

Submitter:

David Gutt

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4134

Dear Chair Nathason and House Committee on Revenue members;

Thank you for your consideration of HB 4134. I m writing in support of this bill.

My spouse and I, along with many fellow Oregonians, are actively engaged in volunteer efforts with both ONDA and the Deschutes Land Trust.

Our involvement in these endeavors reflects our belief in conservation for the mutual benefit of ALL creatures - human and otherwise. We have seen firsthand, some of the degradation of public and private lands and the ripple effects on wildlife. We have also seen what a little TLC and common sense can do towards restoration. Nature will do much to care for itself given the chance. Let's give Her a leg up. What a simple but brilliant idea is manifest in HB 4134! Surprised it hasn't come along sooner. Perhaps this is also a timely reflection of society's recognition of our need to conserve the precious resources encompassed within our state (and elsewhere).

The current federal administration is moving at breakneck speed to ignore the wishes of so many of our citizens. This disregard is placing already vulnerable fish and wildlife habitat at greater risk, particularly as they slash and/or withhold funding sources and destroy sensible policies. We must act independently under these unfortunate circumstances.

We see this bill as another landmark opportunity to place Oregon at the forefront of conservation and protection of wildlife - similar in magnitude to what Gov's. McCall & West did for the Oregon coast. Consider also, the economic benefits of tourism.

Healthy ecosystems attract tourist as well as outdoor enthusiasts.

Let's do every thing we can to preserve Oregon's rich, proactive heritage as a protector of wild places and the creatures that inhabit them.

Please support this measure.

Respectfully & Sincerely,

David Gutt

Bend