

Submitter: Elaine Smith-Koop

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3103

Dear Co-Chairs Helm and Owens, and Members of the Committee:

I oppose House Bill 3103 and its amendments. This is a timber industry bill that undermines the State Forest Habitat Conservation Plan, and the Climate Change and Carbon Plan. It prioritizes timber harvest over other important values. It would result in more clearcuts, more climate warming, more wildfires, more lawsuits, less habitat for salmon and wildlife, and less carbon storage. We need to preserve our forests, especially older ones, as they are more resistant to wildfires, disease and climate warming than younger ones.

I urge you to oppose this bill. Instead, I encourage this committee to focus on measures that would increase older forests in Oregon state forests, and safeguard our public resources for our children and future generations.

Please don't let this bill pass out of committee.

Sincerely,

Elaine D. Smith-Koop