

Submitter: Mitchell Ellingson

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3657

Dear House Committee,

My family and I operate a commercial farm growing grass seed, hazelnuts, clover seed, wheat, and cattle SW of McMinnville in Yamhill County . In the last decade, ever increasing large herds of elk have become extremely damaging to our crops and fences. I now routinely have to take time out of my busy day to monitor multiple elk herd locations, putting deterrence measures up, and dealing with hunters. Elk damage affects my ability to plant certain crops and affects my farming practices. Large herds of elk traveling and feeding on soft newly planted fields and pastures during the wet winter months is often like taking a large roto-tiller to them. We have tried scarecrows, reflective flashers, solar night lights, and even leaving vehicles in fields to try to keep elk herds out, often to no avail.

Sincerely,
Mitchell Ellingson
4E Farms, Inc.