

Submitter: Gena Connelly
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2977

Dear Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chair Reschke, Vice-Chair Walters and members of the Committee,

I am writing to urge you to support HB 2977, a bill to secure long-term, dedicated funding to recover Oregon's most imperiled fish, wildlife, and habitats.

Oregon is an incredibly special place; home to a diverse array of flora, fauna, and the habitats that support them. Unfortunately, climate change and other natural and human-made impacts put their future at risk.

There are nearly 300 species of greatest conservation need and 11 habitats of conservation concern. To combat this - and ensure all species thrive in Oregon - we need bold, proactive investments in their recovery. The Trump Administration is already attempting to do their level best to gut the Endangered Species Act and to limit or dissolve protections necessary to protect already imperiled species. Oregon needs to protect its valuable natural resources, specifically its flora and fauna. People aren't traveling to Oregon to see clear cut wilderness; they're coming to participate in a healthy ecosystem.

HB 2977 will provide a steady, sustainable source of funds to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to recover Oregon's most imperiled species and habitat and enhance biodiversity - all of which contribute to Oregon's tourism and outdoor recreation economy. People come to Oregon to hike, camp, climb, fish, hunt and ski amongst many other pursuits. If we devalue and discount the importance of maintaining healthy and thriving ecosystems, we do so at considerable financial peril.

Please support "1% for Wildlife" by passing HB 2977 today.

Sincerely,
Gena Connelly