

I am writing to you as a private citizen, exercising my first amendment right to freedom of speech.

I am the President of a third generation cattle and timber business in Coos County. We have used many of OFRI's products over the years and have found them to be extremely valuable to our organization.

OFRI is an outstanding organization that has for years educated landowners, children, and the general public on the importance of our forested landscape to the health of our economy and environment. The success of OFRI has caused a small, well funded group of activists to target OFRI for elimination. We can not let this happen!

OFRI is funded entirely by forest products producers through the harvest tax. No general funds go to OFRI. OFRI is very similar to the many agricultural commodity commissions throughout the state, with the caveat that they cannot lobby the legislature. They are strictly an educational organization.

OFRI is universally supported by landowners, educational institutions, and the forest products industry.

Please don't try to fix what isn't broken. Vote no HB2357.

Respectfully,

Quincy Powers
Powers Ranch Co.