

Submitter: Barbara Delgado

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

This bill would secure dedicated, long-term funding for Oregon's most imperiled fish, wildlife, and habitats by modestly increasing the state transient lodging tax. For the high desert, this would mean real, sustained investment in sagebrush steppe restoration, wildlife connectivity, invasive species control, and wildfire resilience—work that is essential to keeping these ecosystems whole and thriving.

Oregon's State Wildlife Action Plan now identifies more than 300 species of greatest conservation need, 100 of which are found in Oregon's high desert. Without stable funding, we risk continued decline of the very landscapes and wildlife that define this place and inspire so many of us.

Oregon's high desert is home to some of the state's most iconic wildlife: greater sage-grouse, pygmy rabbits, Lahontan cutthroat trout and countless other species that depend on intact sagebrush steppe, clean water, and connected habitats. As federal funding for these imperiled species declines, dedicated long-term state funding is more important than ever.

There is a lot at stake here. I respectfully urge you to give this much needed legislation your support.