

HB2844 considers the possibility of transferring control of beavers on private land to the Dept of Fish and Wildlife, where permits must be secured before dealing with a potential rodent (beaver) issue. This is impractical from numerous aspects as follows:

1. We have numerous beavers on our ranch and they are encouraged if not disruptive to producing food for our nation. Beavers that destroy road infrastructure by flooding need to be controlled without governmental bureaucracy. Beavers that destroy riparian areas by flooding, removal of vegetation, creating erosion from farm fields that destroy the fields and deposits silt in riparians that destroy fish habitat require immediate attention by the landowner.
2. Our irrigation take-outs are prescribed by law to occur at specific locations. If beavers destroy these sites, mitigation measures must be taken immediately in order to irrigate crops and maintain compliance with state required water law.
3. Science should prevail here. Beavers are taxonomically rodents and should be dealt with accordingly.
4. Relocating beavers is not worthy of consideration as it will possibly transfer diseases to an otherwise healthy beaver landscape.
5. In 28 years we have had to eliminate only two beavers, while dozens more thrive on areas of the ranch that are not adversely impacted.
6. The regulations as proposed in HB2844 are not needed, it will remove decision making from those of us who are in the best position to determine adverse economic and ecological impacts of beavers on our private property.
7. I would ask that you oppose HB2844

impacts.