

Submitter: Kirsten Shockey

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3932

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing in support of HB 3932. This bill is an amazing step in securing water quality and water sequestration (including groundwater recharge) in Oregon, which is important for our state's resiliency. Oregon waterways are shown to be more and more impaired and beavers are able to restore them quickly and for FREE. This bill does not cost the tax payer and will benefit all citizens. As our waterways are fixed, we will see benefits like lower water temperatures (good for fish health) and catching important sedimentation (leaving it in the floodplains and cleaning the water downstream); healthy waterways are important for so many species in and out of the water. Beaver wetlands are shown to mitigate toxins.

This bill is on public lands and is not about banning trapping and limiting harvests it is about enabling beavers to do the ecosystem work on public lands without getting trapped out. There is a low beaver presence on public lands and this makes no sense given the science of what these animals are able to do for the ecosystems of our state.

This bill also takes into consideration that if water systems in the lands are restored that trapping can be opened up. It seems like an ideal solution to help our streams by helping beaver populations to thrive in select areas.

Please support this bill for the health of all of Oregon's inhabitants.

Thank you!