

To whom it may concern:

My name is Rodney Dieckhoff, and I am a true born and raised Oregonian of 56 + years. I was raised hunting, fishing, and trapping as a kid, along with growing up in the farming community of Junction City, Oregon. I have finally had enough, and it is time to voice my opinion. I strongly oppose House bill 3932A and here are my reasons. Over the years I have watched laws and regulations relating to hunting, fishing, and trapping being passed and implemented merely on emotion with no consideration to future impacts. I really started paying when ODFW's funding started getting dumped into the state's general fund instead of managing themselves as their own entity, this changed the way ODFW managed wildlife forever. Many changes after that impacted the already messed up ecology of Oregon's fish and wildlife. I started paying closer attention when measure eighteen ended up on the ballot to ban hunting bears and cougars with dogs, ODFW should have never let this happen, this was driven solely by emotion. There was never a thought of what might happen 15-20 years down the road by not managing these predators the way they had been. Fast forward to when wolves were reintroduced, which were not even close to the native species of wolves that existed here, now we have compounded the predation on our deer and elk herds, not to mention livestock. Now we are removing dams to help cool the water temperature and allow the flow rate to return to a more natural setting so the salmon and steelhead can reestablish spawning grounds and bring runs back to river systems that have not seen fish for years. We truly do not know what impact will have on these changes, do not get me wrong, fish returning is great, but again these changes were made on emotion

with not enough science to back the changes. Now the people of the state of Oregon want to Ban beaver trapping and hunting in its entirety because they are cute furry animals that are beneficial to the ecosystem. Well, they are beneficial to the ecosystem just like all the other wildlife in our state. The thing with beavers is because they are so beneficial to the ecosystem, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife has taken extra care in managing beavers to allow them to flourish without overpopulation. ODF&W has made it clear in our trapping regulations when and where we can trap beavers. Keep in mind that we have areas in the state that have never had a habitat to support beavers. Recently House bill 3464 removed beavers from the predatory animals list on private lands without enough research to know what will happen to not only farmland but beaver population densities. Will they be overpopulated? What diseases might occur from overpopulation? What effect will Beaver dams have on water temperature that could directly impact spawning fish? Trappers play a crucial role in the management and conservation of not only beavers, but other furbearers and predators alike. The realization is that for every action there is a reaction so we do not know what effect House bill 3464 will have on the ecosystem. Why would you want to pass House bill 3932A and give the ecosystem a double gut punch? What if science proves that House Bill 3464 was a mistake, then what? Again, I strongly oppose House bill 3932A!

Sincerely,

Rodney Dieckhoff