

I urge everyone on this committee to follow the best and most up to date science on both climate change and forest biology- including the fact that the forests in Oregon are some of the best in the world for carbon sequestration. It makes no sense to log public forests when this releases vast amounts of carbon that is stored in the soil & trees and does great damage to the forest ecosystem. Over 40% of the carbon in a forest is in the soils. Controlled burns and making defensible spaces for homes and communities that are most threatened by forest wildfires is the way to go. Nobody knows where a wildfire will take place, so how can logging make any sense? Let the fires burn in the back country as they are healthy for a forest. We must take into consideration the wildlife that need these public forests and all the ecosystem services our forests provide. Making homes and the areas around them as fire resistant as possible is the most logical. Please don't let the greed of the logging industry and their lobbyists influence these decisions. The long term health for Oregon must be front and center when crafting these bills.