## **Oregon Forest Taxation**

#### Forestland management classifications



TIMBER PRODUCTION
MULTI-RESOURCE
RESERVE



#### FORESTLAND ACREAGE BY OWNER



#### TIMBER HARVEST BY OWNER



FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
LARGE PRIVATE
SMALL PRIVATE
STATE AND OTHER PUBLIC
TRIBAL

Source: Oregon Forest Resources Institute

# Oregon is the nation's #1

## producer of softwood lumber and plywood

Source: Oregon Forest Resources Institute

## Oregon Forestland Program

1.) Measures 5 and 47/50 apply to all real property in the state regardless of land use category

2.) Severance taxes are for extraction of non-renewable resources

3.) Private timber is a crop

4.) The tax code should not encourage the conversion and development of working lands





## Timber Is a Crop...

### And More Than a Crop!









#### **Goal 4: Forestlands**

"Protects working forest land around the state, preserving it for commercial forestry while recognizing its value for fish and wildlife habitat, recreation, and protection of air and water quality."

**Tax Laws** 

Land Use Laws

Forestland

## **Changes in Forestland Area**

State	2012 Area	% 1907 Area	1907 Area	1630 Area	% 1630 Area
Oregon	29,787	94%	31,729	30,590	97%
Washington	22,435	84%	26,834	25,670	87%
California	32,057	86%	37,404	51,970	62%
United States	766,234	103%	740,870	1,022,535	75%

Forestland area in thousands of acres – USDA Forest Service. 2014. *Forest Resources of the United States, 2012.* 

### How is the timber industry taxed?

#### FY 2019

- <u>\$58.3 M</u> ✓ Property taxes
- <u>\$34.6 M</u> ✓ Income taxes

Forest landowners are taxed like all other landowners in Oregon.

- <u>\$1.2 M</u> ✓ Small Tract Forestland
- <u>\$2.6 M</u> ✓ Corp. Income/Excise
- <u>\$28.9 M</u> ✓ Fire Assessments
- <u>\$16.4 M</u> ✓ Privilege tax

\$142.1 M

Timber is taxed like other crops in Oregon – and then some. OREGON'S FOREST PRODUCTS COMPANIES ALREADY SHOULDER A HIGHER TAX RATE THAN OTHER BUSINESSES IN OUR STATE.

State taxes plus local property taxes divided by industry gross value added





CURRENTLY ENACTED TAXES

ASSESSMENTS

# What about fire funding?



#### Landowner contributions to fire are NOT stagnant

**ODF** annual budget for base fire protection



Source: ODF



## Private landowners in Oregon pay more for fire than any other state –

#### >2x more than WA.

FY 2019	WA	Per acre	OR	Per acre
Fire Assessments	\$10.3 M	\$1.32	\$28.9 M	\$2.83

Other western states don't pay nearly as much.

- CA, AK, ID, MT, NM: <u>all large fire</u> costs paid by the general fund
- CA and NM: <u>all fire</u> funded 100 percent by the general fund.

## What would HB 2379 do?



The forest sector's effective aggregate tax rate would be <u>over 12%</u> -

DOUBLE the <u>total</u> taxes currently paid by the forest sector. 5% severance tax = ~\$140 million in harvest tax revenue





## **Questions?**