

Thursday, March 18, 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,

mark wiesner
Salem, OR

Thursday, March 18, 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.

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Sincerely,

Brandy James
Sweet Home, OR

Thursday, March 18, 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,

Wilbur Klopfenstein
Salem, OR

Thursday, March 18, 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,

Dean Jensen
Blodgett, OR

Thursday, March 18, 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:

My husband and I are farmers and landowners. We've worked hard to acquire land of our own for farming, which is very competitive to obtain where we live in western Oregon. For us, beaver management is critical to maintaining our farm infrastructure and preventing flooding.

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. We have experienced first hand the amount of damage that can be done in a very short time on our property, and it greatly affects our ability to be profitable as farmers. We rely on the ability to privately trap beavers to avoid the significant damage that beavers can cause to our 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,

Janelle Huserik
Gaston, OR

Thursday, March 18, 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 grape farmer, and beaver management is critical to maintaining my farm infrastructure, preventing flooding, and maintaining roads.

On our farm beaver dams have blocked culverts causing erosion under our roads and beavers have destroyed trees that were planted as part of a mitigation project. My farmer neighbors have had parts of orchards disappear and farm fields that were flooded and were unable to be farmed/planted.

Farmers and ranchers need to have the ability to limit the significant damage that beavers can cause to our operations. Available, non-lethal, methods of deterrence do not work well – this includes relocating beavers which can spread disease.

I do not trap beavers for sport; they are only privately trapped when they are causing damage to my property or impacting my farm. If there is a beaver issue that is jeopardizing my property (and livelihood), I need to be able to address it immediately. I shouldn't be required to get a permit from ODFW for each take of beaver as well as be required to report the take.

Beavers are taxonomically classified as a rodent and should be correctly identified as such in statute. They are abundant on our landscape, and there is no data that suggests that they need additional protection.

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,

Dana Estensen
Silverton, OR