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March 25, 2025

Heather King
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House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment
Oregon State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Testimony in Support of HB 3932

Board of Directors:

Cathryn Tortorici
President

Tamara Madsen
Treasurer

Jessie Rohrig
Secretary

Steve Hernandez

Chair Lively, Vice-chairs Gamba and Levy, and Members of the Committee:

Willamette Riverkeeper expresses strong support for **HB 3932**, which would allow beavers to help restore Oregon's many impaired waterways.

Beavers improve water quality by building dams that slow water flow and creating wetlands that filter water and store nutrients. This also helps create wildlife and fish habitat. Over 100,000 miles of Oregon waterways are impaired according to DEQ. DEQ is meant to restore these waterways but lacks the resources that are needed. Beavers are a natural and free solution to the state's water quality crisis.

HB 3932 will allow beavers to help restore these impaired waterways by stopping the hunting and trapping of beavers on impaired waterways on public lands. Beavers and their dams can improve water quality and help address most impairment concerns in these waters. This bill will enable beavers to access the waterways that need them and remain to perform ecosystem functions.

Willamette Riverkeeper urges strong support for HB 3932, a natural and free way to restore our impaired waterways. Thank you for your leadership and consideration.

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