

Kurtz Jonathan <jonkurtz46@gmail.com>

Dear Representative Ken Helm,

I want to lend my support for HB 2656 Safe Waters Act, legislation introduced by Rep. Salinas and Rep. Power. I would also like to thank you for the opportunity to testify at the hearing held a week ago.

I'm a small wood lot owner of 80 acres located above the North Umpqua River near Steamboat. At this time, I feel it is most important to do whatever we can to protect and improve watersheds. The fact that Oregon lags behind California, Idaho and Washington in regards to Forest Practice is absurd. Oregon has always been a leader when it comes to environment and protecting our precious resources. Why we are lagging behind, at this time, can only be attributed to the power and money of the timber industry. It is a fact, that more people in Oregon are employed by recreation, tourism, and outdoor endeavors than by the timber industry.

It is time to treat our State with the kind of protections she deserves. We need safe water to survive.

Respectfully,

Jon Kurtz
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