

Submitter: Carol Ampel

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure: HB3464

As climate change continues to create and exacerbate problems with water supply and conditions, it is vital that we avoid damaging the means that can mitigate them, and this means keeping beavers on the job. Killing them as "predators" should not be an option.

Beaver dams create wetlands that hold water and offer refuge for wildlife, plant life, and cool retreats for fish. They do this at minimal financial cost, or none at all. It makes no sense to eradicate them and lose those benefits. Where their choice of building site causes serious conflict with human needs - flooding a road or an agricultural field, relocation can and should be the answer, not guns, traps, or toxins. It's high time to focus on the natural means available to meet the severe challenges of a warming climate and all its costthems, from keeping our forests intact to protecting the lives of our beavers. Taking beavers off the list of "predatory animals" that can be killed at will would be the place to start. Please pass HB3464 without delay.

Thank you for considering my comments.