



# SC Wildlands

Science & Collaboration for Connected Wildlands

P.O. Box 1052, Fair Oaks, CA 95628

[www.scwildlands.org](http://www.scwildlands.org)

February 3, 2022

**Members of the Board**

Laura Berglan  
Earthjustice

Paul Edelman  
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy

Amy Golden  
Virginia Department of Transportation

Jun Onaka  
Onaka Planning & Economics

Dr. Seth Riley  
National Park Service

Cam Tredennick  
River Partners

House Committee on Environment & Natural Resources  
Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court St NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Support of HB 4130-1 for People and Wildlife

Chair Marsh and Committee members,

SC Wildlands strongly supports HB 4130-1 which would provide dedicated funding for the construction of much-needed wildlife crossing infrastructure that is essential to sustain wildlife populations, reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions, and improve motorist safety.

SC Wildlands is a member of the Southern Oregon Wildlife Crossing Coalition, which is a diverse coalition of organizations and state and federal agencies, including ODOT and ODFW. SC Wildlands' mission is to protect and restore systems of connected wildlands that support native wildlife and the ecosystem upon which they depend. As such, we wholeheartedly support the primary goal of the Coalition, which is to identify and implement critical wildlife crossings along I-5 between Ashland and the California border in the Cascade-Siskiyou region lies, which lies at the juncture of several major ecoregions (Cascade, Klamath, Coast Ranges, and High Desert).

Since 2016, SC Wildlands has been working with KS Wild, the Selberg Institute and many others on the Cascade-Siskiyou Connectivity Partnership, which is an ongoing interdisciplinary forum and communication network to promote coordination across jurisdictional boundaries and diverse disciplines in southern Oregon and northern California with the primary goal of protecting, maintaining, restoring biological connectivity in this globally significant region. This transboundary initiative is identifying opportunities and constraints for conserving connectivity to take coordinated actions to maintain and restore critical linkages to accommodate species movements, range shifts, and continued ecological functions during climate change.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristeen Penrod, Director