

Submitter: Ian Gaines

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3932

Fresh water is life. Beavers are critical to keeping Oregon's rivers and streams, our fresh water sources, healthy and thriving for all living things. Beaver dams slow stream flows, allowing toxins and excess nutrients to settle and be eaten by helpful microbes. They slow and disperse flood waters, protecting homes downriver, reducing erosion, and improving soil arability. They create safe places for fish to lay eggs and for fry to develop. Beaver activities promote wet meadows and deciduous forests that cool waters, and provide lush winter browse for elk and deer and food and shelter for birds and small mammals. HB3932 is a common-sense piece of legislation, protecting beavers in impaired waters where their positive impacts can most benefit the people, animals, and plants of Oregon. It is for these reasons that I support HB3932.