

Submitter: Debra Ingebretsen
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3103

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A woman stands at a vista in the Tillamook State Forest. She is surrounded by bright green trees.

Wildlands Director, Grace Brahler, in the Tillamook State Forest.

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Act Now: Protect Western Oregon State Forests from Timber Industry Legislation!

Dear Debra,

We need your voice to protect Western Oregon's state public forests. The timber industry has renewed efforts to undermine the progress we've made to protect clean water, salmon and wildlife habitat, and safe drinking water for the half-million Oregonians who rely on state forest watersheds.

House Bill 3103 would require the Department of Forestry to pass a timber harvest rule that would prioritize clearcut timber harvest at the expense of all other values—including clean water, fish and wildlife, recreation, and climate change mitigation.

HB 3103 as amended would weaken protections for Western Oregon's public state forests. This bill would require the Department of Forestry to establish a timber harvest rule that prioritizes logging over habitat, clean water, fish and wildlife, and recreation. It threatens to halt the agency's implementation of the state forest Habitat Conservation Plan we fought so hard for. HB 3103 would also allow the timber industry to sue the state to effectively force more clearcuts on Western Oregon state forests. Check out this fact sheet for more background on HB 3103.

This bad bill is scheduled for a hearing this Monday, March 3rd, at 8:00 a.m. We need your help to stop this bill NOW. Please tell legislators today that you oppose HB 3103. Here's how:

Enter your comments opposing HB 3103 using this "submit testimony" web form.

Make sure to enter your "position on the measure" as "oppose."

Then, click on "text testimony" at the bottom of the form and add your written testimony.

Your message can be very simple. Feel free to copy and paste the sample message

below to get started, but note that adding your personal experience about the value of state forests carries even more power.

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

I oppose House Bill 3103 and its amendments. This timber industry bill undermines the Western Oregon state forest habitat conservation plan and would result in more clearcuts, more lawsuits, less habitat for salmon and wildlife, and less carbon storage. It would also imperil key drinking water sources.

I urge you to 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 current and future generations.

Please do not let this bill pass out of committee.

Sincerely,
Debra Ingebretsen