

Ed Averill, Beaverton, OR 97008
Public Testimony in favor of HB 2357

Oregon's forests are an extremely important resource. The most important resource they can be for the next few decades is to become healthy forests capable of supporting our air and water resources and as a carbon dioxide sink for sequestration.

In the process of sequestering carbon, they would grow a healthy root system including the normal, powerful root biology of a healthy forest. The sequestered carbon they would hold in woody tissue, fungi, and bacteria would all add to the ability of the earth to retain water that will be the basis for producing "local rainfall" through transpiration and encouraging increased local rainfall.

As the forests return to good health, they will be better able to share harvests of wood crops with the state.

I believe that only good scientific care of the forests can provide for their health and the resulting health of Oregon's ecosystem.

Oregon Forest Resources Institute has misrepresented the current care of the forests to the public, suggesting the forest is healthier than truly is the case, and thus it is important that new representation of the forest's state of health must replace this false advertising.

OFRI needs to represent good scientific information about the forests instead of misrepresenting it for the sake of over harvesting and use of inappropriate chemicals

OFRI needs to represent the needs of having forests clean, not pollute water flowing through adjacent rivers.

OFRI must not engage in politics.

OFRI must present information about Forest funding as is true to activity.

OFRI is encouraged to provide accurate scientific information about best forest practices. This should include the ability to use modern sensing techniques to measure and track the health of the trees the root system and the supporting ecosystem.

It is my hope that new use of information, communication and planning can produce healthier forests for a healthier Oregon.

Thank you,

Ed Averill