



April 1, 2023

Testimony before the Oregon House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water

Subject: Support of HB 3052-1 Amendment – Task Force on Elk and Deer Damage

Chair Helm, Vice-chairs Hartman and Owens, members of the Committee

My name is David Wiley. I live in Sublimity, Oregon. I am a member of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and today I am speaking for the Elk Foundation and its more than 14,000 members who live in Oregon.

The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) is a national non-profit hunter sponsored conservation organization whose mission is to ensure the future of elk, <u>other wildlife</u>, their habitat, and our hunting heritage. We represent more than 225,000 members nationwide and more than 14,000 in Oregon. Since 1991 within Oregon, RMEF and its partners have:

- completed more than 1,034 conservation and hunting heritage projects in the state,
- enhancing over 865,647 acres, and
- improved recreational access to 139,655 acres.

RMEF fully supports HB 3052-1and recommends it for the Committee's full and unqualified support, approval, and passage to the full House with a do-pass recommendation.

RMEF is keenly aware of the conflict of elk and deer with the objectives of farmers and ranchers, and we are pleased to join the Task Force being established HB 3052-1 to seek answers to this vexing problem.