

Dear Ways and Means Committee,

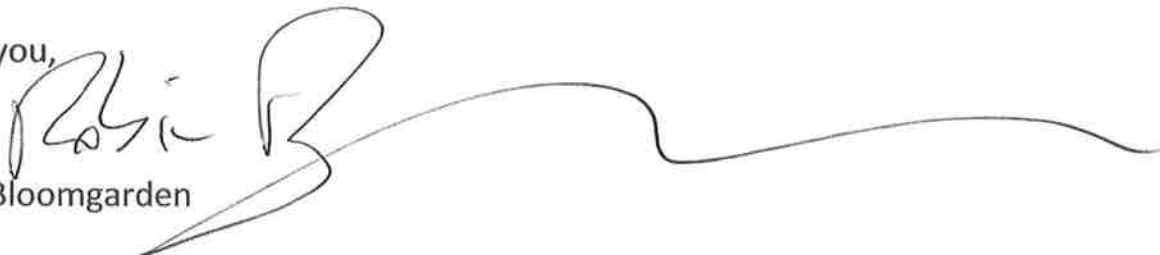
2-26-17

My name is Robin Bloomgarden and I have more than one issue I'm revved up about. I was not able to make testimony in Eugene last Saturday due to the crowds already signed up. So here is my testimony:

1. Oregon MUST stop cutting public services while corporations do not pay their fair share to support infrastructure and services that THEY use.
2. NO NEW TAX breaks for corporations! Anywhere.
3. FIX PERS!!!!!! No amount of pushing it down the road will make it go away. Take a stand!
4. NO to raising the salaries of Judges again! These folks make a decent living with great hours and time off (all receive upwards of \$100,000 per year with perks). It's time to think about the working families who do not come close to those wages.
5. Make TARGETED investments that HELP to mitigate Climate Change. SB 557 (The Clean Energy Jobs Bill) would bring money into the budget to help make the change, equitably, as well as working wage jobs.
6. Don't let timber and BIG energy industries dictate what the rest of us should put up with, anymore!
7. And lastly, we do not have enough money right now to please every worthy group that needs it, because of Measure 5, the stupid KICKER, and corporations who don't pay to play for Oregonians.

Something's got to change soon or we will continue downhill as an insignificant poor state that will be left behind. You can make a huge difference with your choices this year.

Thank you,



Robin Bloomgarden

Pre School  
IN EVERY  
Public School  
Decent Salaries  
for Pre School  
Teachers

June  
Beck  
EVS

# Oregon Head Start Budget Request

- The Oregon Head Start Association supports the Governor's Recommended Budget that maintains current funding levels for OPK programs.
- The Oregon Head Start Association supports a new investment of 15 million to increase funding to achieve pay equity for Pre-school teachers. This would allow OPK to hire and retain qualified educators by offering compensation that is competitive with other early learning providers such as full day kindergarten and Pre-school Promise.
- The Oregon Head Start Association supports an increase in the state funding to pay for an additional 400 slots to work to place students on wait list in programs across the state.

This Room is way too small !!!  
no thought was made towards disabled  
people, especially wheel chairs !!  
unequal access for public comment.

People in wheel chairs have been left  
blocking the one Isle they can access. And-  
people end up standing in front of seated  
disabled people blocking their view.

People with walkers were forced to navigate  
stairs where people were sitting blocking  
access. VERY dangerous !!

If there was an emergency, and people  
needed to exit quickly, people would be tripping  
over each other and disabled people would  
have a much harder time exiting the room.  
especially if they have to do the stairs.

Disability access was completely  
inadequate - and equal disability  
access was completely ignored !!

Marie Anderson

*Testimony by David W. Oaks, February 25, 2017,  
To Ways and Means Committee, Oregon  
Legislature*

My name is David W. Oaks. I broke my neck 4 years ago climbing a ladder for our cat. I have 10 disabilities. This can happen to any of us or our loved ones. I urge the Ways and Means Committee to continue to invest in us Oregonians with extreme disabilities to win our independent living in our own homes.

Our State supports an amazing Senior & Disability Services homecare team, all SEIU members. They work for me 85 hours a week, allowing me to live in our home in Eugene. Corporations in Oregon pay the lowest taxes in the USA. We Oregonians must decide: Should corporations pay their fair share? Or should we force Oregonians with severe challenges into expensive nursing homes? This would cost the taxpayer much more in the long run. I instead,

with your continued support, will return to the workforce to be a taxpayer again. Our State motto is: She Flies With Her Own Wings.

I worked 40 years as an advocate for people with disabilities. Then I had my accident. My splendid wife, Debra, said that I would be put in a nursing home over her dead body. You can save two Oregonians for the price of one!

Seriously, the moment I fell I began to mainly rely on other Oregonians for my independence. I never had to do that before. You came through. Thank you! Whether you are conservative or liberal, you care. That is revolutionary. It is time for elected leaders to be revolutionaries now! Revolutionize our tax system, so that we are not dead last in corporate taxes!

*David W. Oaks blogs at [www.davidwoaks.com](http://www.davidwoaks.com)*



# — Fern Ridge School District — Oregonians Want More from Our Schools, Not Less\*

\*According to Oregon Rising, a 2016 survey of 10,894 Oregonians.

The decision legislators make about Oregon's 2017-19 K-12 budget will have a significant, lasting impact on **Fern Ridge School District** students.



Governor's Proposed Budget

**\$8.02**  
BILLION



Maintains Current Programs

**\$8.40**  
BILLION



Stable, Some Progress

**\$8.93**  
BILLION



Progress Toward  
Quality Education

**\$9.97**  
BILLION



The Fern Ridge School District would be required to cut more than \$1.2 million at this funding level. We would be forced to have larger class sizes and reduce staff across the board.

- Significantly Increased class sizes—more blended classes at Elementary level.
- Administrator, certified, and classified staff cuts
- Loss of elective classes and reduction in educational programs.

This funding level is still inadequate for Fern Ridge School District. We would still be looking at a budget cut of \$866k. With this type of deficit higher class sizes and staff cuts across the board would still be unavoidable.

- Increased class sizes
- Administrator, certified, and classified staff cuts
- Loss of elective classes

A budget of 8.93B unfortunately still puts our district at a deficit of \$337k. This funding would not allow us to maintain current staff or the already large class sizes.

- Reduces the amount of staff cuts
- Prevents Progress

A funding of \$9.97B would allow our district to have small class sizes, allowing more individual attention. It would adequately allow us to add back electives that have been cut in recent years and possibly offer more needed programs for to make each child successful.

- Small Class Sizes
- The capability to offer more programs and electives
- No cuts



oregon-rising.org





Hello Members of the Committee

My name is Jennifer Snyder I am here to urge the legislature to continue funding the DHS services for seniors and people with disabilities. The services are essential for me as a senior on medicare and social security and for my great niece who has intellectual and developmental disabilities. She requires assistance 24 hours a day.

Oregon's choices in the past to keep corporate taxes the lowest of all the states have contributed to our current funding crisis, but not to the well-being of Oregon's people. In the past, when legislatures have chosen to cut social services rather than increase corporate taxes the results have been devastating. This year please make better choices.

This year my family hangs in the balance. My great niece lives with me and other family members. We are able to provide some of the care she needs. The SDS and ODDS programs make it possible for homecare and personal support workers to assist her. Since she has been in service, her progress has been amazing. Because she has been getting services she can go to a store and buy something she likes. She can enjoy the bustle and beauty of Saturday Market. She likes to have her nails done and to make collages from magazines. For her, these tasks require the attention and abilities of other people who can support her cognitively and physically. This care is only available to my great niece because of Oregon's medical and home and community based services. Without these services our family would be broken up and my great niece would become a neglected and forgotten soul in an overcrowded, ill-supervised setting of strangers. As an Oregonian, she deserves better.

In closing, I ask that you choose to support the strength and wellness of families like mine over the greed and excess of some of the world's largest corporations. But, we also need you to adequately fund all education and social services. We depend on educated professionals to be at work without worrying about their family's health and safety. We think the choice is clear: it's time that the world's largest corporations pay their fair share rather than Oregonians suffer because we choose to be last in corporate taxes.

Thank you for your attention.

2:26 min

Larry Schmitz Testimony for Eugene Ways & Means Town Hall Feb 2107

My name is Larry Schmitz. I am here to urge the legislature to maintain or expand levels of funding for the Independent Choices Program which allows people with disabilities to live in their own homes rather than nursing homes. I care for my wife Donna who had a disabling stroke eleven years ago.

Because Oregon is dead last in corporate taxes in the nation, important programs like Independent Choices are at risk of being cut.

Without the Independent Choices Program we would live in constant fear of financial ruin in case of medical emergencies. In my wife's words, I am the very best caregiver for her. If I could not be her paid caregiver under ICP, we would never be able to afford a full time caregiver while I worked outside our home.

I think the choice is clear. Additional revenue must be found in order to avoid cuts which affect real people like me and my wife Donna. Thank you so much for this opportunity to share my story, and thank you in advance for continuing the funding for services to people with disabilities.

**Romero / Miller**

P.O. Box 5907

Eugene, OR 97405

hirb2017@gmail.com

January 2017

The Health Insurance Revenue Bonds® (HIRB®) program

*"You never change things by fighting the existing reality. To change something, build a new model, which makes the existing model obsolete."*

Buckminster Fuller 1895–1983

Architect, Systems Theorist, Author, Designer and Inventor

1. Don't confound political philosophy with principles of insurance or public financings.
2. Every insurance plan, regardless of the risk that is insured, is a single payer plan. The only difference is the name of the payer. e.g. government, public trust, non-profit or for-profit insurer.
3. Competition has not and does not reduce health care costs. There has been competition amongst health insurance plans for generations. If competition could reduce health care costs, we would not be facing such a profound socio-economic problem. By definition "competition" is adversarial and customer switching creates friction. Risk pooling is inherently aggregating treating largely populations identically. The HIRB program is the competition.
4. The public policy supporting the HIRB program is the same public policy long supporting revenue bond financings for many other public infrastructure projects (e.g. schools, water & sewer systems, waste water treatment plants, port facilities, mass transportation, airports, non-profit hospitals and more.)
5. The HIRB program involves restructuring and reallocation of monetary contributions presently being spent on health insurance benefits "across the board" within a State.
6. HIRB is counter –intuitive and does not fit conventional wisdom or practices in health financing or public financing - The HIRB model illustrates borrowing substantial principal amounts of debt; repaying the debt with interest; add in new revenue source; fund and paid for all health care benefit liabilities and HIRB program operational expenses, resulting in spending less in total without accruing a deficit, mortgaging the future or otherwise kicking the can down the road.
7. HIRB is designed to be optimal and implemented at the level of State government. This makes it grass-root and more manageable. Let the States fulfill their historical role as laboratories of experimentation lead and managed by the electorate of the State implementing the HIRB program.
8. Security for the Health Insurance Revenue Bonds and the health insurance benefits is strong.
9. The HIRB Program is entirely self-contained and self-liquidating.

We leave our offer open, to debate and defend the HIRB program before any audience in any public forum. Please read our new book: ***Health Financing without Deficits; Reform that sidesteps political gridlock***, available at *Business Expert Press.com; Amazon, Barnes & Noble and other booksellers.*

**HEALTH INSURANCE REVENUE BOND® / HIRB®**

**IF YOU CAN'T BEND THE CURVE ON HEALTH CARE COST, THEN BEND THE CURVE ON THE COST OF FUNDING®**



**Updated Comparison of Statewide Budget Items for Student Services and State Testing between 2010 & 2014** (2-24-17)

***In 2010 Ron Saxton priced OAKS computerized, standardized tests at \$3.5 million. Next, Smarter Balanced was implemented in addition to OAKS Science, the ELPA and kindergarten exams, leading to an explosion of state mandated standardized testing expenses at the cost of programs that directly benefit students. Rachel Rich, retired educator, rbeckley58@gmail.com***

***A comparison of pre- and post-Smarter Balanced school budgets shows test-related expenditures borne by the districts themselves rose by \$86 million from the start of test development to the last year of complete budget records: 2010-14. In addition, over the same four years, the ODE underwent massive expansion in personnel, training and infrastructure to the tune of \$202 million. Accordingly, the ODE bill for test fees jumped from \$3.5 to \$27.5 million annually. Yet the state increased key student services by only half a million, barely keeping up with inflation. Sadly, psychological services, Title I reading assistance and talented and gifted programs lost \$7 million, while teacher professional development unrelated to testing dropped by \$11 million. Testing is now grossly out of proportion to learning.***

<b>Budget items for key student services:</b>	<b>Statewide gain 2010-14: \$505,003</b>
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1113 – Elementary extra-curricular	\$50,059
1122 – Middle school extra-curricular	\$3912
1132 – High school extra-curricular	\$160,875
1140 – Pre- K	\$226,488
<b>1210 – Talented and Gifted</b>	<b>- \$196,181 loss</b>
1220 – Restrictive programs for disabled	\$442,655
1250 – Less restrictive programs for disabled	\$1,006,129
1260 – Early Intervention (SPED)	\$974,795
1271 – Remediation	\$518,935
<b>1272 – Title I</b>	<b>-\$6,228,523 loss</b>
1291 – English Language Learners	\$467,229
1400 – Summer school	\$4120
2130 – Health services	\$691,049
2120 – Guidance services	\$1,560,981
<b>2140 – Psychological services</b>	<b>- \$376,844 loss</b>
2150 – Speech pathology and audiology	\$919,983
2190 – Services Directions and Student Support	\$285,341

<b>Test related expenditures borne by districts</b>	<b>Statewide gain 2010-14: \$86,055,679</b>
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2210 – Improvement of instruction – typically PD for Smarter B.	\$4,084,000
2660 – Technology services – now typically for testing	\$14,430,357
2240 – Staff development (paid) typically for testing	\$982,613 (Test focused staff mtgs. not included)
2630 – Information Services - manage increased SB data	\$1,500,554
2230 – Assessment and testing - beyond state mandated tests	\$614,948
2670 – Records management	\$93,225
121 – Substitutes-licensed – act as proctors	\$3,887,787
122 – Substitutes-classified – prepare for and proctor tests	\$2,594,894
470 – Computer software – system updates for testing	\$26,804,376
480 – Computer hardware - additional computers	- \$1,095,277 (offset by grants)
380 – Technical services - typically for testing	\$8,262,137
390 – Other tech. services - typically for testing	\$23,896,065
<b>310 – Non-test-related professional development</b>	<b>Statewide loss: -\$10,830,571</b>

<b>Districts' and schools' expenses</b>	<b>\$86 million over 4 yrs. of available records</b>
<b>ODE Contract with AIR for administering test</b>	<b>\$27.5 million annually</b>
<b>ODE Grant for developing Smarter Balanced</b>	<b>\$202 million over 4 yrs. for additional ODE personnel,</b>
<b>4 year grant expired, but costs continue</b>	<b>training, technology, data management</b>

**No records yet on costs to classroom FTE or course offerings.** School personnel have shifted upward to the ODE and sideways to school test coordinators, data managers, etc., further increasing class size and reducing electives.

