



January 30, 2025
Senate Natural Resources and Wildfire Committee
RE: SB 812- Landowner Preference Program

Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Nash, and members of the committee,

The Oregon Forest Industries Council is a statewide trade association representing forestland owners and forest products manufacturers in Oregon. OFIC members are proud to produce high-quality habitat on our properties and are committed to making decisions that contribute to healthy populations of Oregon's fish and wildlife.

Like me, many of my members are multi-generational Oregonians with a deep connection to the forests we manage. We hike, hunt, and fish on these lands, and we strongly support Senate Bill 812 and the Landowner Preference Program. This program provides an important incentive for landowners to continue investing in habitat improvements that benefit wildlife and enhance conservation efforts.

Our partnership with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is essential, as we work together to support sustainable wildlife populations and provide opportunities for hunters and anglers. Access to these tags has played a valuable role in ensuring well-managed wildlife populations, which aligns with our commitment to responsible stewardship of Oregon's forests. Making this program permanent is a step in the right direction, reinforcing the collaborative efforts that benefit both landowners and the broader conservation community.

We appreciate the good work of the Department and urge your support for SB 812.

Thank you,

Seth Barnes
Director of Forest Policy