

Submitter: NW Coast Range

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB795

Strongly oppose conveying state forests to counties and urge you vote against SB.795. The legislature is well aware that much of the private forests in NW Oregon are owned by investment firms, which are chomping at the bit that they cannot convert these Forestry Zoned lands to residential or commercial land sales. The legislature must stop this backhanded legislation.

If the Forestry Department must transfer state lands to county lands according to SB 795, zoning will most definitely change and will create a domino effect to destroy the Forestry zone only designation. In turn, allow the wealthy investment firms to sell off lands to private ownership as possibly the county land and the investment firms' lands abut each other. These investment firms will demand the same zoning change to develop and/or sell as private parcels.

\NW Oregon Habitat Conservation Plan preserves the wild-lands for Oregonians and visitors to enjoy. Habitat Conservation Plan will not cause the cessation of logging and the timber tax will continue to go to counties or school districts according to county charters. Passing SB 795 would roll back land conservation and animal habitat in the form of distinction of the forestry wild-lands in Oregon. Please reject SB 795 as a bad idea for all Oregonians and the State of Oregon.