

Submitter: Declan Orth

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3932

Opposition to HB 3932

Dear Members of the Oregon Legislature,

I strongly oppose HB 3932, which would prohibit trappers and wildlife control operators from removing beavers in certain waters. While intended to protect beaver populations, this bill undermines science-based wildlife management and creates unintended consequences for both the environment and taxpayers.

Oregon's Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) currently regulates trapping using scientific data to ensure sustainable beaver populations. HB 3932 removes the agency's ability to make informed, region-specific decisions based on population studies, habitat impact, and ecological balance. Instead, it imposes a blanket restriction that disregards the complexities of beaver management.

Additionally, restricting beaver removal would increase financial burdens on both the state and private landowners. Problematic beaver activity—such as flooding roads, damaging infrastructure, and blocking irrigation systems—would still require management. Without licensed trappers and wildlife control operators, the responsibility would shift to state agencies, driving up costs for taxpayers and property owners. Regulated trapping allows for effective management without unnecessary government intervention and expense.

Rather than limiting ODFW's ability to manage beaver populations, I urge you to support policies that uphold balanced, science-driven wildlife management. Please oppose HB 3932 and allow ODFW to continue making informed decisions that benefit Oregon's ecosystems and residents.

Thank you for your time and consideration.