

Submitter: Marilyn Costamagna  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2977

HB 2977, "1% for Wildlife" proposes increasing the state transient lodging tax from 1.5% to 2.5%, to combat the biodiversity crisis, by investing in the conservation and recovery of Oregon's most vulnerable wildlife and habitat. This would generate approximately \$30 million a year for proactive wildlife and habitat conservation.

This is a bold, yet cost-effective solution that would help recover our state's most vulnerable fish and wildlife.

Things like habitat loss and degradation, climate change, invasive species, and other natural and human-made impacts are taking a toll on Oregon's birds, mammals, fish, amphibians, reptiles, butterflies, and bees.

Nearly 1/3 of all fish and wildlife species in America are at elevated risk of extinction. Here in Oregon, there are 294 at-risk species that are considered 'species of greatest conservation need'. Without proactive action, Oregon stands to lose our treasured natural heritage

Oregon created a blueprint for recovering our most vulnerable and imperiled species known as the Oregon Conservation Strategy and Nearshore Strategy. The goals of the state wildlife action plans are to maintain 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.

For too long, the Conservation Strategy has lacked the necessary resources and funds to fully implement the recommended conservation actions. HB 2977 would greatly facilitate generating the necessary resources and funds to full implement the remedied conservation actions

Therefore, as an advocate for nature and its survival, I am asking you to please consider helping Oregon to recover its most at-risk species by supporting HB 2977 today!