

I support the well-thought out and well-constructed bill HB2844. The bill will allow ODFW's wildlife experts to manage wildlife in conjunction with other agencies. I support the use of non-lethal means of preventing beaver-caused property damage. Acknowledging the value of beavers on the landscape is long overdue. Evidence-based research has shown that the presence of beavers increases wildfire resilience through effective firebreaks, increases water security with wetlands that store groundwater, and decreases the amount of carbon in the atmosphere. The coalition of 21 organizations that support HB2844 is a clear indication that the change brought about by this legislation will positively impact the natural world and improve the quality of life for Oregonians.