

Submitter:	Amy Stuart
On Behalf Of:	my family
Committee:	House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB4134

My family and I strongly support HB 4134 for its proposed investment to implement the State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) by increasing the state lodging tax by 1.25%. It's a tiny increase such that a \$200 motel room will only cost an additional \$2.50! Our state has "shorted" funding conservation of our natural resources for decades even as those same resources have supported rural and city environments alike. Communities will continue to benefit from revenue to our economy through diverse expenditure to motels, outdoor equipment, and travel and leisure. We Oregonians love our outdoor spaces, fish and wildlife, hunting, angling, camping, and generally recreating with a love of native wildlife. SWAP includes strategies and actions to preserve and restore natural resources across the state, with more than 300 species of greatest conservation need that face extinction due to threats like habitat loss, pollution, and invasive species. We love our elk, deer, salmon, beaver, songbirds, raptors, woodpeckers, amphibians and reptiles, and they need our help. Other uses of the funds will include anti-poaching efforts, wildlife connectivity, wildlife rehabilitation centers, and invasive species prevention. It also includes stable funding for Oregon's wolf management compensation and proactive trust fund, to improve coexistence and outcomes for ranchers and wolves. Furthermore, the bill will support wildfire risk reduction, increasing resilience for both wildlife and communities across the state. Please vote to approve HB 4134!