**Estimated state mandated standardized testing costs since 2010 – details next page -**

**\$414-616 million!**

25/02/2017

My name is Brandy-Lee Ross. I am a veteran of the U.S. Army along with a parent of a child who attended Head Start at age four. My daughter Dakota is now going on nine years old. I am currently a parent/community two year State Representative at Oregon Head Start Association of Lane County. (HSOLC) HSOLC has given me the opportunity to thrive as a parent leader representing our community.

I was a homeless vet. I served in the U.S. Army. My daughter attended Head Start at age four, Head Start helped my daughter Dakota and myself get back on our feet, giving us the resources needed. The VA never helped with this.

While my daughter Dakota was in Head Start she was diagnosed with being developmentally delayed, sensory processing disorder, ADHD along with PTSD and manic depressive. I am grateful Head Start recognized these disabilities, so my daughter could have a head start on life, and receive further help to make sure she will be successful in life. Going now on nine years old, Dakota's IEP is decreasing in needing constant services due to her disabilities being diagnosed and taken care of at such a young age.

Head Start is the foundation of our future of our children who will lead us in the future. This is important to fund our future. We need to start at the foundation to build up our community. Investing in Head Start is investing in Oregon's future. Leading studies have shown lower crime rate in Head Start adults.

A human's brain develops like a sponge between birth to five years old. What is taught in those years, will stay and build the foundation of their future.

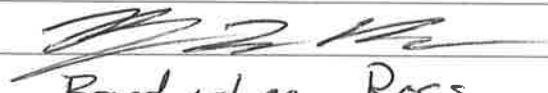
My daughter witnessed abuse from my battle, now my ex husband, at such a young age. Due to my ex husband's PTSD from his time spent in the military. I always believe to never leave a fallen comrade. Dakota will see this as normal due to being so young. The point is, it has made an impact on her life such as Head Start. (1)

250220/17

Head Start has 1,777 students on the wait list. Only 59.3% of children who are eligible are being served. This is families with less than 130% of Federal poverty level.

Head Start needs \$15 million increase to pay teachers - to keep teachers from going to public schools. We need 400 more slots.

Thank You



Brandy-Lee Ross

Disabled Veteran



My name is Diana Evens and I am a Personal Support Worker who cares for my severely disabled son, Ezekiel, in our home. We have a funding crisis in Oregon that is due to a lack of revenue caused by Oregon's choice to be 50th in the nation in corporate taxes. We now have a new choice . Ask large and out of state corporations to pay their fair in taxes or cut vital programs that Oregonians like my son count on. Ezekiel requires protective supervision and is unable to even write his own name. As a Personal Support worker, I am paid to care for him , which actually saves the state money as compared to a nursing or convalescent home. Today, you as lawmakers have a choice : continue to allow the lowest corporate taxes in the country or to fund programs like the one my son so desperately need.



LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF LANE COUNTY

February 25, 2017

Senator Richard Devlin, Representative Nancy Nathanson, and members  
Joint Legislative Committee on Ways and Means

The League of Women Voters of Lane County urges the 2017 legislative assembly to prioritize revenue and tax reform. We hope this goal would be read as revenue *adequacy* and tax *stability*. On the spending side of the budget equation, you are definitely forced to make difficult or bad decisions because of inadequacy on the revenue side of the budget. This is a situation that the Legislature should work to overcome, adopting revenue strategies to meet the state's needs.

Much has changed in Oregon since voters passed Measure 5 in 1990 and essentially handed the bill for K-12 education to the state. One could hardly argue that education has improved since then. Our high school graduation rates are abysmal, and generally speaking, Oregonians know this. Hence, the passage of measure 98. You will remember that the League of Women Voters were vigorous supporters of Measure 97. We supported the measure primarily because of the state's pressing need for additional revenue to provide an adequate level of services, to reduce reliance on student tuition, to fund high school drop-out prevention strategies, and many other priorities.

You can count on the League to support new revenue proposals to address state needs. If education--kindergarten through college--is going to help fuel our economic engine, leadership from the Oregon business community will be essential. As you examine options, how will the business community share in supporting public services? Opponents of Measure 97 need to recognize their responsibility to be part of the solution.

The Co-Chairs Existing Resources Budget Framework document lists the unattractive but likely cutback choices. The League has just completed a study of post secondary education in Oregon, exploring the complexity of related program areas as well as the need to rely more and more on student tuition. The League of Women Voters urges you to prioritize education. Also, do not leave money on the table. That is, try to provide sufficient matching funds, to capitalize on federal or other funds, particularly in the areas of education and public safety, to maximize possibilities for students and other program participants.

Try to protect the most vulnerable among us. Please send us a revenue proposal to supplement existing resources. If you have any questions about the League's position on the state budget, please do not hesitate to call me or Norman Turrill, president of the League of Women Voters of Oregon, or Alice Bartelt, the League's Action Chair.

Linda Lynch, President

*The League promotes political responsibility through informed and active participation in government and acts on member selected and researched governmental issues. The League does not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.*

338 West 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 101, Eugene, OR 97401 541.343.7917 [league@lwvlc.org](mailto:league@lwvlc.org) [www.lwvlc.org](http://www.lwvlc.org)

Testimony before the  
Oregon Legislative Assembly's Joint Ways and Means Committee  
Town Hall, February 25, 2017 Eugene, Oregon

I am Grady Tarbutton, an Oregon registered voter and AARP volunteer who lives in Oregon State House District 13 and Senate District 7.

I am here to speak in favor of a balanced approach to solve Oregon's Budget shortfall and in support of Oregon's vulnerable seniors and persons with disabilities, who are in need of home delivered meals, Oregon Project Independence and Medicaid funded long-term supports and services.

The Oregon system of care is built on the principal that Oregon's most vulnerable seniors and persons with disabilities deserve to live with independence, choice, and dignity. It includes critical policy and program elements that support them in their own homes, increases their quality of life and their longevity, and improves their health. The proposed budget cuts will affect my friends, family and neighbors, some of whom will need to rely on these services in future years.

I retired recently after working for seniors for almost 40 years in four states. I have provided support to my family financially and by being a caregiver for over twenty years. I know that Oregon's system of care is one of the most efficient and effective in the nation. It returns federal funds paid by Oregon taxpayers to the state, because 70% of the program funds comes from provider taxes and Federal matching funds. It supports our local economy by creating jobs and supporting small private business, such as adult foster home and private caregivers. I encourage the continuation of the Legislature's long-standing investment in these supports, which will be eroded by the proposed budget cuts.

Most importantly, because of good policy and program design, the Legislature's long-term investment in the programs has built the community's confidence in quality services. I know from personal and professional experience that these coordinated State and Local services encourage the most vulnerable to access services early, when it makes the most difference. These essential services not only improves quality of life, it also lowers the future cost of care. Reducing support for these services today produces higher costs tomorrow. And, the proposed budget cuts would not only erode services today for the current generation, it would erode confidence that they would be available for future generations.

I encourage this committee to seek smart solutions to this budget crisis. Thank you for your time.

 2/25/2017



Oregon State Legislature Ways and Means Committee Public Hearing  
Eugene, Oregon  
February 25, 2017

Statement in support of supplemental funding for OSU Statewide Public Services- 2017-2018

I am David Rankin. My wife and I own 194 acres of forestland along the South Slough of the Siuslaw River in western Lane County. We bought the property with another couple in 1974. We built our home there and moved onto the property in 1976. Our two sons grew up there during their middle school and high school years.

Our efforts toward forest management up to 1998 consisted mainly to let things grow, keep up with Mother Nature when she was logging for us and to do no harm.

In 1998 I took advantage of OSU Lane County Extension Service and completed Basic Forestry and Master Woodland Manager courses. With these under my belt and good prices for Red Alder we began harvesting timber products. The learning curve was somewhat steep because once the tree is on the ground, the fun begins. Having found log buyers one then needs to yard the logs, produce an acceptable product, transport the material and stay safe while doing these operations. OSU Extension presented valuable workshops and programs that assisted us in making wise decisions. Over the years we have taken advantage of Tree Schools and tree farm tours in Lane, Douglas, Benton, Linn, Coos, Jackson, Clackamas, Washington, Grant and Baker counties. All were supported or sponsored by the Extension Service.

We have recently completed a major harvest of 24 acres which produced approximately 630,000 board feet of timber, mostly conifers but Red Alder as well. In this harvest a Riparian Management Zone 150 feet wide along the South Slough Estuary was retained. The ground was replanted with 7000 Douglas Fir and 1000 Western Red Cedar seedlings. This harvest and subsequent operations would not have been undertaken without valuable assistance and education from OSU Extension.

I ask you to fund OSU Statewide Public Services with the supplemental funding requested. The value is there for all woodland owners in Oregon.

One more item that may be of interest is the fact that our experience and skills in forest management gained through OSU Extension have resulted in Rankin Woodlands being chosen as the Outstanding Oregon Tree Farmers for 2016.

We feel very fortunate to have this honor bestowed upon us. We are indebted to fellow woodland owners, OSU faculty and Extension agents. It has been through them that we learned what we needed to know to sustainably manage our property for wood products, clean water, wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities.

David and Dianne Rankin  
Rankin Woodlands, LLC  
85668 South Slough Road  
Westlake, OR 97493

**Testimony before the  
Joint Committee on Ways & Means  
Eugene, February 25, 2017**

We frequently hear government officials acknowledge we **cannot** build our way out of congestion. Politicians acknowledge the need to reduce carbon footprint. Our state has identified and adopted **carbon reduction** as an important goal.

But when proposals are brought forward, they are usually for more lanes of pavement, pavement generating more traffic, more congestion and an expanding carbon footprint.

In order to address congestion in areas like the Rose Quarter government officials have proposed more pavement. Does anyone in this room truly believe that spending \$350 million to expand freeways in the Rose Quarter will solve congestion?

It will not. It will increase traffic and shift choke points to other areas, as well as drain resources from other parts of the state.

As the Oregon Department of Energy concluded more than two decades ago, there is no way our state can achieve an efficient transportation system as long as the only source of dedicated transportation funds is locked into expanding roads.

One option is a carbon tax, similar to what is working in British Columbia, and similar to what is proposed in the State of Washington, to move Oregon forward.

We need an adequate and reliable source of revenue that allows elected officials to address transportation needs with the *best* alternative available.

Oregon also needs to catch up with both California and Washington, states investing in effective transportation solutions including improved intercity rail and public transportation. Another funding option is dedicating diesel tax railroads pay to the state's passenger rail program – a far more cost effective way of meeting transportation needs in the Willamette Valley.

One existing channel that helps us address transportation needs is ConnectOregon. ConnectOregon facilitates public-private partnerships to resolve needs throughout our state.

Jon Nuxoll, Eugene

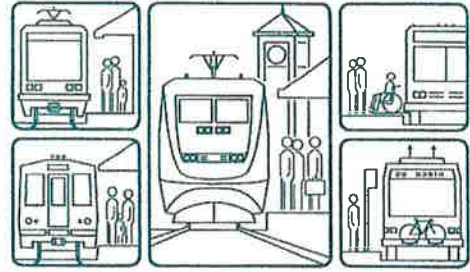


President, Association of Oregon Rail and Transit Advocates  
800 NW 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 253  
P. O. Box 2772  
Portland, Oregon 97208

# Association of Oregon Rail and Transit Advocates

AORTA • P. O. Box 2772 • Portland, Oregon 97208-2772

Also known as OreARP • Oregon Association of Railway Passengers



September 23, 2016

Joint Interim Committee on Transportation Preservation and Modernization  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Legislator:

As you consider a transportation package to present to the 2017 Legislature, the Association of Oregon Rail and Transit Advocates (AORTA) urges you to consider a stable funding source for non-highway transportation. Oregon's Rail Passenger Program in particular has been limited by having to compete for general funds. AORTA urges that the committee consider the following remedies to ensure a balanced, efficient transportation system that will meet the needs of a growing state:

- **Carbon tax.** AORTA supports a carbon tax to fund ALL modes of transportation, a tax fairer than the current gas tax and meets 21<sup>st</sup> century environmental and infrastructure needs.
- **Dedicating railroad diesel-fuel tax to rail improvements that help both freight and passenger service.** This extends Oregon's highway-funding model to rail.
- **Dedicating part of the room tax to passenger rail/public transit.** This tax is intended to promote tourism; already, Oregon City and Oakridge tourism officials are promoting rail as a key part of expanding or developing bicycle tourism in those communities.
- **Rural connectivity.** Support for existing and expanded rural connecting services to passenger rail.

Rail funding makes up 0.21 percent of the ODOT budget, less than the cost of most interchanges, and far less than adding highway and freeway lanes. Oregon is overdue for a comprehensive look at all forms of transportation, and we urge the committee to remember that rail is an integral, essential part of that.

Respectfully yours,

David Arnold, La Grande  
President, AORTA  
<pickandbow@aol.com>  
www.aortarail.org

Jon Nuxoll, Eugene  
Vice President, AORTA  
<jonnuxoll@usa.net>  
www.aortarail.org







**Shangri-La**  
Enriching Lives Together

Saturday, February 24, 2017

Dear Senator Devlin, Representative Nathanson and other Members of the Joint Ways & Means Committee:

My name is Kendra Morgan, and I serve as a member of the Executive Team at Shangri La, a multi-faceted nonprofit human services organization, serving 7 counties in the Mid-Willamette Valley and along Oregon's central coast. I also serve as a board member for the Nonprofit Association of Oregon, a member of the TANF Alliance, as well as the Oregon Alliance for Children's Programs.

Just this past week, I read an article highlighting cities across the United States with remarkable growth and positive change. Out of those featured, 4 cities in Oregon (Bend, Salem, Portland, and Eugene) were featured in the top 10. While this was encouraging to me, it also raised another concern. You see, this past week, I have met with several staff, who have shared their stories in the human services field and the challenges they face due to low wages.

During one meeting with a staff named Cassidy, she shared that she was previously working with Starbucks, but learned of our services through her volunteer work and decided to quit her job and come to work for us. She shared with me that she quickly discovered that her wages and tips at Starbucks surpassed her wages at Shangri La and found herself unable to support herself, which left her with a tough decision. She could either quit her job with Shangri La, a position that supports her chosen career pathway, or move back in with her parents and continue working for our agency. Thankfully Cassidy has chosen to continue on with our organization, but there are many others who aren't afforded this same option.

In fact, there are people avoiding a career in the nonprofit human services sector, not because they aren't passionate or interested, but because they know they are unable to earn a family living wage in this field. My friend Jamie is a perfect example of this. She is one of the most compassionate, gifted people I know and

#### CONNECT WITH US

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Salem, OR 97302  
503-581-1732

West Salem  
Youth and Family Services  
1661 Edgewater St NW  
Suite #200  
Salem, OR 97304  
503-967-6318

Eugene  
2001 Franklin Blvd  
Suite #3  
Eugene, OR 97403  
541-344-1121

Florence  
85188 Hwy 101 S  
PO Box 158  
Florence, OR 97439  
541-997-8028

Newport  
141 NW 11th St  
Newport, OR 97365  
541-265-4015

[WWW.SHANGRILAOREGON.ORG](http://WWW.SHANGRILAOREGON.ORG)

she recently decided to forgo her original career pursuit in the mental health field, because she recognized it would not afford her to adequately provide for her children and would leave her with educational debt she couldn't afford to pay back.

