

Submitter: Rebekah Phillips
On Behalf Of: Mazamas
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On
Natural Resources
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5039

Dear Co-Chairs Frederick and Levy and members of the Joint Committee On Ways and Means Natural Resources Subcommittee:

In 2023, the state of Oregon established the Natural and Working Lands (NWL) Fund.

The Mazamas supports efforts in Oregon to implement natural climate solutions. Seventy-two percent of Oregonians agree with this strategy according to a recent survey.

Natural solutions are part of the long-term effort to build climate resilience and sustainability, but will cost more in the future the longer we delay. The time for sustained support is now in order to achieve momentum.

We support stable funding for Natural and Working Lands by including \$5M for the NWL Fund in the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board budget.

Thank you,
Rebekah Phillips, Executive Director