



Hood River Soil & Water

CONSERVATION DISTRICT

3007 Experiment Station Rd.
Hood River, OR 97031
541-386-4588
www.hoodriverswcd.org

January 5, 2025

Re: Support for HB4134 "1.25% for Wildlife"

The Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District (HRSWCD) strongly supports HB 4134 and its goal of securing long-term, dedicated funding to prevent the decline of Oregon's imperiled fish, wildlife and habitats, and reduce wildfire risk on Oregon's landscape. Both Oregon's economy and way of life are dependent on our natural landscapes, native wildlife, healthy waters, and the ecosystem services those natural resources provide.

HB 4134 is a proactive solution that will directly help at-risk species, vulnerable habitats and communities that depend on them. This bill also secures dedicated funding for Oregon's invasive species, wildfire risk reduction for communities with co-benefits for wildlife, wildlife stewardship, and wildlife connectivity programs. At a time when federal actions have impacted programs that build resiliency of our at-risk wildlife, lands and waters by eliminating staff capacity and on-the-ground resources, HB 4134 is an opportunity for Oregon to step up boldly and fulfill its responsibility to protect our most vulnerable natural communities.

As an organization with a goal of maintaining and protecting our natural resources often working at the intersection of agriculture and nature conservation, Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District understands how critical and time sensitive the need for support is for these programs. Considering this, we strongly support HB 4134 to protect Oregon's precious natural heritage and natural resource economy.

Should you have any additional questions, please contact me at jed@hoodriverswcd or by phone at 541-386-4588. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jed Arnold". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jed" being more prominent.

Jed Arnold

District Manager

Hood River Soil & Water Conservation District
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Hood River, OR, 97031