

From the desk of Representative Mark Owens



OREGON  
FOREST &  
INDUSTRIES  
COUNCIL

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Owens".



## PLEASE SUPPORT SB 1501- THE PRIVATE FOREST ACCORD

In January 2020, a delegation of timberland owners and environmental groups signed an agreement to cooperatively pursue updates to Oregon's forest laws. **SB 1602** passed nearly unanimously in June 2020 and, in addition to increased drinking water protections, memorialized the **Private Forest Accord (PFA)** and facilitated a mediated process to explore further changes to Oregon's Forest Practices Act. **An agreement was reached on October 30, 2021.**

Those negotiations led to three bills, **including SB 1501**, during the 2022 legislative session. **SB 1501** directs updates to the Forest Practices Act, which we expect to lead to approval of a Habitat Conservation Plan by the federal wildlife services and an Incidental Take Permit under the Endangered Species Act, thereby providing greater ongoing certainty for Oregon's forest laws and timber industry.

### Private Forest Accord Policy – SB 1501

This bill updates multiple aspects of the Forest Practices Act, which governs forest management activity on private forestlands.

#### Key Sections

- **Stream buffers:** Updated stream buffers are 10% to 100% larger based on stream-type and geography. Also includes new protections for non-fish bearing streams.
- **Forest roads:** New standards for road design, inventory, maintenance, management, and culvert design. Funding for culvert replacement for qualifying small forestland owners.
- **Unstable slopes:** Uses modeling to retains trees in key areas to reduce landslide risk and improve the quality of slides for aquatic habitat.
- **Aquatic resource habitat protected:** Expanded riparian buffers provide additional habitat for a variety of riparian-dependent species, including salmon, steelhead, bull trout, and the amphibians that were the focus of the negotiations.
- **Compliance monitoring:** Expands monitoring programs to evaluate whether the new rules are implemented as intended.
- **Mitigation costs:** Requires state and private investment for mitigation projects of protected species, including a new committee under the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife to manage these investments.
- **Adaptive Management Program:** Creates a new stakeholder committee that will work with an Independent Research and Science Team to advise the Board of Forestry on recommendations for ongoing water-related rule changes to ensure the goals of the Habitat Conservation Plan are met.
- **Implementation costs:** Includes general fund appropriation for agencies to conduct rulemaking, update maps and databases, and monitor new forest practices.
- **Expedited rulemaking:** Allows for efficient implementation of the Private Forest Accord.

***PFA signed by:***

Forest Industry Coalition:

Campbell Global  
Greenwood Resources  
Hampton Lumber  
Lone Rock Resources  
Manulife Timberland & Agriculture (formerly  
Hancock)  
Oregon Small Woodlands Association  
Port Blakely Tree Farm  
Rayonier  
Roseburg Forest Products  
Seneca Sawmill Company  
Starker Forests, Inc.  
Weyerhaeuser

Environmental / Fish Coalition:

Audubon Society  
Beyond Toxics  
Cascadia Wildlands  
Klamath Siskiyou Wildlands Center  
Northwest Guides and Anglers  
Oregon League of Conservation Voters  
Oregon Stream Protection Coalition  
Oregon Wild  
Pacific Coast Fed of Fishermen's Associations  
Rogue Riverkeepers  
Trout Unlimited  
Umpqua Watersheds  
Wild Salmon Center