

Submitter: Nora Eskes

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

I strongly support the passage of HB 4134 - it is a common sense bill with the potential for great positive impact, and very little, if any, downside. Many species of wildlife have been documented to face serious declines. This bill would provide dedicated funding to support conservation efforts for species in decline. Currently, ODFW is primarily funded through revenue from fishing and hunting licenses and a federal excise tax on firearms, ammunition, and fishing gear, which incentivizes a focus on game species conservation. Most of the funding that would be generated if this bill passes would be dedicated to implementing ODFW's State wildlife populations in Oregon, and outlines protection strategies. Additionally, proceeds would also go toward wildfire prevention, anti-poaching measures, and compensating livestock producers for wolf-related losses.