of "furbearing animal" and to be regulated by ODFW.

The beaver is an important part of the landscape especially in the streams and waters of the Applegate and Southern Oregon. Beavers develop wetlands that support fish, birds, salamanders, deer, and many other native species. They are critical to the survival of our salmon runs as well as holding and filtering water on the landscape for improved water retention, well needed for long term climate advantages. Too long has the beaver been considered a predator and is a vegetarian animal and a supporter of many other animals. ODFW can quickly reply to any concerns that farmers have about flooding or riparian trees and can allow for removal or remediation for any agricultural concerns.

Please support this bill as it moves through committee and on to the House floor, as we are very concerned about the future of beavers in our state waters.

Thank you,

Charles Rogers

WCWC Coordinator