

Submitter: Lisa Billings

On Behalf  
Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and  
Water

Measure: HB3159

As we face a global extinction crisis of historic proportions, here in Oregon we are in desperate need of protections for native fish and wildlife. Locally we have 294 at-risk species which we will lose entirely without a proactive approach for their conservation. Oregon created a blueprint for recovering our most vulnerable and imperiled species known as the Oregon Conservation Strategy and Nearshore strategy, but for too long the strategy has lacked the necessary resources and funds to fully implement the recommended conservation actions. Today I write in full support of HB 3159, Recovering Oregon's Wildlife Fund, which would utilize a 1.5% increase in the state transient lodging tax to generate approximately \$30 million a year for proactive, collaborative wildlife and habitat conservation. This is a bold, yet cost-effective solution that we desperately need if we are to see species health for the benefit of future Oregonians. Please join me in voting yes on HB3159!