These are just two stories in a sea of many. I am here today to advocate for service rates that pay a living wage for the critical human services offered across the state. I am also requesting that you support bills related to the expansion of affordable housing, as the lack of affordable housing impacts not only the consumers we support, but it also would go a long way in helping those providing valuable services to our most vulnerable citizens.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my concerns, please know that Shangri La is a partner in this work and open to opportunities to be part of the solution.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'KM' followed by a large loop, representing Kendra Morgan.

Kendra Morgan  
Director of Strategic Initiatives  
(503) 910-2517

## *Testimony by David W. Oaks, February 25, 2017*

My name is David W. Oaks. I broke my neck 4 years ago climbing a ladder for our cat. I have 10 disabilities. This can happen to any of us or our loved ones. I urge the Ways and Means Committee to continue to invest in us Oregonians with extreme disabilities to win our independent living in our own homes.

Our State supports an amazing Senior & Disability Services homecare team. They work for me 85 hours a week, allowing me to live in our home in Eugene. Corporations in Oregon pay the lowest taxes in the USA. We Oregonians must decide: Should corporations pay their fair share? Or should we force Oregonians with severe challenges into expensive nursing homes? This would cost the taxpayer much more in the long run. I instead, with your continued support, will return to the workforce to be a taxpayer again.

Our State motto is: *She Flies With Her Own Wings.*

I worked 40 years as an advocate for people with disabilities. Then I had my accident. My splendid wife, Debra, said that I would be put in a nursing home over her dead body. You can save two Oregonians for the price of one!

Seriously, the moment I fell I began to mainly rely on other Oregonians for my independence. I never had to do that before. You came through. Thank you! Whether you are conservative or liberal, you care. That is revolutionary. It is time for elected leaders to be revolutionaries now! Revolutionize our tax system, so that we are not dead last in corporate taxes!

*David W. Oaks blogs at [www.davidwoaks.com](http://www.davidwoaks.com)*

# WHAT WE PAY TAXES TO DO

*Tune: "My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean"*

For years we've worked hard and paid taxes,  
And helped to make Oregon great.  
Now Rich Corporations make money here  
And send it all out of the state!

They're using our Roads and our Bridges,  
Our Cops and our Parks and our Schools.  
We pay for it all, they pay nothing –  
I guess they must think that we're fools!

**CHORUS: I pay my Taxes,  
And I'll bet that you pay your Taxes too!  
Big Corporate Welfare's  
NOT what we pay Taxes to do!!!**

These big guys pay less tax in Oregon  
Than in all 49 other states!  
They promise that somehow we'll benefit –  
Instead they're bankrupting our state!

## **CHORUS**

We can't afford Corporate Welfare!  
It's time to stand up and get tough!  
They need to start hauling their own weight:  
They've had a Free Ride Long Enough!

## **CHORUS**

*Dorothy Attneave  
Eugene*

I want to thank the committee for reaching out to the community today. My name is ES and I am an employee of the Oregon State Hospital in Junction City. I am a member of SEIU and strongly support their position against closure of the hospital, but I am here today as a private citizen.

In announcing her proposal to shutter the Junction City campus, Governor Brown stated that the state should do its best to ensure people with mental illness live in the most independent care settings possible while receiving the appropriate treatment. I couldn't agree more. But most of the people who come into the JC hospital have debilitating illness for which a hospital level of care is necessary until they are able to interact safely in the community. Treatment teams develop patient-centered clinical plans to stabilize the underlying mental illness as well as any co-existing diagnoses such as substance abuse or traumatic brain injury. But, also, from the first day a patient is admitted, the teams work closely with county agencies around the state to define what specific services that individual is likely to need when he or she is released from the hospital. Patients are discharged to the community when they can be successful with a lower level of care.

As a taxpayer, I am baffled by the notion that Oregon saw the need to expand the reach of the state psychiatric hospital system, to serve an at-risk demographic of people who were being left behind by our healthcare system, and then, almost as soon as that was up and running very successfully in Junction City, would now say, "oh, never mind, let's pull out and put our money elsewhere?" Another part of the "sell" for building the hospital was jobs creation but this hospital did not just create jobs, it is giving hundreds of people in this community meaningful work. Closing the hospital would sever a lifeline to hundreds of Oregonians with mental illness, slash hundreds of jobs, and create profound issues in our communities, which will be left with the same problem we started with, the need for hospital-level of mental health care. Why would we walk away?

What concerns me the most, though, is that those with the most to lose, who are most at risk, are the very people who cannot be here today, people who have mental health needs that far exceed what is available to them in the community. Without the level of care provided at JC, many of these patients will end up on the streets or locked away in the corrections system – not because our communities don't care, but because they are ill equipped to respond to the acute and chronic aspects of serious mental illness at the magnitude we see across Oregon. Even if strong community-based mental health services could be implemented, though, they should work in tandem with the state hospital to provide a full compliment of mental health care, available for all Oregonians.

Finally, as an employee of the hospital, I am inspired by the care and compassion demonstrated by the staff in JC, every single day. Listen to the people here today, and if you haven't yet visited JC, please do. But please, don't close the doors.



CDDP & Brokerage Workload Model 95%  
Raise the Wage (Direct Support Professionals)  
Regional Family to Family Networks  
Protect the Fairview Housing Trust

# Support DD Services

Submitted  
as testimony:

Many people  
in our program  
were homeless  
before getting  
case management  
through I/DD Services.  
Please consider our  
legislative priorities.

Alexis Reed

Caillin Thompson

Michael Mills

Jennifer Dickens

Cathie Hurst

Debbie Warner

Susan Barnhart

www.oregoniddcoalition.org

## LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

**Everyone deserves to be a part of their community.**

People with Intellectual / Developmental Disabilities are most successful in their communities when they can access a variety of services that embrace the diversity of people's needs and goals across their lifespan. Yet budget cuts are jeopardizing the diversity of the Oregon I/DD system leaving it unable to meet the needs of people with I/DD.

The Oregon I/DD Coalition believes that for Oregonians with I/DD to be members of their communities, Oregon must properly fund Direct Support Professionals, housing options, family networks and case management.

### **Continued Service Funding Levels:**

Make Oregon stronger by continuing to invest in supports for Oregonians with Intellectual / Developmental Disabilities to live and work in their communities.

### **Direct Support Professionals:**

Fund a living wage to stabilize the DSP workforce that keeps citizens with I/DD healthy and safe while they live, learn, work and age in our communities.

### **Family to Family Networks:**

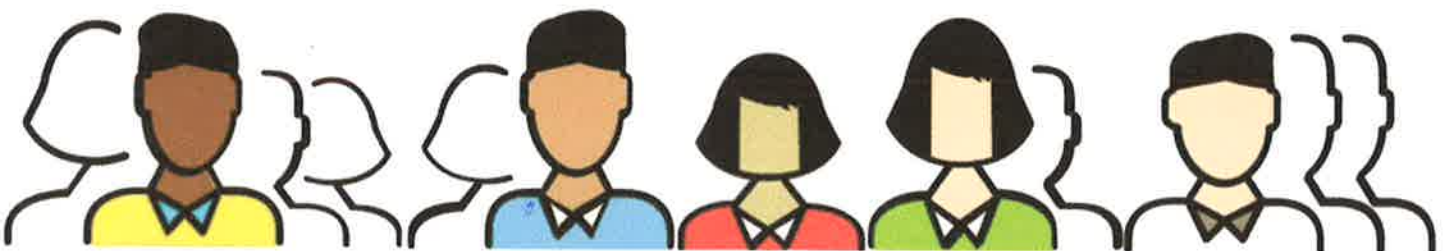
Fund the regional Family to Family Networks to strengthen families and communities as they work together to build sustainable support systems.

### **Case Management:**

Fund I/DD case management at 95% equity so that Oregonians with I/DD can remain safe and supported at home, work and in the community.

### **Fairview Housing Trust:**

Keep the promise of affordable, safe and accessible housing for people with I/DD by fully funding the Fairview Trust.



February 24, 2017

To whom it may concern;

My name is Linda Cramer and I am the adoptive mother to my disabled daughter. She was shaken twice at two and a half months old and both of her legs had been broken above the knees before that! She came into my foster home at three months of age; she was adopted at about four years old and is now twenty one years old. She is diagnosed with moderate brain damage (TBI) on her right side, which left her with Cerebral Palsy, left hemiparesis, blind in her left eye, with little use of her left hand and arm and she walks with a definite gait, probably because everything is smaller/shorter on her left side. She can no longer talk and is nowhere near her age mentally. Because of all of this and more, she cannot take care of herself and needs help 24/7.

When we started with the K Plan; Tyanna was given 469 hours of care, as per her assessment, to be given by any PSW including me. I was able to bill for the whole 469 hours a month, with which I was able to support us, since I am a single parent now. Last year, it was decided that no PSW could work more than fifty hours a week including family members. On top of that, I would have to be here if I hired another PSW to work with my daughter! I was told when the K Plan was implemented that this wasn't supposed to be my sole employment, but what choice do I have? I'm sixty five and a single parent to a disabled child/adult! I plan on keeping her home with me as long as I can, but that depends on keeping the

## **Our Revolution Lane County Elliott State Forest Resolution**

**Whereas** the Elliott State Forest is Oregon's oldest state forest. This coastal temperate rainforest of particular global significance has been owned by the people of Oregon since 1930. It contains 82,000 acres, including 40,000 acres of mature, unmanaged stands and some of the last remnants of Oregon's old growth, making it unique in the coastal range; and

**Whereas** the Elliott State Forest is home to at least 10 Endangered Species Act listed, proposed, and candidate species and over six dozen species of concern. It is critical for the protection and recovery of Oregon coastal Coho Salmon, supporting close to a quarter of the State's wild population. It also includes spawning area for a multitude of other fish species, irreplaceable near shore foraging area for migratory birds, essential habitat for Owls and Murrelets and abundant recreation and education opportunities for past and future generations; and

**Whereas** an economic analysis in 2014 estimates that recreation in the Elliott State Forest is responsible for close to \$390,000 in wages and about \$1.3 million in economic output. The Elliott receives an annual budget of zero dollars for recreation and contains not even one marked trail in all 82,000 acres. Still, people are drawn there to hunt, fish and enjoy nature. Many have testified as to the importance of the Elliott State Forest in their lives. Revenue could be raised by investing in trails, interpretive centers and road signs, making the forest more accessible to the public. The value of a forest is greater than just timber.

**Whereas** rising global atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> and other greenhouse gas levels are of grave concern. Oregon is a leader in establishing ambitious carbon reduction goals. These goals include the establishment of a Global Warming Commission's Forestry Carbon Accounting Project and the assessment and monitoring of forest carbon throughout Oregon. So far these goals have not been funded or carried out. Carbon markets monetize forest ecosystem productivity with no damage to the forest or the wildlife therein, while retaining the vast array of educational and recreational opportunities.

**Whereas** the state currently owns merely 3% of Oregon forests. The Oregon Global Warming Commission's mandate is to *acquire* forestlands that can be conserved, restored and managed, not sell them off. The Forestry Technical Committee's Forestry Roadmap to 2020 states that major forest policy and management decisions are to be informed by a clear accounting of the consequent change in carbon storage that will occur. This has yet to be weighed in with regard to the fate of the Elliott State Forest.

**Whereas** the forests of Oregon are unmatched in their capacity to sequester CO<sub>2</sub>. Oregon State University is home to some of the world's most highly respected forest carbon researchers and scientists. Public and private timberland owners need an ecologically sustainable source of revenue that will allow them to manage their land profitably. New markets for carbon sequestration credits are providing significant income to forests managed in conformance with program requirements. Oregon's current logging practices result in sub-optimum forest ecological function. Rural economies have suffered from a decrease in timber related revenue and are in need of additional stimulus. Monitoring of forest carbon has the potential to create significant employment opportunities in Oregon's rural communities, including thousands of forest technology jobs doing the fieldwork necessary to log and monitor large-scale carbon credit projects. For carbon sequestration, the Elliott State Forest is an ideal property with global earning potential. Carbon sequestration could be a transformative industry for Oregon's ecosystems and economy.

**Whereas** the Elliott State Forest is invaluable from a public conservation and cultural resource perspective.

# Carbon Analysis of Proposed Forest Management Regimes on the Elliott State Forest



## Authors:

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Date: 22 February 2011



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2010, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) contracted with Ecotrust to provide a carbon analysis of proposed management regimes in the Elliott State Forest. These included specific management restrictions outlined in a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) proposed by the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) to meet Endangered Species Act requirements and three different annual harvest volume targets. This is the first exercise of its kind to compare the carbon sequestration effects of management options on state managed forestlands.

Working closely with USFWS and ODF staff, Ecotrust utilized the latest forest inventory data from the Elliott State Forest to model carbon sequestration potential of the proposed HCP-associated management prescriptions and three different annual harvest volumes: 30, 35, and 40 million board feet (MMBF). In addition, we evaluated three data sets for comparison: a maximum storage scenario, in which all Elliott lands are managed for maximum standing forest biomass; a minimum storage scenario, in which all Elliott lands are managed for timber production, while meeting the legal requirements of both the Oregon Forest Practices Act and the Endangered Species Act; and a regional average provided by U.S. Forest Service inventory data.

