

This bill is important because currently beavers are listed as predatory animals on private land which means hunting and trapping on private land can occur year-round without limits. Beavers are a vital component for Oregon's ecological health and thus should receive adequate protections. Beavers vast positive benefits include: Increased wildfire resilience through natural and effective firebreaks, increased water security through creation of wetlands and ponds, carbon capture and storage, improved drinking water quality and stream temperatures and rearing habitat for multiple imperiled salmonid species.

This bill encourages beaver presence widely-distributed across Oregon. It removes the predatory animal status for beaver, which allows Oregon's wildlife experts to manage beaver everywhere in Oregon as they do other wildlife. It encourages the use of non-lethal co-existence tools to prevent beaver-related property and infrastructure damage. It does not remove any tools from the toolbox for landowners in Oregon, as lethal removal of beaver is still an option.

Please consider the supporting HB 2844.

Thank You