

Submitter: Emily Prud'homme

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3932

We all need clean water--humans, animals, and plants alike. In Oregon, the Beaver State, there is now an easy solution to helping streams get clean and stay clean, by letting beavers do their work. In the 20+ years since I first visited the John Day Basin, I became familiar with one of its tributaries, Pine Creek. It was grown in with sagebrush and tumbleweeds, and had been degraded by cattle grazing. Thanks to concerted restoration (and no more cows), this stream now has thriving riparian vegetation, cool, clean water, and beavers! What a transformation! Even without the hard work put in by staff and volunteers with Oregon Natural Desert Association, letting beavers return to this watershed would have jump-started the process toward a healthy ecosystem without much effort at all.

Other streams in Oregon deserve to be brought back to health for the benefit of us all. Please support HB 3932.