

Saturday, March 13, 2021

The Honorable Representative David Smith
900 Court St. NE, H-379
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Smith:

I am a farmer, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood farm fields, homes, and parks, and alter water systems. I rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to my operation. I do not trap beavers for sport - I only take them when they are causing damage to my property or impacting my farm.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

As a landowner, I need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. I cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well in my experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Brandon Zraggen
Coquille, OR

Saturday, March 13, 2021

The Honorable Representative David Smith
900 Court St. NE, H-379
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Smith:

I am a farmer, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

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I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Larissa Zraggen
Coquille, OR

Saturday, March 13, 2021

The Honorable Representative Rick Lewis
900 Court St. NE, H-479
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Lewis:

I am a farmer, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood farm fields, homes, and parks, and alter water systems. I rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to my operation. I do not trap beavers for sport - I only take them when they are causing damage to my property or impacting my farm.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

As a landowner, I need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. I cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well in my experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Joe Ruef
Mount Angel, OR

Saturday, March 13, 2021

The Honorable Representative David Smith
900 Court St. NE, H-379
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Smith:

I am a farmer, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood farm fields, homes, and parks, and alter water systems. I rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to my operation. I do not trap beavers for sport - I only take them when they are causing damage to my property or impacting my farm.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

As a landowner, I need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. I cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well in my experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Neil Westfall
Myrtle Point, OR

Saturday, March 13, 2021

The Honorable Representative Paul Holvey
900 Court St. NE, H-277
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Holvey:

I am a farmer, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood farm fields, homes, and parks, and alter water systems. I rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to my operation. I do not trap beavers for sport - I only take them when they are causing damage to my property or impacting my farm.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

As a landowner, I need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. I cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well in my experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Dwayne Bush
Junction City, OR

Saturday, March 13, 2021

The Honorable Representative Bobby Levy
900 Court St. NE, H-376
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Levy:

I am a farmer, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood farm fields, homes, and parks, and alter water systems. I rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to my operation. I do not trap beavers for sport - I only take them when they are causing damage to my property or impacting my farm.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

As a landowner, I need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. I cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well in my experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Paul Freidel
Lostine, OR

Saturday, March 13, 2021

The Honorable Representative Teresa Alonso León
900 Court St. NE, H-283
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Alonso León:

As a filbert farmer in Woodburn, I oppose HB 2844. We have filberts in fields that are bordered by the Pudding River. A beaver toppled 9 four-inch diameter trees in one night. That is one example. Our neighbor had the same thing happen to his young apple trees, probably the same animal. He was able to legally exterminate the pest.

If HB2844 passes, farmers will not be able to 'take care' of problem animals in a timely manner. The rate of tree destruction they can do in one night is immense. I don't know about other farmers, but there isn't time in my days to hunt beavers for fun. If any beavers are being removed, it is because they are destroying things. Not just trees, but by changing landscapes rapidly with dam building.

The system is working well, I'm not sure why there has to be State intervention where there isn't a problem. Maybe I'm making too much sense for you all.

Sincerely,

Heidi Geschwill
Woodburn, OR

Saturday, March 13, 2021

The Honorable Representative Rick Lewis
900 Court St. NE, H-479
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Lewis:

I am a farmer, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and reducing the number of hazelnut trees that are destroyed. These trees become worth hundreds of dollars as they mature, and are critical for our economic survival.

Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, cause significant erosion, flood farm fields, homes, and parks, and alter water systems. I rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to my operation. I do not trap beavers for sport - I only take them when they are causing damage to my property or impacting my farm.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

As a landowner, I need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. I cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well in my experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Walter Lierman
Salem, OR

Saturday, March 13, 2021

The Honorable Representative Cedric Hayden
900 Court St. NE, H-492
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Hayden:

I am a farmer, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

WE live on a small farm, but we have ponds, one year the beavers ate 3 of our 14 fruit trees in one night! The experts at Fish and Wildlife told us Beavers can chop down an entire 20-30 year old small orchard in one night! Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Diana Woodward
Sutherlin, OR

Saturday, March 13, 2021

The Honorable Representative Mike Nearman
900 Court St. NE, H-378
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Nearman:

I am a farmer, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood farm fields, homes, and parks, and alter water systems. I rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to my operation. I do not trap beavers for sport - I only take them when they are causing damage to my property or impacting my farm.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

As a landowner, I need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. I cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well in my experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Brooks
Monroe, OR

