

To: Members of the House Agriculture & Natural Resources Committee,

Thank you for accepting public testimony in favor of HB 2600 and HB 2913.

I strongly support these bills that will generate greatly needed funding for the Oregon & Recreation Fund. I was on the first advisory task force that discussed and recommended options for securing additional money to promote, conserve and create greater access to Oregon's wildlife and natural resources. Since that time, this effort has gained traction and popularity to the point where thousands of individuals and foundations have contributed \$250,000 for programs and projects that benefit people, wildlife and habitat restoration and conservation.

I encourage you to advance the funding mechanisms that will keep this new program operationally viable.

Sincerely,

Meryl A. Redisch

past Executive Director, Portland Audubon