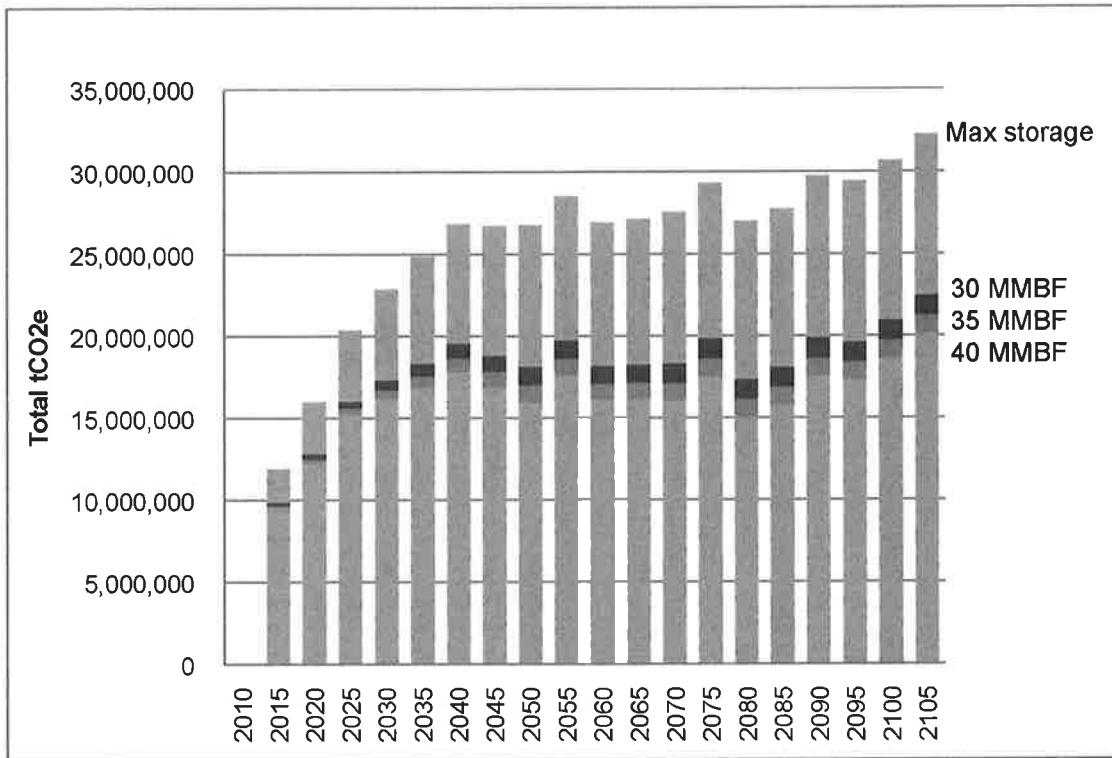
To develop these scenarios, we:

1. Selected a recognized and applicable third-party forest carbon offset protocol;
2. Adapted the protocol to evaluate management proposals for the Elliott State Forest;
3. Defined carbon pools to be included in the analysis;
4. Modeled carbon storage over time, following management prescriptions and optimizing harvest schedules; and
5. Calculated carbon storage on the forest, while accounting for storage in wood products.

Our modeling outputs provide a long-term look, in five-year increments, at scenarios for forest growth, timber yield, and carbon storage under varying management plans. Results are summarized in Figure 1.

## Carbon Analysis of Proposed Forest Management Regimes on the Elliott State Forest

**Figure 2: Cumulative Carbon Storage Above Minimum**



The HCP-based management scenarios we modeled in this report fall somewhere between the maximum and minimum storage possible on the site. In percentage terms, the different harvest level scenarios would store between 60 and 68 percent of the maximum possible on the site by 2050.

## 1. Introduction

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) recognizes forestry practices as important to the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions. Among currently available mitigation opportunities, the IPCC lists afforestation, reforestation, forest management, reduced deforestation, and harvested wood product management.<sup>3</sup> In addition, the IPCC notes that “substantial co-benefits” can be achieved through forest-related mitigation activities, including employment, biodiversity, and watershed conservation.<sup>4</sup>

In Oregon, the governor’s office has urged that “the consideration of climate change [be] a key element in our current planning and decision-making processes,”<sup>5</sup> and the Oregon Global Warming Commission has established 2020 and 2050 targets for reduction of greenhouse gases.<sup>6</sup> A top priority in meeting the targets, as described by the Commission’s Forestry Working Group in September 2010, is the development of carbon inventories for the state’s public and private forests.<sup>7</sup>

New management proposals for the Elliott State Forest provide an opportunity to develop a context-specific analysis of the mitigation benefits of forest management. In July 2010, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) contracted with Ecotrust to provide estimates of potential carbon sequestration volumes. These estimates are based on a combination of annual harvest target levels and specific requirements of the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) developed by the Oregon Department of Forestry to meet the requirements of the Endangered Species Act in providing habitat for Pacific salmon and steelhead, northern spotted owls, marbled murrelets, and other species dependent on older forest characteristics.

Working closely with USFWS and ODF staff, Ecotrust utilized the latest forest inventory data for the Elliott State Forest in southern Oregon to model its carbon sequestration potential according to proposed management scenarios. For additional context, we examined two other management scenarios that we expect will provide minimum and maximum carbon storage on the site. The last point of reference we are providing is a regional average for the area surrounding the Elliott State Forest based on U.S. Forest Service long-term inventory data.

### 1.1 Project Site Description

The Elliott State Forest covers 93,282 acres of Oregon’s coastal forest south of the Umpqua River. It is located in Douglas and Coos Counties and extends from within six miles of the ocean to the crest of the coast range (Figure 4). The lands of the Elliott State Forest were assembled over the past 85 years through a series of land trades and acquisitions. When Oregon was granted

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<sup>3</sup> IPCC, 2007: Summary for Policymakers. In: *Climate Change 2007: Mitigation. Contribution of Working Group III to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [B. Metz, O.R. Davidson, P.R. Bosch, R. Dave, L.A. Meyer (eds)], Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK and New York, USA.

<sup>4</sup> IPCC, 2007: Summary for Policymakers. In: *Climate Change 2007: Mitigation. Contribution of Working Group III to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* [B. Metz, O.R. Davidson, P.R. Bosch, R. Dave, L.A. Meyer (eds)], Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK and New York, USA.

<sup>5</sup> Governor’s Climate Change Integration Group. 2008. *Final Report to the Governor: A Framework for Addressing Rapid Climate Change*.

<sup>6</sup> Governor’s Advisory Group for Global Warming. 2004. *Oregon Strategy for Greenhouse Gas Reductions*, p. 9

<sup>7</sup> Oregon Global Warming Commission. 2010. *Interim Roadmap to 2020*.

Figure 4: Location Map

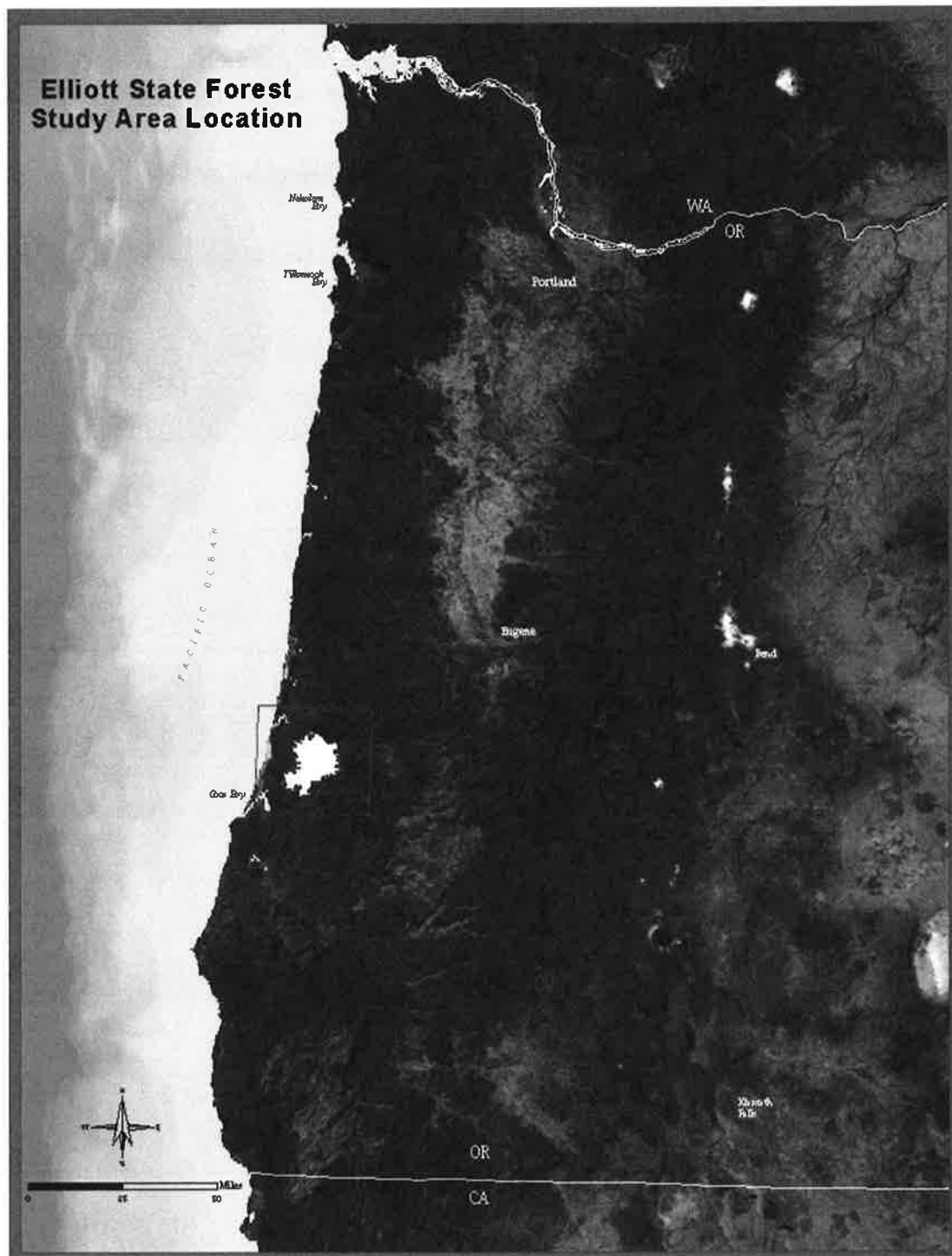
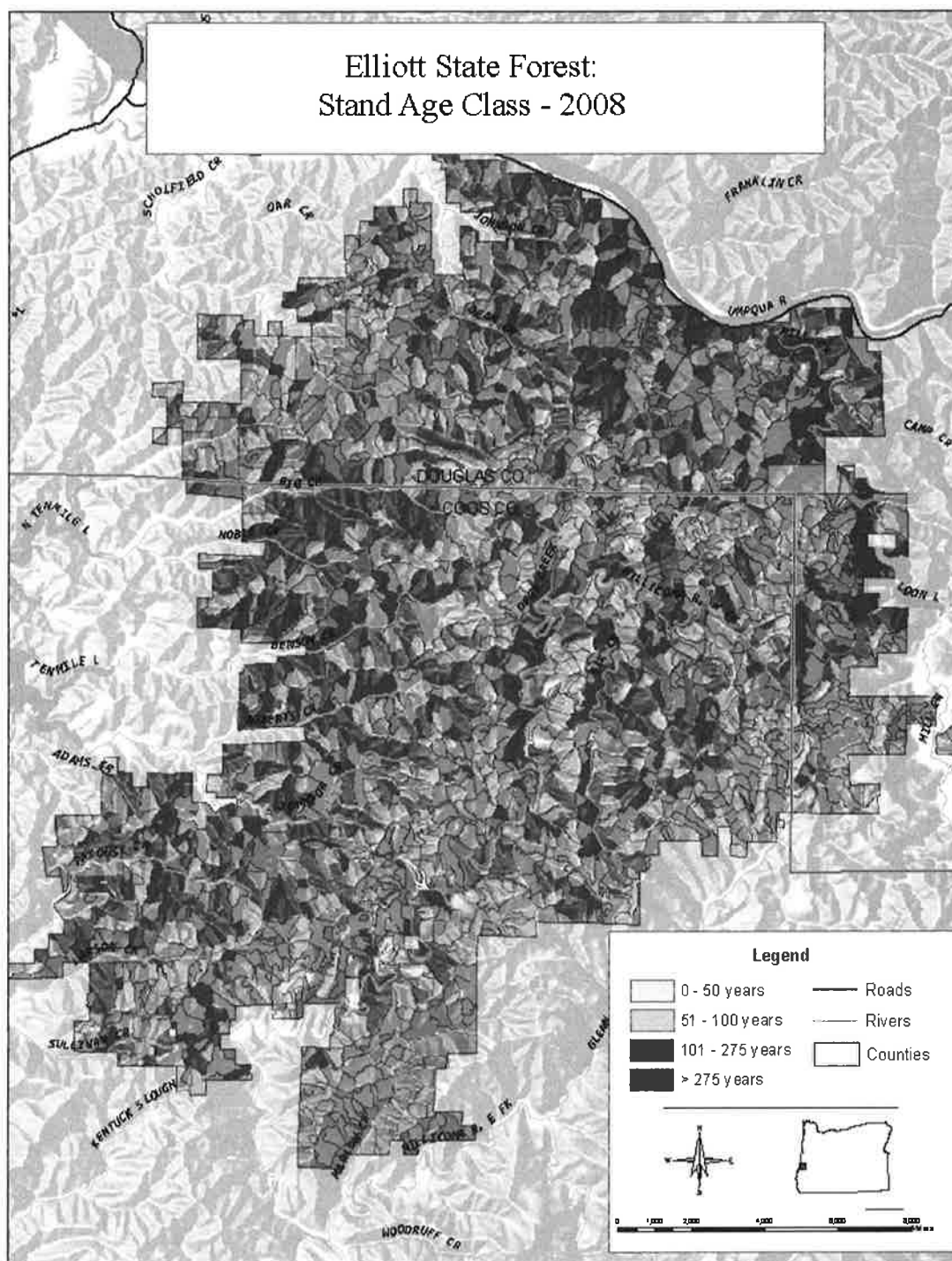


Figure 6: Elliott State Forest Age Class Map





## Carbon Analysis of Proposed Forest Management Regimes on the Elliott State Forest

and Wildlife to develop a comprehensive plan that would address all aspects of the forest ecosystem. This led to the creation of the 1995 Forest Management Plan, which remains the primary management document for the Elliott State Forest.

In 1995, USFWS approved a 60-year incidental take permit for the northern spotted owl and a six-year incidental take permit for the marbled murrelet. In 2000, with the impending expiration of the marbled murrelet permit, ODF began planning for a new HCP to address potential impacts to both threatened species.

ODF developed potential management prescriptions that would maintain structural elements of the forest that would provide habitat for murrelets, owls, and salmonid species. These included defined actions that could be taken on individual forest stands, in riparian buffer zones, and in protected areas surrounding nesting sites. In addition to defining actions that could be taken on a specific local area, the HCP defined structural targets to be maintained across the entire Elliott.

Along with the HCP management prescriptions, we modeled three different annual harvest targets. The ODF determined that the overall structural targets required for the HCP could be achieved at each of the three harvest levels. This range of harvests is currently being reviewed by the two agencies largely responsible for approving the HCP, USFWS, and NOAA Fisheries. After considering the overall forest structure and habitat value that can be achieved under each harvest scenario, these agencies will determine whether they will issue a new incidental take permit.

