

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

House Committee On Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

HB4134

Oregon's wildlife is part of who we are, from our rivers and forests to our coastlines and high desert. But right now, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) lacks the stable, dedicated funding needed to protect the species and habitats that make this state so special.

HB 4134 offers a smart, sustainable solution by modestly increasing the state lodging tax to support critical wildlife conservation efforts. This approach ensures that visitors who enjoy Oregon's natural beauty also help invest in its long-term health, while reducing the burden on everyday Oregonians.

Stable funding through HB 4134 would allow ODFW to better protect vulnerable species, restore habitats, and respond to growing challenges like climate change, habitat loss, and biodiversity decline. Healthy ecosystems aren't just good for wildlife, they support local economies, outdoor recreation, cultural traditions, and the quality of life Oregonians value.

I urge legislators to support HB 4134 and take meaningful action to ensure Oregon's fish, wildlife, and wild places are protected for generations to come.