



February 4, 2025

Co-Chair Representative Ken Helm,
Co-Chair Representative Mark Owens,
Vice Chair Representative Finger McDonald

Oregon House of Representatives
Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water
900 Court Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Testimony in Support of HB 2984, Funding for the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund

Dear Co Chairs Rep Helm and Rep Owens, Vice Chair Finger McDonald and Honorable Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of HB 2984, which provides a reliable source of funding for the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund (OCRF). The OCRF is critical to implementing Oregon's foundational state wildlife action plan, conserving biodiversity and ecological services statewide, providing access to Oregon's great outdoors and preserving and restoring watersheds that are essential not only for fish and wildlife, but also for agriculture, ranching, recreation, local communities and regional economies.

Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA) is a conservation organization based in Bend, Oregon, with a mission to protect, defend and restore Oregon's high desert on behalf of our more than 25,000 members and supporters from across Oregon and beyond. We take a holistic approach to conserving the high desert, pairing targeted on-the-ground restoration and community stewardship with advocacy to protect wild lands, waters and wildlife at landscape scales. ONDA is especially proud of our long history of collaboration with state and federal agencies, partners and local stakeholders to achieved shared conservation goals.

Established just a few years ago, the OCRF is broadly supported by Oregonians and has already made vital contributions to conserving the flora and fauna, landscapes and watersheds, and recreational opportunities that make Oregon home. Providing a regular source of funding to this program will ensure its continued success in the future.

Thank you for your support of the OCRF, and for your consideration of HB 2984.

Sincerely,

Jefferson Jacobs

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