The three proposed HCP harvest levels are:

- 1) 30 million board feet/year
- 2) 35 million board feet/year
- 3) 40 million board feet/year

### 1.3 Historical Harvest Levels in the Coos District

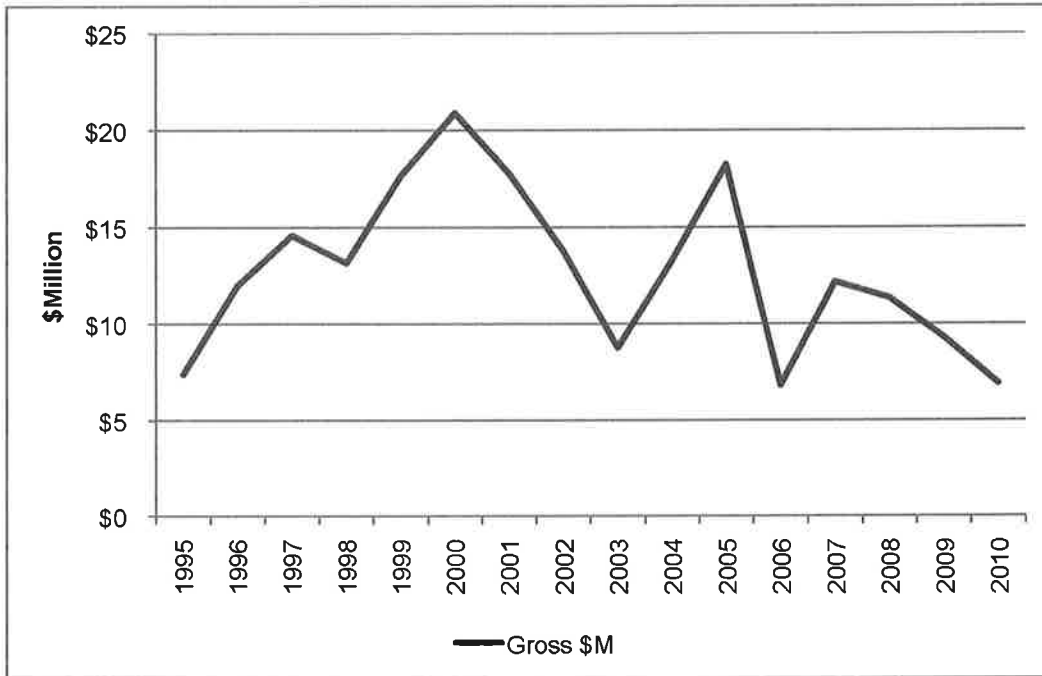
Historical annual harvest levels in the Coos District, where the Elliott State Forest is located, place these proposed HCP harvest levels in context. Table 1 describes harvest levels since 1995, the year Elliott State Forest Management Plan was implemented to protect wildlife species in the Elliott. Because the Elliott is also managed to “maximize revenue for the CSF over the long term,” we include in Table 1 historical data on harvest values and stumpage prices.

**Table 1: Coos District Harvests and Revenue**

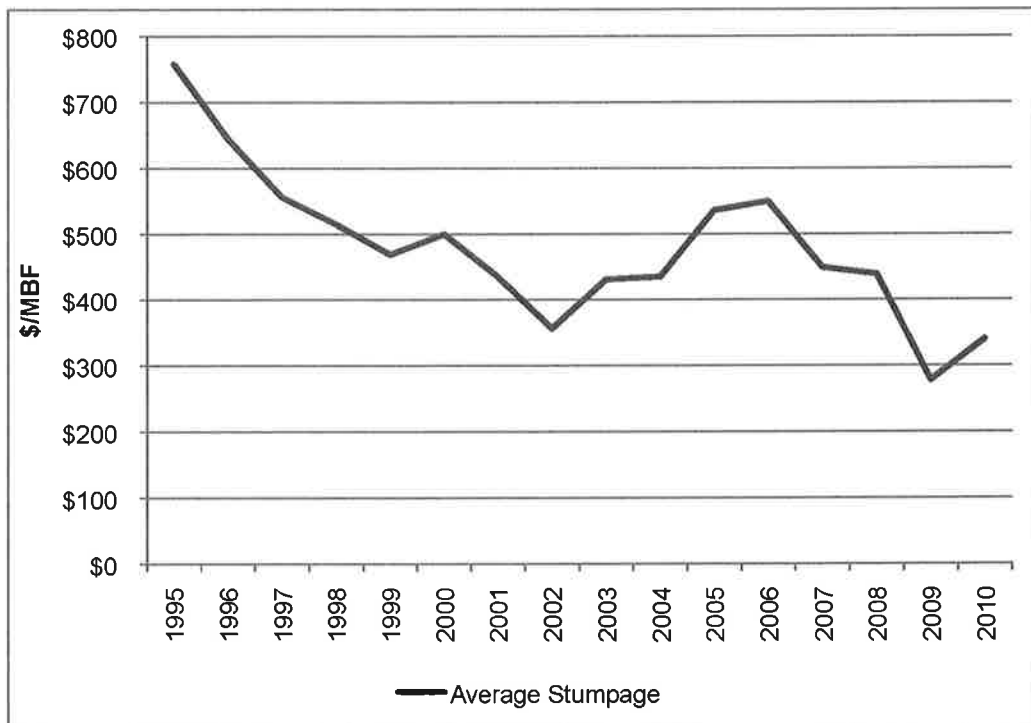
Fiscal Harvest Volume and Value Coos District (Coos & Douglas Counties)				
Fiscal Year	Net MMBF	Gross \$M	Average Stumpage	Sales
1995	11.5	\$7.38	\$758	7
1996	14.3	\$11.99	\$645	9
1997	21.0	\$14.57	\$556	12
1998	21.2	\$13.15	\$515	11
1999	32.0	\$17.66	\$469	15

## Carbon Analysis of Proposed Forest Management Regimes on the Elliott State Forest

**Figure 8: Coos District Harvested Timber Value (\$Million)**



**Figure 9: Average Bid for Thousand Board Feet Weighted by Species**



## **Carbon Analysis of Proposed Forest Management Regimes on the Elliott State Forest**

Building on the work of the Governor's Advisory Group, the Oregon State House of Representatives passed bill 3543, which established the Oregon Global Warming Commission, an advisory body responsible for defining a pathway for achieving these 2010, 2020, and 2050 statewide goals. Since July 2010, the Global Warming Commission has convened a series of working groups to create a more detailed road map for achieving the targeted reductions outlined in House Bill 3543. This work is organized around six major sectors of opportunity: transportation, energy, industry, agriculture, materials, and forestry.

Results of this work have been published in the Oregon Global Warming Commission's "Interim Roadmap to 2020." The recommendations for the forestry sector include the following points of relevance to the management of state forest lands and to the Elliott State Forest choices being considered in this report:

### **Carbon Inventory**

- Establish a carbon inventory for all Oregon forests. This will require a collaborative effort to define and develop an agreed-upon approach for developing and maintaining a carbon inventory system. Based on these data, establish baselines and both long-term and intermediate goals for carbon storage that account for different forest types and ownerships, including overall storage gains in public forests.<sup>16</sup>

### **Public Forests — Existing State Forestlands Management**

- All timber management planning and public forest transactions (e.g., timber sales, offset sales) should include net impact on Oregon's carbon account.<sup>17</sup>
- Oregon State forestlands should be managed to increase carbon stores over time, consistent with ecosystem values and yield of durable forest product.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> Oregon Global Warming Commission. 2010. Interim Roadmap to 2020, p. 115.

<sup>17</sup> Oregon Global Warming Commission. 2010. Interim Roadmap to 2020, p. 116.

<sup>18</sup> Oregon Global Warming Commission. 2010. Interim Roadmap to 2020, p. 117.

## Carbon Analysis of Proposed Forest Management Regimes on the Elliott State Forest

“common practice” performance standard, against which the project will be compared. For public lands, this baseline also takes into account historical trends and likely future policy developments.

Since we were not evaluating the management impacts in the Elliott State Forest for their potential to deliver carbon credits, we did not follow the protocol requirements for determining baseline. Instead, we used the protocol to define the carbon pools that would be measured under each scenario.

We considered several approaches for shedding additional light on the carbon storage potential of the HCPs proposed for the Elliott State Forest. First, as requested by ODF and USFWS, we calculated the carbon sequestration rates of the three proposed HCP plans. Then we examined their differences, in effect, taking the 40 million board feet (MMBF)/year HCP as the baseline and assessing the additional storage offered by harvest levels of 35 or 30 MMBF/year.

In order to better understand the range of potential choices surrounding these proposed HCP management scenarios, we also compared them against two boundary scenarios: a maximum storage scenario, in which all Elliott lands are managed for maximum standing forest biomass, and a minimum storage scenario, in which all Elliott lands are managed according to what would be allowed on private lands following the Oregon Forest Practices Act and the Endangered Species Act.

Thus, we examined five scenarios:

- 30 MMBF
- 35 MMBF
- 40 MMBF
- Maximum Storage (i.e., boundary scenario of “no harvest”)
- Minimum Storage (i.e., boundary scenario of “private forest allowable harvest”)

To provide a wider regional context, we chose to compare the carbon sequestration potential of the Elliott State Forest with forests in the larger region. Therefore, we have included a range of values that demonstrates the high and low values for carbon storage across the entire Elliott State Forest (excluding the impact of harvested wood products) by using the regional carbon numbers provided by the Climate Action Reserve for the local region where the Elliott State Forest lies. These numbers are provided in units of tCO<sub>2</sub>e per acre stored in above-ground biomass for each defined assessment area. These values have been developed by CAR from U.S. Forest Service Forest Inventory Analysis data for each mapped supersection across the continental United States.<sup>20</sup> Within each supersection are assessment areas that are defined by a combination of geographic location and species mix. The Elliott State Forest lies within the “Oregon and Washington Coast – Northwest Coast Range Forest” assessment area.

In addition to species and geography, the amount of above-ground carbon stored in the Elliott on a per-acre basis is determined by the specific site classes found across the land to be evaluated. We chose to present the high and low per-acre values calculated across the total acreage of the

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<sup>20</sup> Climate Action Reserve. 2009. Appendix F, Maps for the region of the Elliott State Forest available at (<http://www.climateactionreserve.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/03/Supersections-Northwest.pdf>)

## Carbon Analysis of Proposed Forest Management Regimes on the Elliott State Forest

We utilized initial inventory data provided by ODF and projected tree growth through the publicly available growth-and-yield software developed by the U.S. Forest Service, the Forest Vegetation Simulator (FVS). We combined this modeling work with a detailed geographic information system (GIS) to develop analyses that reflect on-the-ground conditions and practices.

The four main steps in this process were:

- 1) Formatting inventory data;
- 2) Extrapolating silvicultural prescriptions;
- 3) Defining landscape management actions; and
- 4) Scheduling harvests.

### 2.4.1 Formatting Inventory Data

We reformatted the Elliott State Forest 2008 inventory data to FVS-compliant file formats using Microsoft Access database queries. This process resulted in two sets of tables, the formatted “treelist” tables, which contain tree-level information, and the stand list tables, which contain stand-level information, histories, and geographic attributes. After creating these input files, we linked the stand level tables to spatial data showing stand and plot locations in order to calculate slope, aspect, elevation, and boundaries.

### 2.4.2 Extrapolating Silvicultural Prescriptions

Prior to running FVS, we created a series of modeling prescriptions based on structural and riparian requirements of the HCPs. These prescriptions accounted for management activities described in the HCPs and were reviewed with Coos District ODF staff.

We classified the Elliott State Forest into management polygons according to three criteria defined in the HCPs: conservation status, proximity to rivers, and age class.

Conservation status is defined by two broad management areas:

- *Conservation zones*—includes both 1) threatened and endangered species core areas, and 2) existing steep, unique, or visual lands
- *Matrix zones*—includes all areas outside conservation zones

Proximity to rivers is defined by riparian zones:

- *Core Riparian Zone*—a buffer extending 25 feet from the stream edge
- *Inner Riparian Management Zone*—a secondary buffer, extending between 25 and 100 feet beyond the stream
- *Outer Riparian Management Zone*—a tertiary buffer, extending from 100 to 160 feet beyond the stream

Given the Elliott’s bimodal age class distribution, we divided the Elliott into two major age categories:

- *Young*—stands less than 65 years of age
- *Mature*—stands greater than 65 years of age



## Carbon Analysis of Proposed Forest Management Regimes on the Elliott State Forest

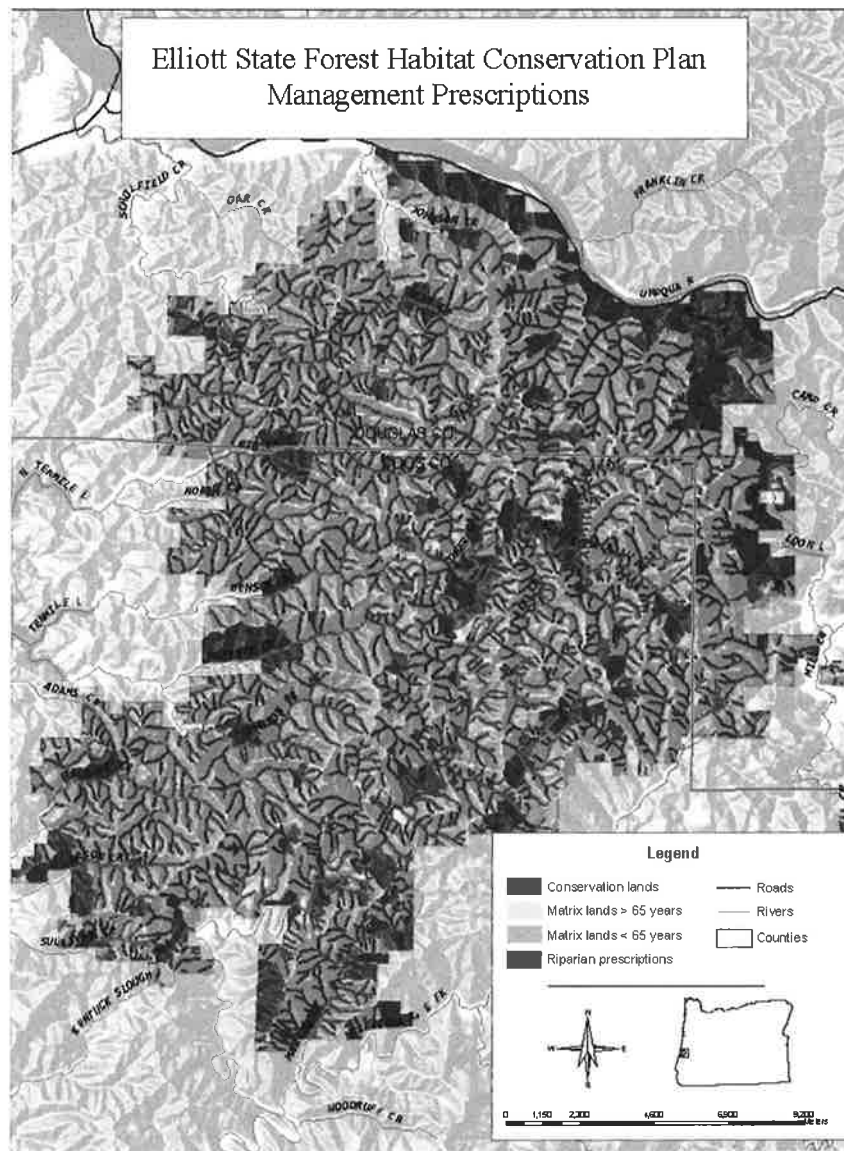
Age Class	Management Activity
Young Stands (<65 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• One or more commercial thinning</li><li>• Regeneration harvest that retains three trees/acre; prescriptions may include:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Harvest at 40 years with no commercial thinning</li><li>○ Commercial thinning at 30 years followed by harvest at 60 years</li><li>○ Commercial thinnings at 30 and 50 years followed by harvest at 80 years</li><li>○ Commercial thinnings at 30, 50, and 80 years followed by harvest at 120 years</li></ul></li></ul>
Mature Stands (>65 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regeneration harvest that retains three trees/acre (&gt; 11" DBH for ages between 40 and 55 years and &gt; 26" DBH for ages greater than 60 years)</li><li>• Prescriptions may include:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Harvest between 120 and 155 years with no commercial thinning</li><li>○ Harvest between 160 and 200 years after a commercial thinning at 120 years</li></ul></li></ul>

In addition to the management prescriptions for conservation and matrix zones, we created a set of general management guidelines that we followed throughout the Elliott. These are described in Table 5.

