

Submitter: Karen Sjogren
On Behalf Of: Myself
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3932

This well crafted bill would let beavers help us in restoring Oregon's impaired waterways, classified as such by DEQ because they fail to meet the states water quality standards for one or more parameters. Half of Oregon's waterways are impaired. Beavers are natural ecosystem engineers; their canal digging and dam building are instrumental in slowing water flow, restoring water tables and underground aquifers, creating wetlands that filter out toxins, and providing fish and wildlife habitat. This bill would close hunting and trapping on public lands only which abut impaired streams. This would increase beaver presence where it is needed and not limit the rights of private landowners. It's a win-win solution to a problem. Please support it and allow it to proceed to a floor vote in both the House and Senate.