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Dear Members of the Oregon Legislature,

Please accept these comments on behalf of the Lane County Audubon Society urging you to support House Bill 3932 and support healthy waterways through protecting beavers. Lane County Audubon Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the conservation of and education about our natural environment, with a primary focus on birds and other wildlife and their habitats.

This bill will help to protect fish and other wildlife and keep our water clean. Beavers are keystone species that provide natural solutions to clean up waterways while also creating habitat for water dependent species. Beavers improve stream health, increase climate resilience, and promote fire resistance. The bill proposes that beaver hunting and trapping be closed on public waterways that the DEQ classifies as impaired. Note that it does not apply to privately owned land.

Please support HB 3932 to help wildlife, waterways, and people.

Thank you,

Debbie Schlenoff, Ph.D. Conservation Chair Lane County Audubon Society