

Submitter: Brandon Barnhart

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3103

I strongly oppose HB 3103, which prioritizes timber harvest over environmental protections, climate goals, and responsible forest management. This bill would undermine conservation efforts and public interest policies.

HB 3103 mandates timber harvest targets, overriding policies that protect wildlife, water quality, and recreation. It also delays implementation of the State Forest Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), risking clearcuts in protected habitats due to federal approval delays. Additionally, it nullifies the Climate Change and Carbon Plan, which aims to make Oregon a leader in climate-smart forestry.

This bill invites litigation by allowing lawsuits to force increased clearcutting on public land, diverting resources from responsible management. HB 3103 prioritizes short-term timber profits over the long-term health of our forests and communities. I urge you to reject this bill and support balanced forest policies.