

Submitter: Ann Dorsey

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2977

I urge you to support HB 2977, which will increase the state transient lodging tax from 1.5% to 2.5% and generate approximately \$30 million a year for proactive wildlife and habitat conservation. Although Oregon has plans that will sustain healthy fish and wildlife populations by maintaining and restoring functioning habitats, preventing declines of at-risk species, and reversing declines in these resources where possible (the Oregon Conservation Strategy and Nearshore Strategy), there is inadequate funding to be able to fully implement the recommended conservation actions. The transient lodging tax increase will fund these programs. Oregon has 294 at-risk species that are considered 'species of greatest conservation need'. Without taking action, they could go extinct. It is imperative to bolster biodiversity so ecosystems will function the way we depend on them to.

Please save Oregon's natural treasures by voting for HB 2977.

Thank you