



**OREGON CHAPTER OF
THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY**
PO Box 2378
Corvallis, OR 97339

FROM: The Oregon Chapter of The Wildlife Society

TO: House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

SUBJECT: HB 2978 (Wildlife Crossings) - SUPPORT

Co-Chair Helm, Co-Chair Owens, Vice-Chair McDonald, Members of the Committee,

The Oregon Chapter of The Wildlife Society (ORTWS) appreciates your consideration of HB 2978 and the opportunity to provide comments.

ORTWS would like to express our strong support for HB 2978.

ORTWS represents nearly 600 wildlife professionals from many areas of public and private enterprises composed of students, scientists, educators, technicians, consultants, biologists, and land managers. These professionals in our organization dedicate their lives to managing, conserving, and studying wildlife populations and their habitats throughout Oregon. Our mission is to inspire, empower, and enable Oregon's wildlife professionals and students to promote science-based wildlife conservation and management through the participation and leadership of an open and inclusive community of members.

We are in support of HB 2978 because it closely aligns with implementing our mission and is critical to wildlife conservation and public safety. Our members specialize in wildlife population dynamics, animal movement, habitat management, corridors and connectivity, human-wildlife conflict and other disciplines that all feed into reducing wildlife-vehicle conflicts and improving habitat connectivity. As such, the expertise represented by ORTWS and its members support HB 2978 and its intended purpose.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Regards,

ORTWS Board of Directors