Saturday, March 13, 2021

The Honorable Representative Werner Reschke
900 Court St. NE, H-377
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Reschke:

I am a farmer, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood farm fields, homes, and parks, and alter water systems. I rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to my operation. I do not trap beavers for sport - I only take them when they are causing damage to my property or impacting my farm.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

As a landowner, I need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. I cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well in my experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Jolene Moxon
Malin, OR

Saturday, March 13, 2021

The Honorable Representative David Smith
900 Court St. NE, H-379
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Smith:

As a rancher who has lands within a drainage district as well as drained lands used for agriculture, beaver management is critical to maintaining agriculture and drainage district infrastructure in order to prevent flooding, maintain roads, and prevent expensive damage to drainage infrastructure.

Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage. Their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood fields, chew up wooden infrastructure such as tide gates, and damage orchards near the creeks. We ranchers in Coos County rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to agriculture operations, roads, and drainage systems. Ranchers only remove beavers causing damage to property, infrastructure or those impacting drainage of the land.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

Ranchers and other landowners need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing their property immediately. They cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease as well as put the problems with beavers on another person which is not fair.

Ranchers and other property owners need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect their property - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Sharon Waterman
Bandon, OR

Monday, March 15, 2021

The Honorable Representative Mark Owens
900 Court St. NE, H-475
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Owens:

I am a farmer, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood farm fields, homes, and parks, and alter water systems. I rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to my operation. I do not trap beavers for sport - I only take them when they are causing damage to my property or impacting my farm.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

As a landowner, I need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. I cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well in my experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Rod Frahm
Ontario, OR

Monday, March 15, 2021

The Honorable Representative Rick Lewis
900 Court St. NE, H-479
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Lewis:

I am a farmer, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood farm fields, homes, and parks, and alter water systems. I rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to my operation. I do not trap beavers for sport - I only take them when they are causing damage to my property or impacting my farm.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

As a landowner, I need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. I cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well in my experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Joe Ruef
Mount Angel, OR

Monday, March 15, 2021

The Honorable Representative Janeen Sollman
900 Court St. NE, H-487
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Sollman:

I am a farmer, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood farm fields, homes, and parks, and alter water systems. I rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to my operation. I do not trap beavers for sport - I only take them when they are causing damage to my property or impacting my farm.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

As a landowner, I need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. I cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well in my experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Duyck Jones
Banks, OR

Monday, March 15, 2021

The Honorable Representative David Gomberg
900 Court St. NE, H-471
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Gomberg:

I am a farmer, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood farm fields, homes, and parks, and alter water systems. I rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to my operation. I do not trap beavers for sport - I only take them when they are causing damage to my property or impacting my farm.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

As a landowner, I need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. I cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well in my experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Bearl Seals
Cloverdale, OR

Tuesday, March 16, 2021

The Honorable Representative Ron Noble
900 Court St. NE, H-376
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Noble:

On behalf of Washington County Farm Bureau as the County President, I am writing to oppose HB 2844. Beaver management is critical to maintaining farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads. Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood farm fields, homes, and parks, and alter water systems. I rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to our operations. We do not trap beavers for sport - we only take them when they are causing damage to our property or impacting our farms.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

As landowners, We need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. We cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrents don't work well in our experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

We need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect our farms - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. We urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Nic Vial
Hillsboro, OR

Tuesday, March 16, 2021

The Honorable Representative Janelle Bynum
900 Court St. NE, H-284
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Bynum:

I am a home owner dealing with problem beaver, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my infrastructure from flooding, and my landscape being eaten, cut down and used for flooding my neighbors buildings.

Beavers cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood farm fields, homes, and parks, and alter water systems. I rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to my operation. I do not trap beavers for sport - I only take them when they are causing damage to my property or impacting my farm.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape to a point that they are becoming a real problem. The Gresham Outlook article last month outlined the problem and they do not need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are classified as rodents, (second largest in the world) and should be correctly identified in statute.

