

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

In the three decades I have lived in Oregon, i have seen waterways become more and more impaired. The stream that runs through our property is front row seating to the hundreds of thousands of miles of streams to rivers in Oregon. The riches of Oregon are in part due to beavers on this landscape building our water systems and supporting salmon and thousands of species, which in turn built our forests. (Referring to the salmon DNA found in NW forests.) We need to let beavers help us restore these systems for clean water, carbon sequestration, and resiliency to climate changes.

This bill is great as the trapping closure does not include private lands but provides a chance for our public lands to work for the good the public. The science is overwhelming on what watershed restoration done by beavers can do for a stream. How these wetlands clean water, protect areas from fire, and sequester carbon. The bonus of fish habitat and habitat for threatened and endangered species should not be overlooked.

I urge you to pass this bill for the good of our children and grandchildren and generations to come, so that we can hand off, not a continually degraded Oregon but the beautiful state we know and love with its clean water and air, with its diversity and resiliency. This bill is a step toward creating a water legacy we can be proud of.
Thank you!