### 2.4.3 Modeling Landscape Management Actions

To simulate the implementation of FVS-modeled prescriptions in the Elliott State Forest landscape, we used stand maps provided to us as part of the overall forest inventory data. These stands were defined as part of the forest inventory and averaged 80 acres in size. When individual forest stands crossed management zones, such as riparian management areas, we subdivided them, creating new management regions as demonstrated in Figure 10. We then assigned a prescription to each of these areas, and imputed the FVS model output accordingly before running the full FVS modeling of the forest.

**Figure 10: Elliott State Forest HCP Management Prescriptions**



## **Carbon Analysis of Proposed Forest Management Regimes on the Elliott State Forest**

After scheduling the harvests, the model output provides spatially explicit data on harvest volumes, carbon storage, and forest growth across the landscape and over time. By modeling every prescription and potential shift across every stand, we generated a comprehensive dataset describing all possible outcomes according to the modeled prescriptions.

### **2.5 Calculating Carbon Storage**

The outputs of this modeling and spatial analysis exercise are a series of files that summarize total carbon in all required carbon pools associated with the starting inventory, harvested wood volumes in cubic feet, and average carbon tonnage in the five scenarios. We used these numbers in a Microsoft Excel spread sheet model to calculate the total carbon sequestered in five-year time periods based on inventory methodologies created by CAR. All totals are presented in metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO<sub>2</sub>e).

#### **2.5.1 Primary Effects**

The outputs of the FVS modeling and harvest scheduling runs provide the total carbon values stored in the carbon pools described earlier. These pools are calculated through species-specific growth and allometric equations, and reflect the remaining above- and below-ground standing forest biomass after harvests.

However, the carbon stored in the forest does not represent the only type of stored carbon that needs to be calculated. Harvested wood continues to store carbon long after it is removed from the site. The length of time this carbon remains stored depends upon the specific wood product created. In addition to wood products that continue to be in use, wood products that are disposed of in landfills effectively store their carbon for the long term.

To reflect the carbon storage in specific categories of wood products and landfills, the CAR Forest Protocol relies on section 1605 (b) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992. This document calculated regional averages for such factors as percentage of different wood products produced in mills, the efficiency of mills in turning raw lumber into processed products, and the long-term percentage of harvested wood products that remains stored in a given year after harvest.

Specific calculations are made by following these steps:

- 1) Output from the growth and yield modeling are reported in cubic foot units by species.
- 2) Cubic foot totals for each harvest period are converted into total carbon by multiplying by a dry wood density factor by species to arrive at total pounds of carbon.
- 3) Total pounds of carbon are converted to metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent.
- 4) Total metric tonnes of carbon are converted to stored carbon by taking the average of specific product categories that will remain stored for one hundred years.

In CAR, wood product pools are calculated by determining the ratio of different wood products and how fast each of these wood products pools decays. Harvested wood product decay rates for categories of wood products are averaged over 100 years to create a single value that is applied to harvest wood carbon volumes.

### 3. Results

Our modeling outputs provide a long-term look, in five-year increments, at scenarios for forest growth, timber yield, and carbon storage under varying management plans. With these data, we compared the three proposed harvest volumes—30, 35, and 40 million board feet/year (MMBF)—and the two boundary scenarios—the maximum and minimum carbon storage potential of the Elliott and its wood products. For this analysis, all carbon volumes were measured in terms of metric tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>-equivalent (tCO<sub>2</sub>e).

We extrapolated the starting forest carbon inventory of 24,500,450 tCO<sub>2</sub>e in 2010 from data provided by ODF. These data reflect 2008 inventory data projected forward to the current year, so that each scenario is starting from a common point. While this projection does not capture detailed harvest information for the last two years, it limits the complexity and time of modeling, while ensuring a common starting point for our analysis.

Each scenario tracks additional carbon storage in five-year increments from spatially specific forest growth across the Elliott State Forest. The maximum storage scenario assumes that management consists of no harvest or thinnings. The minimum storage scenario assumes timber harvest according to Oregon Forest Practices Act and Endangered Species Act regulations. The three harvest volume targets assume management prescriptions that meet the forest structure requirements of the HCP. All scenarios follow the Climate Action Reserve protocol in accounting for carbon stored in in-use and discarded wood products.

Cumulative differences are striking for what they say about the potential of Pacific Northwest forests to store carbon. If no harvests were to occur in the Elliott State Forest, the total amount of carbon stored would be approximately 46.6 million metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (MMtCO<sub>2</sub>e) by 2050, approximately 68.5 percent of the annual emissions of greenhouse gases for the entire state in 2007 (68 MMtCO<sub>2</sub>e).<sup>23</sup>

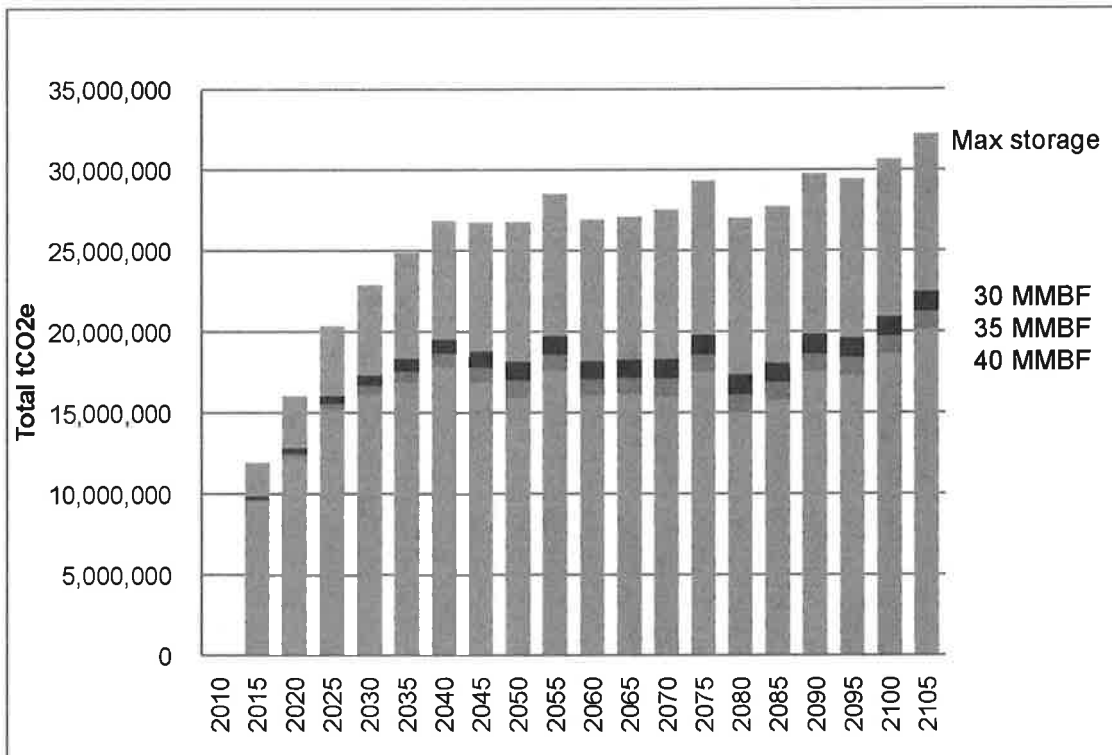
The potential differences that alternative management could achieve are demonstrated in Figure 11. This set of graphs shows how much carbon would be stored by four management alternatives (no harvest, 30 MMBF, 35 MMBF, 40 MMBF) compared with what would be allowed on the site if it was in private hands. The difference in carbon storage between the maximum and minimum values is 20 million metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (MMtCO<sub>2</sub>e) in 2025. This number increases to a total of approximately 27 MMtCO<sub>2</sub>e additional metric tonnes by 2050. To put this amount in context, 27 MMtCO<sub>2</sub>e represents approximately 39 percent of the total greenhouse gas emissions for the state of Oregon in 2007 (68.5 MMtCO<sub>2</sub>e).

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<sup>23</sup> Revision and Update to Oregon Greenhouse Gas Inventory. Oregon Department of Energy ([http://www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/GBL.WRM/Oregon\\_Gross\\_GhG\\_Inventory\\_1990-2005.htm](http://www.oregon.gov/ENERGY/GBL.WRM/Oregon_Gross_GhG_Inventory_1990-2005.htm))

## Carbon Analysis of Proposed Forest Management Regimes on the Elliott State Forest

**Figure 12: Cumulative Carbon Storage Above Minimum Storage Scenario**



## 4. Discussion

Our results indicate that forest management has the potential to contribute significantly to Oregon's greenhouse gas emissions reductions. Forest management practices that, for example, extend riparian buffers, follow longer rotation cycles, and limit harvests on steep and unstable slopes and in areas of high conservation value store a great deal more carbon than what can be achieved by more intensive forest management that maximizes timber harvest. Our modeling has demonstrated that the difference between a "grow only" (no harvest) scenario and an ecological forest management scenario is less than might be expected. Thus, forests in our region can store a significant amount of carbon while continuing to supply a steady and reliable stream of timber.

The potential of the site given in Figure 11 demonstrates that there is a great deal of carbon that could be stored across the Elliott State Forest if alternative management possibilities were considered. We estimate that potential carbon storage could reach 20 million metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (MMtCO<sub>2</sub>e) by 2025 and 27 MMtCO<sub>2</sub>e by 2050 if the maximum storage scenario was adopted on the site.

Among the HCPs proposed for the Elliott State Forest, each of which is designed to protect habitat for threatened species, we estimate the differences in management between the 30 and 40 MMBF harvest levels equates to a difference of approximately 50,000 tCO<sub>2</sub>e per year on average over the next 40 years. While this difference may appear small in relation to the total stored carbon on the site, this is equal to the annual carbon emissions of about 10,000 cars traveling on U.S. highways.

Numerous complications affect our selection of a baseline for this analysis. In a market context, CAR would require a baseline determined by regional management practices, and management in the industrial forestlands of Oregon may provide for carbon sequestration close to our minimum storage scenario. Another approach to setting a baseline would be to look at historical management in the Elliott. Against average timber harvest levels in the Elliott, which averaged 23.7 MMBF annually from 1995 through 2010, none of the proposed timber harvest levels under the HCP would offer additional carbon storage.

One scenario we did not evaluate was the comparison of the different management scenarios against the CAR protocol baseline for public lands. The CAR protocol requires an analysis of historical management trends and a review of how current and future public policy will affect carbon stocks. While this analysis was possible given our methods, we did not follow this approach because our goal was to evaluate potential management decisions rather than to verify a tradable market commodity. Thus, the development of alternative management scenarios was outside the scope of our analysis.

As stated in ODF planning documents, the primary management goal in the Elliott State Forest is difficult to achieve:

- 1) *Actively manage CSFLs with the objective of obtaining the greatest benefit for the people of this state, consistent with the conservation of this resource under sound techniques of land management to maximize revenue for the CSF over the long term*



## 5. References

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# Carbon Analysis of Proposed Forest Management Regimes on the Elliott State Forest



**Education Budget Cuts In Oregon**  
**"One Giant Step Backwards"**

**Date: February 25, 2017**

**Speaker: Nailah Garner**

**I. Escape From Poverty**

**I want to introduce an idea to you. This is not a new or original idea. It is that education provides an escape from poverty.**

**Many of those living in poverty today were in the middle class just a few years ago.**

**Today every American 1 kid in 5 lives in poverty compared to 1 in 8 adults. That's 15.5 million impoverished kids in the U.S. — U.S. Census Bureau**

**II. Hungry to Learn**

**Our children are hungry for an education – they are hungry to learn.**

**There was a story written in the Star Tribune:**

**In a large Church Basement Homeless Shelter in Minneapolis, Minnesota.**

**As the journalist entered the warm church basement, she saw padded mats covering the floor from end to end. Those who won the lottery could sleep there this cold winter night.**

**The overnight residents were arranging their blankets and pillows and carefully placing their belongings along side their mats.**

**As the journalist panned the large room her eyes were drawn to a young girl sitting on her mat, legs tucked to one side and books spread out. One book was opened and she was writing in her notebook.**

Good afternoon. My name is Tara Tardiff and I am a first-grade teacher in Bethel School District in west Eugene. My school serves a low-income population; we provide free lunch for all of our students and for most of my families this is a much-needed service.

I am speaking today because, like you, I want to see the students in our schools succeed and I've seen firsthand the powerful impact a well-funded education can have on students' academic success.

Investments in education not only improve access to high quality education and help with the costs of state mandated services, such as special education and the PE mandate, which will take effect next year, they also are the foundation for a strong economy and a secure future. Investing in education benefits both the students themselves and the economy as a whole. Those with more education earn dramatically more over their lifetime and have higher employment rates. States with higher educational achievement have greater economic growth.

This year, I have seen dramatic changes in my classroom. My students are struggling to meet academic standards when I am unable to meet their social and emotional needs. I have had to leave my classroom twice during lessons because a student's behavior has become so dangerous. This means that all of my kids have to leave in the middle of learning. I cannot imagine what this does to a young mind and how much more challenging the learning process must be when they are confronted with these issues. If we had the staff to meet the needs of our most challenging students, we could provide intervention for them and prevent these situations from occurring. My support staff is overwhelmed dealing with these types of behaviors. We do not have a full-time counselor and our educational support staff is spending less time meeting academic needs and more time helping kids overcome strong feelings. We want to support our students, so that they can achieve academic success, but we need adequate funding to do this.

It is sad to me that Oregon is right now so far behind the QEM. In this biennium, in particular, the needs of my students are in danger of falling even further behind due to inadequate funding of our schools. In addition, we are facing both ever higher needs on the part of our students and the added burden of unfunded mandates, such as the aforementioned increased PE time and CTE requirements as approved by voters.

It is even more upsetting to think that my students are facing these steps backward in light of the fact that Oregon still ranks 50<sup>th</sup> in the nation in terms of large corporations paying a fair share of taxes. This, as you know, is why OEA and other caring Oregonians worked so hard to pass Ballot Measure 97. Although we were defeated by an unprecedented onslaught of corporate misinformation, the issue remains the same: after 26 years of budget cuts our students need stable and adequate funding for K-12 education.

