

FROM: The Oregon Chapter of The Wildlife Society

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

**SUBJECT:** HB 3143 (OCRF Beaver) - 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 3143 and the opportunity to provide comments.

ORTWS would like to express our strong support for HB 3143.

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 3143 because it aligns with implementing our mission and a goal to increase an awareness and appreciation of wildlife. Our professional members specialize in wildlife conservation, habitat management, human-wildlife conflict and other disciplines that would benefit from this Landowners Living with Beaver Grant Program administered by the Oregon Conservation and Recovery Advisory Committee.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Regards,

**ORTWS Board of Directors**