

Submitter:	Casey Kulla
On Behalf Of:	Oregon Wild
Committee:	Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB2977

Chair Jama, Vice-chair Bonham, members, and staff,

For the record, my name is Casey Kulla, and I work on state policy for Oregon Wild and I live in rural Yamhill County. I will be brief. I support HB 2977 because this bill is unique in its broad scale. In the course of talking with legislators, advocates, and ODFW staff over the past five months, I came to realize that every city, every county, and every legislative district has specific animals in need of help, specific plans to help them, and people already identified to work with. ODFW has an amazing tool, Compass, that shows the public key conservation areas, conservation opportunity areas, habitat assessments, and key habitats and species for all of Oregon.

Visitors come to Oregon from all over the world to see our beautiful places from Coos County to Gilliam County. With an average statewide hotel room rate of \$155 per night, an out of state visitor to Oregon pays just two dollars to support species and their habitats now, critical work all over Oregon, restoring, rebuilding, and celebrating habitats and ecosystems all across Oregon.

HB 2977 is a bipartisan policy, with a broad scale of benefit, over a long time period. I urge you to move the bill to a work session and on to the floor for a vote. Thank you!