



May 7, 2025

Senate Natural Resources and Wildfire Committee
Re: Opposition to HB 3932

Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Nash, and Members of the Committee:

The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) is a national non-profit hunting conservation organization with a mission to ensure the future of elk, other wildlife, their habitat and our hunting heritage. Since our founding in 1984 we have conserved or enhanced over 9.1 million acres in the US, and over 891,000 acres in Oregon. Our more than 10,000 members raise funds through 22 state chapters.

RMEF is opposed to HB 3932 for numerous reasons but the overarching reason can probably be found in the Oregon Dept of Fish and Wildlife's own testimony, second paragraph, where they state "The Commission has considered whether to ban beaver harvest in four separate Commission meetings since 2020 in response to petitions or requests. The Commission has, to date, declined to ban harvest, in part because available data indicate it is not limiting beaver abundance."

The ODFW testimony goes on to state that "the Commission is required to consider the co-equal goals in wildlife policy and make decisions based on best available science and with input from the public and affected parties." In a nutshell, that is exactly how and where we'd like to see decisions related to species management take place- at the agency charged with those responsibilities and with the ability to study the science and make decisions accordingly. We don't feel like the legislature should be micro-managing individual species.

To sum up, we would advocate for science-backed management, continued collaboration with ODF&W, landowners, conservation groups and local governments, to maintain healthy, robust beaver populations while addressing real world challenges as they arise. Thank you.

Ryan Bronson
Director of Government Affairs