

Submitter:	Dave Potter
On Behalf Of:	my family
Committee:	House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB3932

My wife and I have read the many studies from dry Western lands that show the extremely valuable results when beavers are allowed to build dams in streams. Ranchers are aided by more water in the middle of summer as well as more cow feed. Recreation like fishing and bird watching is greatly improved = fun and tourist dollars. Water tables are increased, broadened out, making wells more reliable. Water and green vegetation form excellent fire breaks in this time of increasing range fires. Beaver constructed wetlands also reduce flood crests whenever heavy rains do occur. Also, soil erosion is greatly reduced. For the good of the majority of people in the areas, beaver should be closed to any type of killing, trapping or shooting. Beaver can damage high value trees near homesteads but this is easily deterred by wrapping trees with web wire - like my family has done. Indeed, if necessary, landowners should qualify for funds to buy the wire..Just like state provided resources to deter hay stack damages by elk and deer. And payments for wolf killing of livestock. Bottom line: Beavers are very important to healthy land so they should be encouraged to live most places. And, last word, flooding of roads or farm fields can be greatly reduced by pond levelers that have been known about for decades. We need lots more beavers across Oregon!