As a landowner, I need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. I cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW. I tried this with Multnomah county due to flooding and was denied. Non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well for beaver and there are so many that relocating them is not necessary.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Mark Minzlaff
Damascus, OR

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

The Honorable Representative Vikki Breese-Iverson
900 Court St. NE, H-395
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Breese-Iverson:

I am a farmer in Oregon, and beaver management is critical to maintaining farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood farm fields, homes, and alter water systems. Farmers rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to operations on the farm. I do not trap beavers for sport.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

As a landowner, if I need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. I cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well in my experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Janice Flegel
Prineville, OR

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

The Honorable Representative Vikki Breese-Iverson
900 Court St. NE, H-395
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Breese-Iverson:

I am a farmer, and beaver management is critical to maintaining farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood farm fields, homes and alter water systems. Farmers rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to my operation. I do not trap beavers for sport.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

As a landowner, if I need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. I cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well in my experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Wade Flegel
Prineville, OR

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

The Honorable Representative Mike Nearman
900 Court St. NE, H-378
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Nearman:

Senator & Representative -

As you know, I am a farmer in your district, and beaver management is critical on my farm. We've had beavers ruin tile systems by plugging outlets, plug culverts and cause extensive erosion when water floods out over fields to continue downstream, etc. We've had beavers cause extensive riparian damage. We've worked with multiple private trappers, but have never trapped beavers for sport - we only trap them when they are causing damage to our property or impacting the farm.

As a landowner, I need the ability to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property on my timeline, not when ODFW decides I can get a permit (which I know environmental groups would try to eventually stop being issued).

I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Dean Freeborn
Rickreall, OR

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

The Honorable Representative Mike Nearman
900 Court St. NE, H-378
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Nearman:

I am a farmer, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood farm fields, homes, and parks, and alter water systems. I rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to my operation. I do not trap beavers for sport - I only take them when they are causing damage to my property or impacting my farm.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

As a landowner, I need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. I cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well in my experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Troy Hadley
Rickreall, OR

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

The Honorable Representative Mike Nearman
900 Court St. NE, H-378
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Nearman:

I am a farmer, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood farm fields, homes, and parks, alter water systems and destroy hazelnut trees in our orchard. I rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to my operation. I do not trap beavers for sport - I only take them when they are causing damage to my property or impacting my farm.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

As a landowner, I need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. I cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well in my experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Keith Marx
Rickreall, OR

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

The Honorable Representative Jami Cate
900 Court St. NE, H-378
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Cate:

I am a farmer, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood farm fields, homes, and parks, and alter water systems. I rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to my operation. I do not trap beavers for sport - I only take them when they are causing damage to my property or impacting my farm.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

As a landowner, I need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. I cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well in my experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Jacob Feller
Sublimity, OR

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

The Honorable Representative Mike Nearman
900 Court St. NE, H-378
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Nearman:

I am a hazelnut farmer, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads. Beavers can cause extensive damage to orchards, taking as many as 25 trees a night which is financially devastating if not immediately controlled they will take acres of orchards. Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood farm fields, homes, and parks, and alter water systems. I rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to my operation. I do not trap beavers for sport - I only take them when they are causing damage to my property or impacting my farm.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

As a landowner, I need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. I cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well in my experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Steve Horning
Monroe, OR

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

The Honorable Representative Brad Witt
900 Court St. NE, H-374
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Witt:

My name is Larry Duyck a constituent of Chair Witt, owner and operator of Duyck Family Farm LLC along with my daughter Jacque Jones. We are located in the North Valley near the towns of Banks and North Plains. This area is part of the Tualatin Watershed.

Branches of the Dairy Creek and McKay Creek flow into the Tualatin river. These creeks are fed by the manmade drainage ditches that flow through the flat low farmland.

Beavers use the creeks as their transportation network. The drainage ditches are where they build their dams, back up water and access the farm fields like ours.

When beavers build a damn in the drainage ditches, they use a combination of sticks and mud. The only way to remove the damn completely is with the use of a backhoe.

The best solution to the beaver problem is to be proactive and have them trapped each year. We use a private trapper who usually catches between 6 and 12 each year. Without the use of trapping the beaver, we will eventually lose our ability to farm 20 acres of our land in production.

Please value the agriculture infrastructure in Oregon.

I need the ability to trap beaver as needed to protect my farm – the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so.

