

To the House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources:

I urge you to pass HB 2844 to remove the Predatory status for Beavers.

This will allow Oregon's wildlife experts to manage Beavers as they do other wildlife.

Beavers through their actions play an important positive role in Oregon's ecological health as follows:

- Creation of wetlands and ponds
- Creation of natural and effective firebreaks that thwart wildfires
- Carbon capture and storage
- Improved drinking water quality and stream temperatures
- Rearing habitat for multiple imperiled salmonid species

This bill encourages the use of non-lethal co-existence tools to prevent beaver-related property and infrastructure damage.

Oregon should do the right thing and prevent wanton killing of our wildlife - in this case, the Beaver.

Thank you,

Lynn Herring