



To: House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment  
From: Oregon Wild  
Re: Support HB 2980  
Date: February 4, 2025

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2980, establishing the wildlife stewardship program at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

For the past fifty years, Oregon Wild has been dedicated to protecting Oregon's waters, wild lands, and wildlife. And we're honored to stand in support of HB 2980 beside the wide range of Oregonians who have shared with you their own stories and passion for wildlife stewardship, testimony and time that includes Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission members Khalil and Labhart.

The Wildlife Stewardship Program was proposed in ODFW's 2023-2025 Budget and again in the 2025-2027 Budget. The Program is a real and meaningful investment in preventing and mitigating human-wildlife conflicts, inspiring wildlife stewardship, and building greater public awareness and responsibility through education about living with wildlife in communities across Oregon.

Oregon Wild, as a member of the Oregon Wildlife Coalition, will continue to be engaged as HB 2980 moves to the budget committee and onward to implementation. We are excited to honor your work with our time and attention to getting this program established.

Thank you for supporting HB 2980 and quickly referring it to Ways and Means!

Respectfully,

Casey Kulla  
Oregon Wild