I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Thank you, Larry Duyck

North Plains, OR 97133

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

The Honorable Representative Gary Leif
900 Court St. NE, H-386
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Leif:

I am a fifth generation farmer in Southern Oregon, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood farm fields, homes, and parks, and alter water systems. I rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to my operation. I do not trap beavers for sport - I only take them when they are causing damage to my property or impacting my farm.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

As a landowner, I need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. I cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well in my experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Matthew Brady
Azalea, OR

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

The Honorable Representative Rick Lewis
900 Court St. NE, H-479
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Lewis:

I am a farmer, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood farm fields, homes, and parks, and alter water systems. I rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to my operation. I do not trap beavers for sport - I only take them when they are causing damage to my property or impacting my farm.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

As a landowner, I need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. I cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well in my experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Joe Ruef
Mount Angel, OR

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

The Honorable Representative Rick Lewis
900 Court St. NE, H-479
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Lewis:

I am a farmer, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood farm fields, homes, and parks, and alter water systems. I rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to my operation. I do not trap beavers for sport - I only take them when they are causing damage to my property or impacting my farm.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

As a landowner, I need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. I cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well in my experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Kevin Loe
Silverton, OR

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

The Honorable Representative Bill Post
900 Court St. NE, H-373
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Post:

My name is Brenda Frketich and I own a diversified and sustainable farm in St. Paul. I am asking you to oppose HB 2844.

Beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, protecting my crops such as hazelnuts, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

My opposition to higher and over burdensome regulation surrounding these rodents is three fold; the damage that they cause, the fact that they are already regulated, and the fact that there is an abundant population.

The damage that is caused by beavers is very extensive on our farm. We grow poplar trees and hazelnut trees on our farmland. Both of which receive extensive damage when beavers move into the area. They take entire trees of any size to make their dams. This is crop that I am losing every year. Not only do they destroy actual crop, they also in turn destroy cropland. The dams that are built create an enormous amount of flooding in a very short time. This takes away working farm land. If there happens to be a roadway or culvert through this area, the flooding knows no bounds and it is also destroy or made impassible.

I rely heavily on my ability to trap and take beaver that are causing damage on our farm and land. They are already regulated by the simple fact that I am not legally allowed to take a beaver unless it is causing damage. The control measures that I take as a landowner are not for sport, hunting or recreation. They are purely to protect my land from the damage that these rodents do. Furthermore to ask that I be required to get a permit for each individual beaver that comes and causes damage only opens the door for even more regulation down the road. When the beavers show up, I need to take care of them as quickly and efficiently as possible before more and more damage is done. Beavers work fast, (busy beavery ring a bell) and our timeliness to get the trapping accomplished is very crucial.

There is an abundant population of beavers in Oregon, and there is no science at all to show anything different. Especially in Marion County where I farm, the population is nothing but healthy and thriving. Which is why our ability to control the population in problem areas is a huge priority for us. If we allow a family of beavers to move in permanently, we are looking at years of frustration and damage ahead of us.

I am urging a no vote on HB 2844. As a farmer and landowner I need to be able to control rodents (and beavers are scientifically a rodent) when they are doing extensive damage to my farm. I need to be able to control them in a timely manner and will do so within the current regulations in Oregon. Also there is no shortage of this species here, and no need for any protections. Thank you for your time on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Brenda Frketich
Woodburn, OR

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

The Honorable Representative Rick Lewis
900 Court St. NE, H-479
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Lewis:

I am a farmer, and beaver management is critical to many farms in my area for infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads. Just two years ago Nusom road was washed out completely due to a beaver dam that breached in a heavy rainstorm. The road was unusable for several months until it could be rebuilt by Marion Co. Public Works at a sizable expense.

Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads such as Nusom Rd, flood farm fields, homes, and parks, and alter water systems. Farmers rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to an operation.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

The available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well in my experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

john zielinski
Salem, OR

Thursday, March 18, 2021

The Honorable Representative David Smith
900 Court St. NE, H-379
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Oppose HB 2844 - Farmers Need Beaver Management

Dear Representative Smith:

I am a farmer, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

Beavers can cause extensive riparian damage, their dams can block culverts, wash out critical roads, flood farm fields, homes, and parks, and alter water systems. I rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to my operation. I do not trap beavers for sport - I only take them when they are causing damage to my property or impacting my farm.

Beavers are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection. Additionally, the bill proposes to remove the classification of beavers as a rodent. Beavers are taxonomically classified as rodents, and should be correctly identified in statute.

As a landowner, I need to address a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property immediately. I cannot afford to be required to get a permit from ODFW (which I know environmental groups would advocate should eventually not be issued). Further, the available non-lethal deterrence doesn't work well in my experience, and relocating beavers can actually transfer disease.

I need to maintain the ability to manage predatory species as needed to protect my farm - the state should not eliminate tools, especially with no sound scientific basis to do so. I urge you to OPPOSE HB 2844.

Sincerely,

Kevin Westfall
Broadbent, OR

