



OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION

Protecting Oregon's Wildlife, Habitat and Hunting Heritage

P.O. Box 1706, Medford, OR 97501 • (541) 772-7313
oha@oregonhunters.org • oregonhunters.org

February 3, 2025

House Committee on Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Re: HB 2982 Support

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

The Oregon Hunters Association (OHA) is Oregon's largest state-centric hunter conservation organization, representing over 12,000 sportsmen and women throughout 26 chapters in the state. Our mission is 'to protect Oregon's wildlife, habitat, and hunting heritage' and we strongly support science-based wildlife and habitat management.

OHA supports HB 2982. The creation of a specific fund and funding source are needed as state agencies and local governments increase their efforts to keep invasive species out of Oregon.

Good stewardship of our resources is important to the outdoor recreation community and is a hallmark of how Oregonians prioritize our natural spaces. Many outdoor user groups face increases in fees in the next biennium and their contributions toward supporting our natural resources should not be understated. Additionally, the tension between cost and use must be navigated with an eye toward keeping outdoor recreation from becoming cost prohibitive for Oregonians. However, the cost to benefit ratio is exponentially weighted on the side of prevention in relation to the costs associated with controlling an invasive species once established. In light of this, OHA supports the funding source identified in HB 2982 and the prioritization of preventative measures to keep invasive species out of Oregon's waterways.

OHA encourages the committee to support HB 2982.

Thank you,
Amy Patrick
OHA Policy Director