

Submitter: Catherine de Rivera  
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 recover Oregon's most imperiled fish, wildlife, and habitats, and to protect Oregon invading species that can harm our waterways and other habitats as well as industries.

I am proud to be living in our incredible state, with its diverse array of flora and fauna, and habitats that support them. Unfortunately, a variety of impacts, including biological invasions, climate change, and habitat conversion, put their future at risk. Already almost 300 of our species are categorized as having greatest conservation need and 11 of our habitats are categorized as 'conservation concern'. Oregon's organisms and habitats are fundamental to many Oregon industries and the health and well-being of us Oregonians.

To ensure all species and habitats thrive in Oregon – we need bold, proactive investments in their recovery. The bill also allocates funds for wildlife stewardship, Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund, anti-poaching efforts, wildlife connectivity and invasive species control – which further bolster wildlife conservation in the state. HB 2977 provides 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.

Please support HB 2977 today.

Sincerely,  
Catherine de Rivera