

Submitter: Amanda Powell

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3932

Chair Lively, Vice-chairs Gamba and Levy and Committee Members,

I am writing to express my strong support for the House Bill 3932. Having read and attended information sessions on beavers, I am an informed "beaver believer." These creatures greatly support water and general environmental quality, with their natural behaviors.

However, there is much public ignorance about beavers--many people think that they consume fish and thus compete with sport fishing (untrue) or are destructive pests. In fact, we can very successfully not only coexist with them, but benefit in water quality by their presence.

Passing HB 3932 will allow beavers to help restore our impaired waterways by closing hunting and trapping of beavers on such waterways on public lands. Much scientific evidence shows that beaver dam complexes can address most impairments of water quality. This bill is not about limiting beaver harvest or increasing beaver population, but it will enable beavers to access waterways where they need to be and remain long enough to perform their ecosystem functions.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Amanda W Powell, Eugene 97405