

Submitter: D Stirpe

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3932

I feel strongly that it is vital to close beaver hunting and trapping in waterways on public lands that the DEQ classifies as "impaired." Beaver activities, including canal-digging, dam-building, and pond-filling, help slow water flow, restore water tables and underground aquifers, create natural wetlands that filter toxins, expand riparian habitats for wildlife, including sensitive bird species, and incorporate woody debris in streams for imperiled salmon. Beavers across the globe have always improved water quality and restored native habitats.?

Currently, over 100,000 miles of Oregon's waterways are in poor health—impaired by high temperatures, sedimentation, and toxins. DEQ is tasked with restoring these waterways, but doing so requires significant resources to design and implement plans to reduce impairments. But beavers can help immensely, and they're free!

Please protect beavers in this state.