

Addressing Wildlife Disease

The Oregon and Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (OVDL) plays a vital role in public health, responding to issues of serious concern for people and wildlife, including [highly contagious bacterial disease](#), [avian flu](#), and [mosquito born illnesses](#). Yet, the OVDL remains in [need of resources](#). Consistent with recommendations from the [legislative report](#) directed by HB 4128 (2022), HB 4148 allocates \$3.5 million for critical equipment and capacity necessary for the OVDL and the state Wildlife Health Lab to combat threats such as [Chronic Wasting Disease](#) and zoonotic diseases.



Oregon Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

Responding to Invasive Species

Invasive species are associated with an estimated [\\$200 billion in losses and control costs](#) nationally each year (adjusted to 2024 dollars). In Oregon, invasive [sudden oak death](#) can cause as much as \$600 million per year in damage to our forest and nursery sectors, and threats continue to arise such as [European green crabs impacting northwest fisheries](#) and highly damaging [quagga mussels discovered in Idaho](#) and [recently transported into Oregon](#). Similar to wildfire response, addressing invasive species is a race against the clock. HB 4148 would allocate \$1.5 million for the [Oregon Invasive Species Council](#) to evaluate and address vulnerabilities, increase public awareness, and respond to emergencies.

Promoting Wildlife Stewardship and Coexistence



With population growth and other pressures, greater public education is needed on living alongside wildlife, as well as a need to advance humane solutions when conflicts arise. Originally proposed in [ODEFW POP 113 \(2023 \(pp. 786-789\)\)](#), HB 4148 would establish a program at the state Department of Fish and Wildlife, including biologists to support informed stewardship across the state, investments in public education, and grants to rehabilitation centers that care for injured animals.

Ensuring Safe Passage for People and Wildlife

Efforts to reduce the numerous [vehicle crashes involving Oregon wildlife](#) have proven both [highly popular](#) and [extremely effective](#). HB 4148 will further improve outcomes by bolstering technical guidance available to planners and engineers integrating wildlife crossing features in highway projects. The bill would also update relevant agency reports to ensure we have the information we need on projects, timelines, and funding.

JOIN THE COALITION IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 4148

- Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
- Benton Soil & Water Conservation Dist.
- Bird Conservation Oregon
- Blue Mountain Wildlife
- Cascadia Wildlands
- City of Beaverton
- City of Portland
- Central Oregon LandWatch
- Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts
- Corvallis Audubon Society
- Defenders of Wildlife
- Deschutes Land Trust
- Ducks Unlimited
- Environment Oregon
- Great Old Broads for Wilderness
- Humane Voters Oregon
- Kalmiopsis Audubon Society
- Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center
- Lane County Audubon Society
- Left Coast Lodge
- Metro
- Oregon Assoc. of Conservation Districts
- Oregon Association of Nurseries
- Oregon Conservation Network
- Oregon Hunters Association
- Oregon League of Conservation Voters
- Oregon Natural Desert Association
- Oregon State Shooting Association
- Oregon State University
- Oregon Trails Coalition
- Oregon Veterinary Diagnostic Lab
- Oregon Wild
- Oregon Wild Sheep Foundation
- Oregon Wildlife Coalition
- Oregon Wildlife Foundation
- Oregon Zoo
- Portland Audubon
- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
- Rogue Valley Audubon Society
- Salem Audubon Society
- Sisters Trail Alliance
- Soda Mountain Wilderness Council
- Southern Oregon Land Conservancy
- Southern Oregon Wildlife Crossing Coalition
- The Conservation Angler
- The Humane Society of the United States
- The Intertwine Alliance
- The Nature Conservancy
- The Pew Charitable Trusts
- The Wildlife Society, Oregon Chapter
- Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
- Think Wild
- Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District
- Wallowa Land Trust
- Western Environmental Law Center
- Western Invasives Network
- Western Watersheds Project
- Wildlands Network
- Wildlife Center of the North Coast
- Willamette Riverkeeper
- Yamhill Soil & Water Conservation District
- 350PDX

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