

Watts Remy

From: Dianne Ensign <Roughskinnednewt@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 8:28 AM
To: SENR Exhibits; Rep Salinas; Sen Wagner
Subject: Please support SB 931 and SB 926

Chair Dembrow and members of the Committee,

I strongly urge your support for two important pesticide policy reform bills that make a difference for the safety of rural residents, people visiting state forests for recreation, and protecting drinking water for many towns. Aerial sprays don't belong in our public forests.

Oregon's timber companies use standard operating procedures to help them prepare for aerial herbicide sprays. They know where, when, and what they will spray at least 2 weeks prior to spraying herbicides. It is entirely possible for them to notify neighbors 24-48 hours in advance of a spray. Notification should be required by statute, not on a voluntary, case-by-case basis.

In the public Tillamook State Forest, the Oregon Department of Forestry has recently aerially sprayed herbicides over 10,300 acres. They have chosen aerial herbicide spraying over ground sprays in 70% of their herbicide operations. A significant number of these aerial herbicide sprays were carried out in Protected Drinking Watersheds designated by other state agencies.

Our public state forests are places Oregonians go to camp, hike, picnic, and fish. These public forests are also the source of drinking water for many Oregon towns and communities. Oregon must begin to manage its forests in a truly sustainable way. Please support SB 931 and SB 926. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dianne Ensign
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