

Dear Committee Chair and Members,

I am writing to urge you to pass HB 2844. This legislation will make beaver management more effective, efficient and productive. I have had direct experience seeing the harm to stream sides done by removing beavers from historic riparian habitats. Results from removal decreased the land's productive capacities and created conditions for further destruction over time. I have also seen benefits of returning beavers to historic habitats. These benefits have been well documented by rigorous scientific studies. By supporting a more thoughtful approach to beaver management on public and private lands, HB 2844 will lead to more healthy streams and riparian areas throughout Oregon. Action now will bring great benefits to future generations of Oregonians, perhaps the most important point of all.

Thank you very much for this opportunity,
Terry Butler
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