

Submitter: David Labby

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3932

Please support HB 3932. We are the Beaver State but the state of beavers is not what it needs to be for a health Oregon, having been decimated by urbanization and climate change. When beavers thrive, they benefit a host of other species, including human communities. Beavers improve stream health, increase climate resilience, and promote fire resistance. That's why we need you to support of HB 3932, a common sense bill pending in the Oregon Legislature that prioritizes improving water quality in Oregon streams by protecting beavers.

HB 3932 would temporarily close beaver trapping where they are needed most: on waters the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality has determined have "impaired" water quality. Nearly one-third of Oregon's stream miles are listed as impaired, contending with elevated water temperatures and high levels of sedimentation, toxins or other pollutants. Research has shown that beavers are incredibly effective at improving water quality—if we leave them in peace to do their work.