

Submitter: William Hansen
On Behalf Of: Oregon Trappers Association
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and
Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3932

I strongly oppose HB3932. Trapping is already regulated and covered under ODFW, with sound science. Emotions have no place in decision making, none.

The environmental crowd is now touting them as fire fighters as they come out trying to sell the point that we would have less fires if we just had more beavers. Is this sound science? What an absurd, false thing to even bring up. As a volunteer firefighter do near 35 years, with much experience in wild land fires, both in California and Oregon, I resent such lies.

As a WCO trapper, I can tell you of the destruction they are capable of. I like to watch beavers but I also realize they need managed. Managed by scientific facts not by ridiculous claims. We have tremendous biologists who have studied beavers for years. Use that science, not made up tripe that is being spewed by the environmental crowd and animal rights people. The design is to get rid of all trapping in Oregon, and this will come with a huge cost to not only land owners but to beavers themselves. They will attack each other, even to the point of death when crowded. A slow, extremely painful death.

Please remember, beavers do not make water, they stop movement of water when possible. These areas flood and become stagnant. It's not always this fresh water utopia that you are being led to believe.

Their number one predator is the mountain lion, which hunt them regularly. It is not man.

Please let our biologists from the ODFW do their job and not allow politicians and politics to decide regulations. I oppose this HB3932 strongly and ask for it to be voted down.

Thank you.
Will Hansen