



Volunteer

Testimony Before Oregon House Committee
On
Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water

February 24, 2025

Subject: HB 2342 – The Act increases hunting and fishing license and tag fees under the wildlife laws

Chairman Helm and members of the Committee

My name is David Wiley. I live in Sublimity, Oregon. I am a member of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) and a Lead Volunteer for the Elk Foundation in Oregon. Today I am speaking to you on behalf of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

The RMEF is a national non-profit hunter sponsored conservation organization whose mission is to ensure the future of elk, other wildlife, their habitat, and our hunting heritage. RMEF has more than 200,000 members nationwide and more than 12,000 in Oregon. Since 1986 within Oregon, RMEF and its partners have completed more than 1,100 wildlife habitat stewardship, management and hunting heritage projects. These projects conserved and enhanced more than 890,000 acres and improved recreational access to 157,000 acres.

RMEF strongly supports HB 2342 and recommends it for this Committee's full and unqualified support, approval, and passage to Joint Ways and Means with a do-pass recommendation.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) conducted much outreach to stakeholders and heard their concerns, prior to preparing the fee schedule in HB 2342.

Passage of HB2342 is essential for provision of the current level of core wildlife and fisheries management services in the Governor's recommended ODFW budget.

Oregon's Licensed Hunters and Fishers take great pride in the fact they are the principal funders of Conservation in the state.

Hunting and Fishing are Wildlife Conservation!

Please give HB2342 your stamp of approval.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.