

Submitter: Brant MacDuff  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and  
Wildfire  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3932

I am a wildlife conservation historian and scholar, and I Oppose HB3932. It's my job to study effective wildlife conservation strategy around the world and I'm disheartened to see the state of Oregon try to remove scientific autonomy from their very own Fish & Wildlife professionals. Hunting and Trapping are tools used by state biologists and ecologists as a part of successful wildlife management. The state of Florida would never impose on the work carried out by NASA because we recognize the math, chemistry, physics, and astronomy required of space travel to be beyond the average person's scope of expertise. Unfortunately wildlife conservation science & management does not get this same respect because the average person confuses their love of animals with a knowledge of effective conservation science. Let's remember that wildlife conservation and management IS a real science that is best left to the animal-loving experts who study them, not the average Joe. Trapping does not pose a threat to beaver populations and removing ODFW's ability to use trapping as a tool only makes their work more difficult and more expensive with no benefit to wildlife or their ecosystems. The beaver is an incredible and adorable animal, one of my personal favorites, and it is precisely my love of beavers and other wildlife that guides me to the best available science and trust in the biologists, ecologist, and domaine experts to keep their populations thriving into the future. Let's oppose HB3932 and show our wildlife professionals we trust their work, even if we don't always understand it.