

Submitter: Amy Knudsen
On Behalf Of: concerned citizen and science educator
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural
Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3143

Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to share my support of HB 3143. My name is Amy Knudsen. I am a resident of central Oregon, a professional working in the community, and mother raising young children. I am a concerned science educator. Supporting wildlife and the conservation of natural resources is something that needs to be put front and center in the decision making process of how to fund different bills, programs, and grants around the state. HB 3143 would establish a fund for programs like Think Wild's Beaver Works Program and agencies to do targeted outreach to landowners to let them know that coexistence solutions are available, and provide the grants for them to install those solutions at low to no cost. HB 3143 would allocate funding to provide materials and resources for landowners to support proven nonlethal coexistence strategies - like flow devices and culvert protection - offer a more cost-effective and sustainable approach. We all need to work together to help preserve and conserve struggling native species. Beavers are extremely beneficial to the overall health of high desert ecosystems. This would be an amazing collaboration and would support the increase of biodiversity in so many different areas in Central and Eastern Oregon. People would benefit in return.

I strongly urge you to support the passing of this Bill. Our future generations depend on it. Thank you again for your time.

Sincerely,

Amy Knudsen