Concerning the budget:

- 1) Do all you can to rein in PERs. Put an end to spiking completely; allow no vacation or sick time to be included. Stop bilking the taxpayer with the 6% pickup. Set lower return rates during bargaining. Have top salary to be counted at \$100,000 and under. Change to 401s instead of pensions.
- 2) Support closure of Junction City State Hospital. Having 81 patients to 422 staff, according to the Register Guard article, is a complete rip-off to the taxpayer. The article stated that this came out to \$400,000 per patient per year. Unacceptable.
- 3) Have O.H.P. people pay some of their own fees. Cut some benefits.
- 4) Do not add \$55,000,000 to the deficit by putting illegal immigrant minors on O.H.P. Why should the citizen taxpayers add another burden, when most of us, including me, pay for our dental, for example, out of pocket?
- 5) Do not give raises to the judges. They have a lot of nerve asking for more money when the state has such a deficit. They make plenty. And they have caused

part of the mess by striking down ballot initiatives to control PERs. Their involvement, at all, concerning PERs, is a conflict of interest.

I support Representative Nathanson's cost cutting budget measures that were described in an article in the Register Guard.

I had been a lifelong Democrat. My parents were private union people, both shop stewards at one point. My grandfather helped to organize labor unions back in St. Louis, where I was raised. He was blacklisted and had to leave Missouri for awhile and temporarily change the spelling of his last name.

But public employee unions are a whole different ballgame. They are on the backs of the taxpayers and are out of control. That is why I am no longer a Democrat but am now a "nonaffiliated" voter.

Sincerely,  
Charmaine Behg  
2026 Lake Isle Dr.  
Eugene, OR 97401



# PublicKnowledge

1911 SW Campus Drive #457  
Federal Way, WA 98023

September 13, 2016

Governor Kate Brown  
Office of the Governor  
900 Court Street NE, 160  
Salem, OR 97301

## *Child Safety in Substitute Care Independent Review*

Dear Governor Brown,

I am pleased to submit to you the Final Assessment & Review Report for the Child Safety in Substitute Care Independent Review.

Public Knowledge, LLC (PK) is honored to have been selected to conduct an independent review of child and youth safety in Oregon's child substitute care system. We conducted our review between February and September of 2016.

Over the past decade, a number of reports and reviews have revealed problems in Oregon's child substitute care system and suggested remedies. Little has been done to address the problems or implement the proposed solutions. The time to act is now. All participants in this independent review expressed a genuine desire to remedy the situation. There is broad awareness of the problems, and momentum in the state to fix the System.

We commend you for initiating this independent review and hope our findings and recommendations help move the state toward lasting solutions for Oregon children and youth. If you have any questions or require clarification, please contact me at (541) 206-4341.

Sincerely,

Melissa Davis  
Project Manager

Cc: Clyde Saiki, Director  
Oregon Department of Human Services  
500 Summer Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

## 1. Introduction

Oregon's children and youth experience more maltreatment in care than the national average (National AFCARS Data, 2013). Recent high profile lawsuits involving abuse of children and youth in substitute care have sparked multiple responses including new legislation. The state has paid out over \$31 million in settlements and awards in lawsuits where children and youth were abused by caregivers in foster homes and residential facilities in the last five years (excluding low dollar awards and sealed cases). The frontline caregivers - from caseworkers to foster parents and institutional staff - are suffering from overwork and turnover, inadequate training and support, and low morale; yet they are expected to shoulder much of the responsibility for ensuring children and youth are safe in care. Policymakers and leadership do not have good data on what is happening in the system, so solutions have been informed by single incidents and crisis response. From the perspective of children and youth in care, policy makers, legislators, the media, caregivers, DHS, and the public, the child substitute care system (System) is failing.

Over the past decade, a number of reports and reviews have revealed problems in the System and suggested remedies. Little has been done to address the problems or implement those remedies. Responses have been mostly focused on reframing the problem to deflect blame, comply with regulation, engage in required federal planning, or preserve the existing System.

Public Knowledge, LLC (PK) conducted an independent review of Oregon's child substitute care system over eight months (between February and September of 2016). Throughout this independent review, we viewed the System from the perspective of children and youth in care. Actions taken in response to this review, future breakdowns in the System, or directives from policymakers need to do the same: put the children and youth in care first and implement solutions focusing on their safety.

This independent review found little that has not already been discussed. We do not offer a "silver bullet" that will fix the problems in the System. What can make this review different from its predecessors is how the state, as a whole, responds to the report. The media, legislators, and department leaders need to focus on the work of changing the culture of the System and DHS. The culture must prioritize the safety of children and youth who have been removed from their families and placed in the care of the state.

The time to act is now. There is gathering realization in the state that the problems children and youth face in substitute care are systemic and need more than a quick fix. All participants in this independent review expressed a genuine desire to remedy the situation, and there is momentum in the state. Most importantly, the longer the state waits to implement impactful,

## Executive Summary

At the request of Governor Kate Brown, Public Knowledge, LLC (PK) conducted an independent review of Oregon's child substitute care system (System) over eight months (between February and September of 2016). Throughout this review, we focused on viewing the System from the perspective of children and youth living in substitute care. Although many aspects of the System merit deep examination, we focused on the two areas closest to the experience of children and youth in care: where they live (placements) and what happens when they experience abuse in care (response to abuse).

### FINDINGS

The graphic below summarizes the nine major findings from this review.

Oregon Child Safety in Substitute Care Independent Review Findings	
Safe and Appropriate Placements	Safe and Swift Response to Abuse in Care
<p>More appropriate placements could prevent abuse of children and youth in substitute care.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FINDING I - Space availability drives placement decisions, rather than the needs of children and youth.</li> <li>• FINDING II - Oregon's placement capacity for children with high needs is shrinking.</li> <li>• FINDING III - Substitute care providers are not adequately trained or supported to safely care for children and youth with high needs placed with them.</li> <li>• FINDING IV - The urgency to find placements compromises certification and licensing standards.</li> </ul>	<p>A coordinated response to abuse in care could lead to earlier intervention and prevention of future abuse.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FINDING V - Oregon's response to allegations of abuse in care is confusing and involves too many uncoordinated elements.</li> <li>• FINDING VI - The CPS abuse in care reporting, screening, and investigation process is localized and may result in inconsistent responses to harm in care.</li> <li>• FINDING VII - The current process of abuse in care reporting is rated untrustworthy by youth and other reporters.</li> <li>• FINDING VIII - There is little to no follow-up on abuse in care investigations.</li> <li>• FINDING IX - Information that could mitigate safety concerns is not efficiently shared between entities.</li> </ul>

The quantitative and qualitative data collected and analyzed during this review show that the state's most acute problem is not having enough of the appropriate substitute care providers available at the moment when a child or youth needs to be placed in out of home care. Having the right provider for the right child or youth at the right time could reduce the risk of harm in care. Nonetheless, national data and standards tell us that even if Oregon were to invest in significantly increasing the number of high quality substitute care providers, there will always be a risk that something bad will happen in a placement. The state needs to have a transparent process for responding to abuse in care that puts the child first and is based on standardized protocols for screening and response.



## culturaladvocacycoalition

February 17, 2017

Dear Co-Chair Devlin, Co-Chair Nathanson and Members of the Ways and Means Committee

The Cultural Advocacy Coalition, following vigorous review of cultural projects statewide, respectfully requests the Oregon Legislature's consideration of \$6 million in lottery bond funding for capital construction projects within the cultural sector. The legislature funded a total of \$5.7M in capital construction projects in the cultural sector in the 2015-2017 biennium.

The projects listed below have undergone multi-stage peer review based on criteria which includes: quantifiable economic impact, community support, increased access to cultural resources and sustainability.

The projects have demonstrated that they will grow jobs in the cultural sector, expand access to cultural resources for future generations; preserve, restore and exhibit culturally significant artifacts and historic treasures; support expansion of both contemporary and traditional arts and theatre, and encourage cost-effective, innovative partnerships among cultural nonprofits and the communities they serve.

The Cultural Advocacy Coalition respectfully requests funding for the following capital construction projects in the cultural sector:

**1. Benton County Historical Society and Museum, *Construction of Corvallis Museum***

Amount requested: \$500,000

Estimated project costs: \$7,000,000

The Benton County Historical Society, with 7,500 patrons visiting its Philomath Museum each year, has undertaken a capital campaign to construct a new, more accessible, 19,000 square foot museum in downtown Corvallis, designed by globally acclaimed Allied Works Architects. The new museum will allow the Benton County Historical Society to make the extensive artifacts, art and documents related to the early history of the region, OSU and the Oregon Agricultural College within the Horner Collection more accessible to the public. Through an agreement with OSU, students will enjoy free admission to the Museum in the first four years of operation in its new location in downtown Corvallis.

The building will include galleries for changing exhibitions, education space, courtyards for outdoor sculpture, workspaces for museum staff and a museum store. The Benton County Historical Society will continue to operate its existing historic Philomath museum with expanded research functions at that facility.

The City of Corvallis, which is the only city of its size in Oregon without a museum, has included arts and culture as a central priority in its *Imagine Corvallis 2040 Plan*. The new museum, to be located in the city's Central Business District, is strongly supported by Corvallis leadership as a key contributor to the cultural vitality of the downtown economy.

2. Cottage Theatre, ***Theatre Expansion***

Amount requested: \$250,000

Estimated project costs: \$1,200,000

Cottage Theatre, located in the small, rural town of Cottage Grove, is a 35 year-old theatre presenting 80 performances a year to 11,000 patrons in a 150 seat facility, which was built with community support in 1998 and continues to operate debt free. The theatre operates through the generous investment of time and talent from several hundred dedicated theatre volunteers and a small staff. Cottage Theatre is committed to offering high-quality theatre while keeping ticket prices affordable for the Cottage Grove area, whose per capita income was \$18,812 in 2013. With performances routinely filling 95% of available seating, Cottage Theatre is undertaking a capital campaign to expand seating in the theatre from 150-200 seats, upgrade technical capabilities and safety features of the community funded theatre.

3. Eugene Ballet Company, ***Midtown Arts Center***

Amount requested: \$700,000

Estimated project costs: \$4,200,000

This innovative capital construction project leverages private philanthropy and commercial development with regional non-profit cooperation to address the need to expand cultural facilities in Lane County. The Eugene Ballet Company will purchase and build out 20,000 square feet of a mixed-use commercial, residential building developed by arts philanthropist Alex Haugland, on a half-acre lot in midtown Eugene to accommodate growth of their ballet company and academy, while continuing to provide offices and program development space to a cross-section of the region's signature non-profit arts organizations, which have expanded staffing and programming beyond the limits of available existing facilities.

4. Friends of the Oregon Caves and Chateau, ***Balcony Restoration Project***

Amount requested: \$1,500,000

Estimated project costs: \$4,500,000

The Friends of the Oregon Caves and Chateau works with the National Parks Service in the preservation, stewardship and improvement of the Oregon Caves National Monument and Preserve. The Monument is located in a remote corner of southwestern Oregon outside of Cave Junction, and includes a 1930's era National Historic Landmark Lodge, known as the Chateau. The Chateau is a national treasure, among the great historic lodges in our nation, designed and constructed by local artisans, with local materials found nowhere else in the world. The Chateau, which features native marble in the lobby fireplace, Douglas fir, Madrone and maple throughout the beams and stairs invite guest to appreciate the Chateau's original master craftsmanship as a historic treasure and enduring testament to Oregon's natural resources. The 80+ year old historic structure is in need of substantial deferred maintenance to preserve its splendor and restore its place among the great lodges and a must-see tourist destination.

The Friends are spearheading rebuilding of the Chateau's original three balconies to increase accessibility and restore the Chateau's original character. The National Parks Service is investing in the Chateau through \$8 million in 2018 for life, safety and accessibility projects to bring the Chateau up to ADA standards, upgrade electrical, plumbing and structural needs. Rebuilding the balconies will increase the use of the Chateau, bring more employment to rural Josephine County, expand programming space and build historical understanding and context for the uniqueness of the Chateau as a remote wilderness lodge.

5. High Desert Museum, ***By Hand Through Memory & Art of the American West Gallery***

Amount requested: \$250,000

Estimated project costs: \$1,000,000

Over 1,200 artifacts of the Columbia Plateau Indians have been on display in the ***By Hand Through Memory*** exhibit at the High Desert Museum, for nearly 20 years. The exhibit has invited over 130,000 visitors annually to experience the material culture and tribal stories of the Columbia Plateau Indians. In order to continue to honor and respect the collection's significant messages of self-determination, cultural identity and tribal resilience, the High Desert Museum is undertaking significant renovations to the original exhibit. ***By Hand Through Memory*** will be reconceived and redeveloped in consultation with local tribes to develop a culturally responsive collections management plan and a relevant, redesigned, state-of-the-art exhibit that continues the Museum's commitment to meaningful interpretation of Native American culture and stories in an interactive, immersive and inspiring environment.

As the largest cultural provider east of the Cascades, the High Desert Museum fills an important regional role as curator and presenter of fine art to visitors and residents in Central Oregon. To expand access to arts education and fine art in Central Oregon, the Museum will develop new gallery space to feature Art of the American West. The new gallery, allows the Museum to display substantial works in their existing collections while expanding access to culturally significant works of art in world-class, nationally recognized collections.

6. Oregon Coast Council for the Arts, ***Entertain the Future: Newport Performing Arts Center***

Amount requested: \$600,000

Estimated Phase 7 & 8 costs: \$2,900,000

The Oregon Coast Council for the Arts has undertaken a multi-year capital campaign to strengthen and enhance this regional resource on the Central Oregon coast with an eight-phase capital campaign. Through substantial community support the work is in the final two phases. Phase 7 and 8 will expand the Studio Theatre's audience capacity from 80-150 and to expand the support spaces including green room, dressing rooms, restrooms and kitchen. The final phase of the project will build out the backstage storage areas and add rehearsal space that can serve both the larger Silverman Theatre and the Studio Theatre. The economic impact of expanded audience levels for the 30 year user-life of the project will be \$7.4M of economic impact in the Central Oregon Coast.

7. Portland Art Museum, ***Connection Campaign***

Requested amount: \$2,000,000

Estimated project costs: \$50,000,000

Founded in 1892, the Portland Art Museum is the seventh oldest museum in the country, and the oldest in the Pacific Northwest. Serving more than 350,000 visitors annually, including 20,000 k-12 students, the Portland Art Museum is a cornerstone of Portland's cultural district, with a collection of 42,000 objects, located in the park blocks in downtown Portland.

The ***Connection Campaign*** is a \$50 million capital campaign which will reshape the south end of the cultural district by connecting the Museum's Main Building to the Mark Building through the construction of a glass pavilion—named for famed Oregon artist Mark Rothko—which will become one of Oregon's grand free public spaces.

