

Submitter: Bernhard Masterson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: HB3464

Greetings, I urge passage of HB 3464 as a critical step towards greater diversity and climate resiliency in Oregon. Beavers are a keystone species and provide incredible benefits in terms of cleaner water, greater water retention in the landscape, groundwater recharge, reductions in water temperature and fire risk, improved salmon habitat, and more. Without a healthy beaver population the ecosystems of Oregon will never be able to thrive as they once did. Because of the historic extermination of beaver, modern stream and river ecology texts and models are deficient because they base their patterns/models on what naturalists observed after the extermination of beaver. This needs to be changed and removing beaver from the “predator list” is a key step in sustainable and regenerative landscape management. Sincerely, Bernhard Masterson.