

Submitter:

Anne-Marie Eklund

On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4134

I am in strong support of HB 4134, along with the -1 amendment, to increase the state lodging tax by 1.25% to help our treasured wildlife.

This bill is a perfect way to raise revenue to recover wildlife species and protect natural lands, because it uses a small portion of revenue from tourist lodging. Most of our tourists are here to see our nature and would be in support of this tiny increase to their lodging bill.

Even with the new tax, our state would still have one of the very lowest lodging taxes in the nation!

Securing long-term dedicated funding to recover our most vulnerable fish, wildlife, and habitats is strongly supported by a majority of Oregonians.

In addition, securing this long-term funding to recover Oregon's most vulnerable fish, wildlife, and habitats is critical for our state's tourism economy, which supports 192,000 jobs and brings in \$16 billion in consumer spending.

Our thriving outdoor tourism economy would suffer without healthy and abundant fish and wildlife populations.

Please pass HB 4134 -1 this legislative session. Thank you for your consideration.