



To: Senate Committee on Natural Resources

Re: House Bill 3932

Position: Oppose

Date: May 2, 2025

Chair Golden, Vice Chair Nash, and Senate Committee on Natural Resources Members,

On behalf of the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation (CSF), I respectfully ask that you oppose House Bill 3932, a bill that would prohibit the taking of beavers on waters or watersheds that are classified in a certain manner or on public lands that are within its watersheds.

Founded in 1989, CSF is the informed authority across outdoor issues and serves as the primary conduit for influencing public policy. Working with the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus (CSC), the Governors Sportsmen's Caucus (GSC), and the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses (NASC), CSF gives a voice to hunters, anglers, recreational shooters, and trappers on Capitol Hill and throughout state capitals advocating on vital outdoor issues that are the backbone of our nation's conservation legacy.

House Bill 3932 poses significant challenges to Oregon's trapping community and the broader framework of science-based wildlife management. Beavers, while ecologically valuable, can cause substantial damage when populations are not properly managed. Their dams can flood agricultural lands, disrupt infrastructure, and alter habitats in ways that harm other species, including threatened fish populations like salmon and steelhead. Regulated trapping, guided by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), ensures balanced beaver populations that support both ecosystem health and human interests. HB 3932's blanket prohibition on trapping in designated areas disregards this proven management strategy, potentially exacerbating conflicts rather than resolving them.

Furthermore, this bill's focus on trapping as a contributor to water quality issues is misplaced. Water quality impairments under the Clean Water Act stem primarily from industrial runoff, and urban development; not from regulated harvest of beavers. By restricting trapping, HB 3932 diverts attention from these systemic issues and places an unfair burden on trappers, many of whom rely on this activity for supplemental income or cultural traditions. Without trapping, resulting beaver overpopulation can clog streams, devastate timber, impact other wildlife species, and increase human/wildlife conflicts – as documented by the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies after

the [statewide ban on trapping in Massachusetts](#). The bill also risks undermining Oregon's North American Model of Wildlife Conservation, which emphasizes science-based management and equitable access to natural resources. Trapping is a time-honored practice in Oregon supporting rural economies and fostering a deep connection to the land. By limiting access to public lands for trapping this bill threatens the livelihoods of trappers and the heritage of communities that have responsibly harvested beavers for generations under the rigorous oversight of ODFW to ensure sustainability. HB 3932's restrictions are redundant and unnecessarily punitive, ignoring the expertise of wildlife professionals at ODFW.

With these considerations in mind, we respectfully request that you oppose House Bill 3932 and protect science-based wildlife management through ODFW's commitment to the North American Model of Wildlife Management. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this issue. Should you require additional information on this, or other sportsmen's-related topics, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marie Neumiller". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marie Neumiller
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