***Connection Campaign*** will create

- 5,300 sq ft community commons
- 9,840 sq ft new gallery



Project contact Information:

Organization	Contact	Email	Phone	Construction Budget	Requested
Benton County Historical Society	Irene Zenev	<a href="mailto:irene@bentoncountymuseum.org">irene@bentoncountymuseum.org</a>	541-929-6230 ext. 302	\$7,000,000	\$500,000
Cottage Theatre	Susan Goes & Mark Allen	<a href="mailto:susan@cottagetheatre.org">susan@cottagetheatre.org</a>	541-942-8001	\$1,200,000	\$250,000
Eugene Ballet	Josh Neckels	<a href="mailto:josh@eugeneballet.org">josh@eugeneballet.org</a>	541-485-3992	\$4,200,000	\$700,000
Friends of Oregon Caves & Chateau	Sue Densmore	<a href="mailto:densmore@mind.net">densmore@mind.net</a>	541-944-1139	\$4,500,000	\$1,500,000
High Desert Museum	Dana Whitelaw	<a href="mailto:dwhitelaw@highdesertmuseum.org">dwhitelaw@highdesertmuseum.org</a>	541-382-4753 ext. 326	\$1,000,000	\$250,000
Newport Performing Arts Center	Catherine Rickbone	<a href="mailto:crickbone@coastarts.org">crickbone@coastarts.org</a>	541-574-2652	\$2,873,372	\$600,000
Portland Art Museum	JS May	<a href="mailto:js.may@pam.org">js.may@pam.org</a>	503-276-4272	\$50,000,000	\$2,000,000
PICA	Victoria Frey	<a href="mailto:vic@pica.org">vic@pica.org</a>	503-242-1419	\$1,300,000	\$200,000

**Romero / Miller**

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The Health Insurance Revenue Bonds® (HIRB®) program

*"You never change things by fighting the existing reality. To change something, build a new model, which makes the existing model obsolete."*

Buckminster Fuller 1895–1983

Architect, Systems Theorist, Author, Designer and Inventor

1. Don't confound political philosophy with principles of insurance or public financings.
2. Every insurance plan, regardless of the risk that is insured, is a single payer plan. The only difference is the name of the payer. e.g. government, public trust, non-profit or for-profit insurer.
3. Competition has not and does not reduce health care costs. There has been competition amongst health insurance *plans* for generations. If competition could reduce health care costs, we would not be facing such a profound socio-economic problem. By definition "competition" is adversarial and customer switching creates friction. Risk pooling is inherently aggregating treating largely populations identically. The HIRB program *is* the competition.
4. The public policy supporting the HIRB program is the same public policy long supporting revenue bond financings for many other public infrastructure projects (e.g. schools, water & sewer systems, waste water treatment plants, port facilities, mass transportation, airports, non-profit hospitals and more.)
5. The HIRB program involves restructuring and reallocation of monetary contributions presently being spent on health insurance benefits "across the board" within a State.
6. HIRB is counter –intuitive and does not fit conventional wisdom or practices in health financing or public financing - The HIRB model illustrates borrowing substantial principal amounts of debt; repaying the debt with interest; add in new revenue source; fund and paid for all health care benefit liabilities and HIRB program operational expenses, resulting in spending less in total without accruing a deficit, mortgaging the future or otherwise kicking the can down the road.
7. HIRB is designed to be optimal and implemented at the level of State government. This makes it grass-root and more manageable. Let the States fulfill their historical role as laboratories of experimentation lead and managed by the electorate of the State implementing the HIRB program.
8. Security for the Health Insurance Revenue Bonds and the health insurance benefits is strong.
9. The HIRB Program is entirely self-contained and self-liquidating.

We leave our offer open, to debate and defend the HIRB program before any audience in any public forum. Please read our new book: *Health Financing without Deficits; Reform that sidesteps political gridlock*, available at *Business Expert Press.com; Amazon, Barnes & Noble and other booksellers.*

**HEALTH INSURANCE REVENUE BOND® / HIRB®**

**IF YOU CAN'T BEND THE CURVE ON HEALTH CARE COST, THEN BEND THE CURVE ON THE COST OF FUNDING®**

## The Importance of the *ConnectOregon* Program for Oregon Infrastructure

The Port of Coos Bay has been fortunate to receive three awards supporting our rural region by persevering access to the national rail network for our rail customers through the *ConnectOregon* program:

**CO I:** The Coos Bay Railroad Bridge Long-Term Rehabilitation Phase II project – The OIPCB was awarded \$4 million as a match to federal funds for phase II rehabilitation of the Coos Bay railroad bridge. However, following the 2007 service embargo, the Oregon Transportation Commission approved use of the *ConnectOregon* I funds for acquisition of the Coos Bay rail line.

**CO III:** Bridge/Trestle and Culvert Rehabilitation – The Coos Bay Rail Line was awarded \$7.8 million to complete rehabilitation work to bridges/trestles and culverts along the line.

**CO V:** Tunnel Structural Rehabilitation – The OIPCB received \$2 million in funding through *ConnectOregon* as part of a \$19.5 million funding package to complete renovation and improvements to all nine of our tunnels along the Coos Bay rail line.

### Current *ConnectOregon* Project: Tunnel Rehab

The Tunnel Rehab project will complete renovation and improvements on all nine of our tunnels along the Coos Bay rail line. The line traverses 9 tunnels over an 82-mile section between Coos Bay and Eugene. The longest tunnel on the line spans 4,200' – nearly a mile! All of the tunnels are now at least 100 years old. Some of the tunnels still have the original timber tunnel support structures. The project will not only include structural repairs, but also address some significant drainage issues that are present in several of our key tunnels. The tunnels and the rest of the rail line had substantial deferred maintenance prior to the Port of Coos Bay assuming ownership. This project is an essential step in preserving and maintaining the line, which ensures that Coos Bay Rail Link can continue to serve our rural regions rail customers safely and effectively.

Funding from the *ConnectOregon* is a crucial component of the funding package for this project. This project is slated to begin in the third quarter of 2017 and will likely take approximately two years to complete.

## *ConnectOregon*

*ConnectOregon* is a lottery-backed bond initiative to invest in air, rail, marine, transit, and bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure to ensure Oregon's transportation system is strong, diverse, and efficient.

In 2005, the Oregon Legislature created the Multimodal Transportation Fund to invest in air, marine, rail, and public transit infrastructure improvements. The State of Oregon has committed \$382 million from *ConnectOregon* I through *ConnectOregon* V.





**Why is Rail So Important?** Access to safe and reliable freight rail service connecting the south coast is an essential component of the economic fabric of our region. The closure of the line in 2007 had much farther reaching impacts on local businesses than most of the public truly understood. The rail customers along the line suddenly had to ship freight by truck to an inland trans load facility. At that time, the rail line had been transporting approximately 7,000 rail cars per year. Shipping by truck meant that companies were sending trucks an average of 330 miles per day to compensate. Virtually all of the shippers along the line had to reduce production, and consequently reduce jobs because of the additional cost of truck transport. Other companies delayed planned expansions because of the added shipping costs. The Port stepped in to purchase the line because it is a major economic driver for our region, and without it growth would have stymied.

We can measure the value and impact of the rail line in dollars spent and revenue cars on an annual basis, but the crux of the value of the rail line is much more significant than these numbers can truly demonstrate. The rail line supports local businesses in bringing their goods to market. These businesses employ people all along the line through Lane, Douglas and Coos Counties from Coquille to Eugene, providing family wage jobs. The rail line provides a mode of transit that is essential to attract new industrial businesses to locate here while sustaining businesses already operating on the South Coast to have the infrastructure they need to thrive.

Rail is important for many more reasons. For instance, did you know:

- Customers who ship via the Coos Bay rail line see substantial savings in their transportation costs, averaging \$2.2 million per year.
- The rail line supports 2 positions at the Port of Coos Bay, and 15 positions at Coos Bay Rail Link
- The rail line currently serves 12 shipper facilities along the line, employing 750 people!
- The shippers directly served on the line generate over \$100 million in annual economic activity
- Intermodal rail is far more environmentally friendly than shipping by truck. Rail is on average at least three times more fuel efficient than truck, which reduces greenhouse gas emissions, and is sustainable
- Transporting goods by rail reduces road congestion and extends the life of highway systems, which reduces infrastructure maintenance costs. Since reactivating the rail line, rail traffic has reduced the impact to the highway systems by over 100,096 truckloads.
- Utilizing rail in shipping reduces highway injuries and fatalities. Rail keeps people on the roadways safer.
- Trains are super cool!

The Port is committed to maintaining the Coos Bay rail line to preserve this crucial component in our transportation infrastructure connecting our rural region to the national rail network. The Tunnel Rehabilitation project is exciting, because it will help to ensure that the rail line can continue to support our local economy and businesses, reduce air pollution, and preserve our road systems. *ConnectOregon* has been an essential component in maintaining freight connectivity for the south coast and in furthering the Port of Coos Bay's mission to promote sustainable development that enhances the economy of southwest Oregon and the State.

# EI/ECSE SERVICES CHANGE LIVES

*In 2015-17, Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education (EI/ECSE) is projected to help approximately 23,000 Oregon children with disabilities be ready for kindergarten.*



**STRENGTHENS FAMILIES**—Teaches parents and children with disabilities the skills they need to succeed at home and school.

**IMPROVES OUTCOMES**—The seamless birth to five EI/ECSE system enhances ALL areas of a child's development

**COST EFFECTIVE**—Children experience greater success when they receive interventions early in life. This reduces the need for special education services in K-12 programs.

## 2017 Challenges and Solution

- EI/ECSE cannot have wait lists.
- EI/ECSE programs are mandated by state and federal law.
- The programs are funded with 16% federal funds, 83% Oregon general funds and 1% Medicaid fee-for-service reimbursements.
- Caseload growth\* ranges from 3.46% to 5.83%.
- ***The current funding for EI/ECSE provides an inadequate program that:***
  - ***Diminishes the growth and future of our students;***
  - ***Drives up the cost of serving those students throughout their K-12 schooling; and***
  - ***Limits their opportunities for success as adults.***
- ***Only 28.3% of children in Early Intervention receive the recommended level of service.***
- ***Only 2.1% of the high needs children in ECSE receive the recommended level of service.***

EI/ECSE needs an additional **\$60 Million** to provide all eligible children the recommended level of service now in order to reduce the need for interventions later in life

\*Rolling averages for the last year.



<b>WHAT IS THE RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF SERVICE?</b>	
<b>EI</b>	1x/week with a Specialist
<b>ECSE (<i>low</i> need):</b>	1x/week with a Specialist
<b>ECSE (<i>moderate</i> need):</b>	3x/week (12 hours) preschool with 1x/week consultation from a Specialist and 1x/month family education service
<b>ECSE (<i>high</i> need):</b>	3x/week (15 hours) preschool with 1x/week consultation from a Related Service Specialist and 1x/month family education service

<b>SERVICE LEVEL DATA</b>						
<b>EI</b>	<b>YEAR</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
	<b>Target</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	<b>Actual</b>	27.9%	24.6%	30.4%	24.8%	28.3%

<b>ECSE (Low)</b>	<b>YEAR</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
	<b>Target</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	<b>Actual</b>	70.0%	65.1%	64.1%	60.5%	61.1%

<b>ECSE (Moderate)</b>	<b>YEAR</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
	<b>Target</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	<b>Actual</b>	1.0%	4.9%	6.9%	7.7%	8.1%

<b>ECSE (High)</b>	<b>YEAR</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
	<b>Target</b>	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	<b>Actual</b>	3.5%	0.9%	1.4%	2.1%	2.1%



Good afternoon Senator Devlin, Representative Nathanson and members of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means. My name is Cyrus Holcomb. I am a senior at Elkton High School and am a student in the Agricultural Sciences & Technology Program and an active member of the Elkton FFA Chapter. I am here this afternoon to stress the importance of House Bill 2382 and Senate Bill 230, the Agriculture Education Bill.

Every students' experience in an agricultural education program is different. For me personally I have benefitted from the manufacturing courses including woods and metals. I have been able to take what I learned in my welding courses and apply it to a Supervised Agricultural Experience project (also known as an SAE) outside of the classroom at Great Northern Trailer Works in Sutherlin. I have gained numerous career skills including MIG welding, reading detailed shop plans and fabrication which will be very useful for me later in life. Because of my time in the welding program and my SAE, I will be earning six college welding credits this spring.

In FFA specifically I have learned many life skills such as writing resumes and cover letters, keeping detailed and accurate records, public speaking skills and communication. Without FFA, I would not have learned many of the skills I have today, which includes testifying in front of you this afternoon. FFA has also taught me about selfless service. Our FFA chapter adopted two miles of highway 138 entering our town and and recently constructed a trashcan bin our chapter will be maintaining throughout the year to help prevent litter from building up at the local swimming hotspot. FFA has also allowed my fellow FFA members at our small high school of 90 students to travel to places all over our country including an annual trip to our nation's capital, and all over the world, including South Africa.

Thank you for your time this afternoon and thank you for supporting agricultural education and FFA.

To whom it may concern:

My name is Karl Porter, and I serve as a Residential Treatment Home Manager, for Shangri La's Mental Health Housing program. Shangri La's mission is to serve people with disabilities and disadvantages, helping them reach their full potential and I have the honor of coming to work every day, knowing that I am making a difference in someone else's life.

I would like to share some concerns I have for myself and those I support, and the staffing of the treatment teams that serve our clients.

One of my primary concerns is that at the current wages, qualified staff are very difficult to retain, as they often max out on the amount that we are able to pay them, and then start looking for work either for the counties and local governments doing similar work, or start looking into other fields entirely. This has left most companies working in the mental health field with a deficit of qualified candidates in the hiring pool. Many of our staff need to work multiple jobs in order to provide for themselves and their families. Potential funding reductions could make this even worse, and reduce the quality of staff that are able to serve people in such high need.

Maintaining the same staff over longer periods would enable us to maintain a higher level of trust with our clientele than is currently achieved, as each new person needs time to develop a therapeutic relationship with those we serve. Working long hours and multiple jobs can lead to staff making more errors and being unable to provide the best quality of care to those that need it.

The other major concern with changes in wages and budgets is that it could make entire service lines financially unsustainable. We currently have a community support program, where we meet up with people in their own homes and apartments to provide mental health services in the community. In this line, we are only able to reimburse and get paid for the time spent working with the clients (and not any prep time, travel time, training time, or no-shows where the client declines services that day). We are only reimbursed for the cost of the staffing, and a marginal amount for the administrative oversight of the program. Changes in the wages, or decreases in funding for these services, could potentially lead to being unable to continue this line of services. This would result in many people, whom are stable in the community with limited support, losing that support and eventually either moving to higher levels of care, or going back into the jails or emergency rooms because of no longer being able to maintain success at this level. This could end up invariably costing Oregonians more money in the long run as people are served at higher levels of care, re-cycling through the system, or are held up in local hospitals and jails. It would be a huge disservice to people that have already had a very rough time in life, and are just trying to find the most stability in the lowest level of care needed.

I urge you to please support funding for mental health housing programs to ensure that vulnerable individuals have the support they need to be safe, healthy and as independent as possible, and also to ensure Oregon workers and families are able to support themselves without needing to seek service lines where they are making less of an impact.

Thank you very much for your time,



Karl Porter, RTH Manager

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