

Feb. 3, 2026



Dear Chair Nathanson and members of the House Committee on Revenue,

On behalf of The Intertwine Alliance, I urge you to support HB 4134 — with the -1 amendment — to increase the state lodging tax by 1.25% and recover Oregon's most imperiled species and habitats. Please also consider including funding for the Office of Outdoor Recreation in this bill.

The Intertwine Alliance is the Portland region's coalition of 80 public, private and nonprofit partners working for parks, trails, greenspace and access to nature. We support HB 4134 as a once-in-a-generation opportunity to make huge strides in wildlife protection. Protecting wildlife improves biodiversity and ecosystems, benefiting the quality of trails and greenspaces so important to our people and our economies.

Securing long-term dedicated funding for wildlife and habitat protection is strongly supported by a majority of Oregonians. The funding would not only help wildlife and habitats, but also support local communities and businesses that rely on tourism dollars. Oregon's robust outdoor tourism economy supports nearly 200,000 jobs and brings in \$16 billion in consumer spending. Investing in these resources now will continue to generate more economic opportunities for Oregon's communities in the future.

We cannot have a thriving tourism economy without healthy and abundant fish, wildlife, and the habitats that support them. This legislation would ensure we have both. At a time when the federal government is slashing funds and dismantling policies that protect our vulnerable fish and wildlife and their habitats, Oregon has a chance to set an example and protect our natural heritage. Doing so would make Oregon a national leader.

Please support "1.25% for Wildlife" by passing HB 4134 today.

Sincerely,

Tara Wilkinson, Director
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