

Submitter: William Ramirez

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3932

I support HB 3932

HB 3932 will allow beavers to help restore Oregon's thousands of miles of impaired waterways at no cost to taxpayers. More than 2/3rd of surveyed waterways in Oregon are currently classified as "impaired."

The bill proposes closing hunting and trapping of beavers on waterways on public lands deemed impaired by DEQ. Scientific evidence shows that beaver dam complexes can address most of these water quality issues.

The Department of Environmental Quality is tasked with restoring these waterways but lacks the resources to do this at the scale needed. Beavers can help.

Passing HB 3932 would allow beavers to help restore these waterways by closing hunting and trapping of beavers on these impaired waterways on public lands.

There is scientific evidence that beaver dam complexes can address most of the water quality issues of concern. They enable beavers to access waterways where they need to be and remain long enough to perform their ecosystem functions without getting trapped.