

February 23th, 2026

From the desk of Representative Helm



**Conservation, hunting, angling organizations and recreation businesses support House Bill 4134 A to invest in Oregon's iconic wildlife and natural legacy**

A coalition of over 85 organizations and over 100 businesses applaud the bipartisan sponsorship of House Bill 4134 A and appreciates the bill's bipartisan passage out of the House Revenue Committee.

House Bill 4134 is a smart investment in Oregon's natural legacy that protects wildlife and habitats, safeguards public health, and reduces wildfire risks, without raising the cost of living for Oregonians. It solves a long-standing funding need for wildlife and habitats and is widely supported by a diverse group of stakeholders across rural and urban Oregon.

Outdoor recreation and associated tourism generate \$16 billion in consumer spending and support close to 200,000 jobs. Yet, Oregon is failing to invest meaningful resources in the recovery of vulnerable species and habitats, many of which are significant drivers of tourism, and critical to the state's economy. By increasing the statewide transient lodging tax by 1.25%, we create an important source of dedicated funding to sustain our wildlife, wildlands, and recreation economy—all while keeping Oregon's lodging tax one of the lowest in the country.

90% of visitors to Oregon say that they come here for our "scenic natural beauty." House Bill 4134 creates a revenue stream that is primarily funded by non-Oregonians who will now have a means to invest in the maintenance and recovery of Oregon's natural legacy, which is the main reason that tourists come to our state.

We, the undersigned, support HB 4134 as part of a broad coalition of over 85 organizations.

