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From the desk of Rep. Finger McDonald

HB 3794

Ensuring Oregon's Waste Has a Responsible Future

Overview

Coffin Butte Landfill is nearing capacity. Oregon hasn't approved a new landfill in over 30 years, and with the recent closure of the Covanta Waste Incinerator, our region faces an urgent waste management crisis.

Coffin Butte Waste Origin By County Tons of Waste United I tonical Matter Tonical

Coffin Butte's Reach



Who Uses Coffin Butte?

859,205 residents of Oregon or over 20% of the population

- Lincoln County 100% of annual MSW
- Tillamook County 100% of annual MSW
- Polk County 100% of annual MSW
- Benton County 100% of annual MSW
- Yamhill County 82.5% of annual MSW
- Linn County 70.8% of annual MSW
- Marion County 66% of annual MSW
- Clackamas County 22% of annual MSW

• Washington County 16.3% of annual MSW Coffin Butte is not just used by residents of Benton County. In fact, Benton County residents contribute a small portion of total municipal solid waste.



Sources: 2021 Oregon Material Recovery and Waste Generation Rates Report, Oregon DEQ; Coffin Butte Landfill Annual Report 2021



Coffin Butte sits on 178 acres permitted for waste disposal. That's over 134 football fields!

Solution

HB 3794 establishes the Task Force on Municipal Solid Waste in the Willamette Valley, bringing together key stakeholders—including legislators, environmental experts, waste haulers, and local governments—to develop a regional plan for waste disposal. The task force will:

- Study and identify solutions for MSW disposal before Coffin Butte closes.
- Review and build upon Benton County's Regional Sustainable Materials Management Plan.

 Collaborate across state and local levels to ensure Oregon is prepared with long-term waste infrastructure.

Deliver actionable recommendations to the legislature by December 2026.

HB 3794 is about proactive planning—ensuring that Oregon doesn't face a waste crisis, but instead builds a sustainable, forward-thinking waste management system. Let's act now.

HB 3794

Coffin Butte accepts 1.1 million tons of waste a year. We asked AI to help us visualize what that looks like.



Oregon State Capitol



Crater Lake National Park



Downtown Portland