

Submitter: David McCoy

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3932

Dear legislative representatives,

I have been strongly advocating for the return of beavers to our streams for over 45 years. Beavers manipulate and control one of the most significant forces of nature that of flowing water!

Beavers create sediment retention ponds that can be destroyed during flooding events where the entrapped sediments get washed down onto farmland. This natural process is vital for many reasons.

I personally have sought to increase beaver numbers by providing habitat and food in the form of tree branches. Our totally wild beavers (Sigourney and Justin Beaver) have raised kits (baby beavers) in our pond.

Importantly our local streams are lined with red alder trees that are nearing the end of their natural lifespan. I have been planting trees and brush type plants that can survive beaver trimming, red alder cannot (!)

I have also developed a cage system that allows beavers pruning while protecting the bowl of the plant during the critical establishment period.

I very much have been walking the talk on this issue.

This house bill is a crucial component of stream restoration and I encourage you to vote to pass it.

Thank you for your support, this is an important step.

Sincerely

David McCoy