

Submitter: Christine Haynie

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: HB3464

Thank you Pam Marsh, and House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment for your work on HB3464.

I support this bill and am passionate about preserving wildlife with whom we share this planet. I may not have at my fingertips all the statistics and scientific studies that affirm the usefulness of beavers as protectors and enhancers of healthy ecosystems. But I do know that calling these animals predators is so ludicrous and wrong given what they actually do as they try to live their beaver lives. We simply cannot continue to eradicate wildlife because they become a nuisance. This does not mean that I do not empathize with farmers whose crops are sometimes damaged or destroyed due to the busy beavers building homes and by so doing provide so many benefits to the environment, including species such as salmon, a species that continues to struggle to maintain its populations. HB 3464 provides many solutions to this conflict. By removing the horrible moniker of predator, providing tools for farmers to employ non lethal means that will allow successful coexistence, and put beaver management under one agency that will set stringent rules about "lethal takes", Oregon will be taking productive steps towards ensuring that beavers continue to thrive and provide good things for our environment and joy to our hearts.