

Submitter: Liz Hamilton
On Behalf Of: NSIA
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure: HB3464

Honorable Chair Marsh, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Northwest Sportfishing Industry Association I am writing in support of HB 3464 removing beavers from predatory animal status in Oregon. The benefits that beaver supply to salmon populations as well as water quality and quantity have long been known. In NOAA fisheries 2016 ESA Final Recovery Plan for Coastal Coho Salmon(<https://repository.library.noaa.gov/view/noaa/15986#tabs-2>), beavers are mentioned 232 times. Our society spends millions on salmon recovery, but our state's iconic beaver does it's ecologically valuable stream work for free!

Increasing monitoring will help in managing beaver's role in healthy river systems. Beavers will still need to be killed in areas where they are creating damage. We trust that the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife will work with landowners during rulemaking and in finding solutions to damage problems. We would ask that ODFW is provided the funding to monitor and manage beaver populations.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and for your service to Oregon.

Liz Hamilton, Executive Director
Northwest Sportfishing Industry Association