

Submitter: Erik Zamboni

On Behalf Of: OHA and BHA

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Measure: HB3086

Dear Chair Helm,

Have you seen any songbirds, elk, or other wildlife in Portland or Salem today? How does it make sense that highest density of humans has the largest impact on the remaining intact ecosystems and wildlife populations when we know that the higher the human density, the lower the density of wildlife? Just in case you doubt that statement, look at the wildlife population density in Portland now compared to 200 years ago. Thus, I implore you to do what is best for the ecosystems and wildlife by promptly updating the Fish and Wildlife Commission to ensure the smaller human populations closer to the remaining natural habitats sustaining healthy ecosystems and wildlife be represented! After all, how could I expect Multnomah residents and ODFW Commissioners to know what is best for the wildlife in my "back yard" when they have never seen most of the habitat or wildlife there and I live here! I think we can both agree, it wouldn't be in the best interest of the ecosystems and wildlife if the Federal government in Washington DC made all decisions for Oregon so why would we want all decisions made by geographically distant ODFW commissioners? Furthermore, the Oregon Water Resources Commission has already set an example for us to follow so it makes it easy! If we don't make changes, we are politicizing wildlife management in Oregon which will have the same impact as it has had historically....higher human density results directly results in ecosystem damage and thus lower wildlife density just as it has had for hundreds of years. Thus, a broader GEOGRAPHIC diversity of Commissioners will result in better management for all of Oregon ecosystems because the local ecologists, biologists, hunters and other conservationists know much better what is in their own "back yard" than conservationists who live geographically distant. Yes, it's that simple!

Thank you for your consideration and please don't be offended by any of the above statements.....it's just my conviction and passion for this issue coming through.

Respectfully,

Dr. Erik Zamboni, DPT
OHA Life Member
BHA Member