

Submitter: Rosemary Furfey
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB2977

Dear Chair Jama, Vice-Chair Bonham, and members of the Committee,

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

Oregon is my home, and I am dedicated to protecting our magnificent environment and wildlife species that make this state unique in the Nation. Oregon is fortunate to have a diverse array of flora, fauna, and the habitats that support them. Unfortunately, climate change and other natural and human-made impacts are already having an impact and put their future at risk.

As a result of these impacts, there are nearly 300 species of greatest conservation need and 11 habitats of conservation concern across the state. To combat this – and ensure all species thrive in Oregon – we need bold, proactive investments in their protection and recovery. This bill also allocates funds for wildlife stewardship, for the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund, anti-poaching efforts, wildlife connectivity, and invasive species control – which further bolster wildlife conservation in our state.

HB 2977 would do just that by providing a steady, sustainable source of funds to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to recover Oregon's most imperiled species, habitat, and enhance biodiversity – all of which contribute substantially to Oregon's tourism and outdoor recreation economy.

Please support HB 2977 today.

Sincerely,

Rosemary Furfey