

Submitter: Amelie Stovall
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4134

Written Testimony in Support of HB 4134 (1.25% for Wildlife)
State of Oregon

Dear Members of the Legislature,

My name is Amelie, and I am writing in strong support of HB 4134, the 1.25% for Wildlife bill. I hold an Honors Bachelor of Science in Environmental Sciences from Oregon State University and have worked in research-based conservation and wildlife rehabilitation throughout Oregon. My academic and professional experiences have shown me the critical need for stable, proactive funding to protect wildlife and the ecosystems that sustain them.

During my time at Oregon State University, I conducted research focused on avian species and conservation techniques, gaining firsthand experience with the scientific and logistical challenges of protecting wildlife in a rapidly changing environment. Beyond academic research, I have worked in conservation and wildlife rehabilitation with Think Wild and Beaver Works Oregon, where I witnessed the tangible consequences of habitat loss, increased human-wildlife conflict, and insufficient long-term resources for wildlife care and recovery.

My undergraduate honors thesis, which was submitted to and accepted by the Oregon State University Honors College, examined sustainable tourism and evaluated the potential of expanding tourism-related taxes to offset the environmental impacts of tourism activity. That work emphasized an important principle: when people benefit from Oregon's natural beauty and wildlife, we must also invest in protecting the systems that make those experiences possible.

HB 4134 reflects this principle in a thoughtful, responsible way. By dedicating a small percentage of tourism revenue to wildlife conservation, this bill supports sustainable tourism while ensuring that Oregon's wildlife, habitats, and conservation professionals are not left to absorb the costs of increased visitation without adequate support. This approach aligns with both ecological science and long-term economic sustainability.

Oregon's wildlife is central to our state's identity, economy, and quality of life. HB 4134 represents a science-based, forward-thinking investment in a more resilient, conscious, and safe Oregon for wildlife and communities alike. I urge you to support this bill and take a meaningful step toward securing Oregon's conservation future.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Amelie Stovall
Prineville, OR