

As a kayaker who is thrilled by the site of Beaver I encourage you to support HB 2844.

Beaver are a vital component for Oregon's ecological health, and can provide Oregonians with vast positive benefits, including:

- Increased wildfire resilience through natural and effective firebreaks
- Increased water security through the creation of wetlands and ponds
- Carbon capture and storage;
- Improved drinking water quality and stream temperatures;
- Rearing habitat for multiple imperiled salmonid species.

The bill encourages beaver presence widely-distributed across Oregon.

The bill removes the predatory animal status for beaver, which allows Oregon's wildlife experts to manage beaver everywhere in Oregon as they do other wildlife.

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

The bill does not remove any tools from the toolbox for landowners in Oregon, as lethal removal of beaver is still an option.

Thank you.