

Submitter: Hillary Tiefer

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. I was so hoping that our elected officials in Oregon, unlike other parts of the country, still want to protect the state's precious wildlife, habitats, and forests. I have taken pride in this state where nature still flourishes. This timber industry bill undermines the state forest habitat conservation plan and would result in more clearcuts, more lawsuits, less habitat for salmon and wildlife, and less carbon storage. Once species are gone it is forever.

We need to ask ourselves about what happens when protections are removed and where this ultimately leads. We have to consider future generations. We don't want to live in a "Mad Max" world where much of wildlife is gone and people live in a concrete wasteland. That is where the profit motive will lead us if it is not carefully scrutinized and we don't properly protect our natural resources.

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

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

Sincerely,

Hillary Tiefer