



February 4, 2026

Representative Nancy Nathanson, Chair
Representative E. Werner Reschke, Vice-Chair
Representative Jules Walters, Vice-Chair
House Committee on Revenue

Re: Trout Unlimited Supports HB 4134 (“1.25% for Wildlife” Conservation Funding)

Dear Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chairs Reschke and Walters, and Members of the Committee,

Trout Unlimited (TU) is a nonprofit dedicated to conserving coldwater fish such as trout, salmon, and steelhead, and their habitats. TU has more than 350,000 members and supporters nationwide, including thousands of members in Oregon. The Oregon members of TU are affiliated with the Oregon Council of Trout Unlimited (OCTU).

TU and OCTU support House Bill 4134, which nominally increases the state transient lodging tax (TLT) and directs that revenue toward funding the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) species conservation strategy.

HB 4134 would materially increase ODFW’s capacity to implement the state’s species conservation strategy (the “State Wildlife Action Plan”¹ (SWAP) and subsequent iterations) by nominally increasing the amount that guests pay for lodging in Oregon. There is a close nexus between travel and tourism in Oregon and our state’s fish and wildlife species; many people visit our beautiful state to fish, hunt, birdwatch, backpack, etc.

TU and OCTU supports HB 4134 because it would provide additional (and desperately-needed) funding for conserving Oregon anglers’ most beloved fish species: Chinook salmon, coho Salmon, steelhead, and trout. Salmon and trout are important resources that contribute to Oregon’s economy and traditions. We also support the bill because it will fund efforts to maintain and restore functioning habitats in Oregon that serve many other non-game fish and wildlife species.

Thank you for considering this input and please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

James Fraser
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Trout Unlimited
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Mark Rogers
Chair
Oregon Council of Trout Unlimited
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¹ ODFW revised its Plan in Fall 2025. The SWAP “will guide conservation priorities statewide and supports continued eligibility for federal wildlife funding.” See ODFW, *Oregon’s Updated State Wildlife Action Plan* (December 29, 2025) at: <https://myodfw.com/articles/oregons-updated-state-wildlife-action-plan>