

Submitter: Maxine Cass

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3173

February 6, 2025

Oregon's native plants are a critical natural resource to sustain and maintain a healthy environment on both public and private lands.

HB 3173, in support of Sustainable Funding for OregonFlora, would provide a permanent funding base for the scientifically based research conducted by Oregon State University and other scientists. OregonFlora supports my land stewardship as a property owner and an Oregon citizen.

On my own property, I've been researching native plants, including wildflowers, bunch grasses, trees, and shrubs for a decade. I've applied what I've learned to restore 10 acres of mixed conifer forest, from eliminating densely packed invasive plants (Scotch broom, Himalayan blackberry) to seeding and planting natives that grow within Jackson County. My personal research and native plant restoration decisions have been hugely enhanced by the wealth of information on the online OregonFlora website.

I urge all members of the House Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources and Water Committee to vote yes for OregonFlora's Sustainable, Permanent Funding.

It's a win-win for all Oregonians!

Thank you for your consideration.

Maxine Cass

PO Box 111
2091 Holcomb Springs Rd
Gold Hill (Sams Valley), 97525
Jackson County