

Submitter: Helmut Gieben

On Behalf  
Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and  
Water

Measure: HB4106

Managing forests to maximize “Net Present Value” of timber alone is an outdated management model that will turn Oregon’s State Forests into tree farms, destroying other public values like fish and wildlife habitat, water conservation, recreation, climate protection and the ability for future generations to see what a real forest actually looks like. Existing management plans already allow for timber harvesting in balance with these other public values. HB 4106 is a throwback to the days when publicly owned forests were seen merely as standing lumber waiting to be turned into planks and plywood by the timber industry. We now know that forests provide far more valuable services to the public in their natural state than when cut down and turned into lumber, and the publicly owned forests are the only ones left to provide those crucial services because privately owned forests are managed as tree farms. Please do not allow HB 4106 to pass out of Committee.

Respectfully yours,

Helmut Gieben

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