

Submitter: Jerod Broadfoot
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and
Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3932

Oregon Senate Committee on Natural Resources & Wildfire

Re: HB 3932A - Prohibits a person from taking a beaver on waters or watersheds that are classified in a certain manner or on public land that is within the watersheds or within 200 feet of the ordinary high water mark of the waters.

May 6, 2025

Chairman Golden & Committee Members,

For the record my name is Jerod Broadfoot and I am asking you to oppose HB 3932A and let it die in committee in the exact same way that you let SB 769, the bill to allow a local vote on the use of dogs for cougar management, die. I am asking you to do so in order to preserve the will of the people in Oregon who by an overwhelming majority opposed a proposed ban on trapping via Ballot Measure 97 in 2000. That measure was actually defeated in every single county except one. 35 of our 36 counties voted to oppose any ban on trapping, including trapping of beavers. I'm asking you to oppose this bill because it is an end run around the voters as well as the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Commission that has repeatedly opposed this very same proposal because there is no scientific evidence or proof that it is needed. This bill is nothing more than the continued campaign by radical anti-hunting special interest groups to ban trapping and any other science-based management tool they despise.

If this Committee elects to pass this bill and move it to the floor you will be sending a loud and clear message to voters that our vote only matters when the super majority party agrees with it. It will be a clear signal that emotion and politics far outweigh decades of peer-reviewed science and work by the ODFW. Unfortunately, the House has already sent that message by passing this bill and sending it to you, yet you have a unique opportunity to stop this politically motivated legislation and tell voters that their vote actually means something. Remember, voters strongly opposed Measure 97 to ban trapping by a margin of 59% to 41% with only one County supporting it. Voters knew then that ballot box biology is disastrous and has real consequences on wildlife management and human conflict. We have been forced to live with the results of Ballot Measure 18 for 31 years watching as our deer and elk herds have been

decimated, our pets and yes even a human have been attacked and killed by cougars due to the inability of ODFW to manage them effectively with dogs. It's hypocritical to kill every bill for 31 years that has attempted to restore management capabilities to ODFW citing the will of the people, yet pass a bill that voters and our own ODFW Commission have rejected as more ballot box biology.

Let me be clear, this is part of the plan and we see right through it. The plan has been set for decades and fortunately we have been able to value science over fear and misinformation until now. The former President of the Humane Society of the United States told us the plan when he stated "We are going to use the ballot box and the democratic process to stop all hunting in the United States. We will take it species by species until all hunting is stopped in California. Then we will take it state by state." This plan has been carried out throughout the western United States and will continue unless you stop it here and now. Please oppose HB 3932A, please oppose ballot box biology and please support the will of the voters as they have made it clear they support trapping.