



**Oregon Chapter
Backcountry Hunters and Anglers**
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**FROM: The Oregon Chapter of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
TO: The House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources
SUBJECT: In Support of HB3187**

Chair Witt and committee members,

The undersigned Oregon-based conservation organizations and those with Oregon members or offices write to convey our **strong support of HB3187**.

Oregonians share extreme pride in the idea that our public lands support healthy populations of fish and wildlife. These resources, our shared wealth, benefit all citizens of this state. HB 3187's sole purpose is to educate all Oregonians on the wealth of natural resources we all share, how it is managed in the *public trust* and how that management is funded. Hunters and Anglers have taken great pride in funding the North American Model of wildlife conservation and have done so since the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 669-669i (1937) and have contributed the overwhelming majority of funds related to the administration and management of wildlife at both the state and federal level. In Oregon today only 12% of residents fish and only 7% self-report as having participated in hunting yet more than 90% of funding for the management of Oregon's Wildlife comes from this Heritage Sporting Community. While the resulting sense of stewardship that this cultivates remains a source of pride, the reality is wildlife management is more complicated than it has ever been, and Oregon's fish and wildlife require more diverse funding pathways in order to wether the challenges posed by continued development, habitat degradation, climate change, increased recreation, population growth, disease and invasive species.

If implemented, HB3187 would share the egalitarian principles that created the North American wildlife conservation model and amplify the importance of the mechanisms that fund these resources.

For the ORBHA Board, its members and the representatives of the undersigned Conservation organizations, it's important that the public better understand the great impact and narrow scope of "Hunter and angler dollars" and through education, cultivate sense of stewardship for the incredible natural wealth that we share as Oregonians.

**With Gratitude,
the Oregon Chapter Board of Backcountry Hunters and Anglers**

The Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

ORBHA Contact for HB3187:

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Backcountry Hunters & Anglers is the voice for our public lands, waters and wildlife.