

Dear Members of the Oregon Legislature,

Please accept these comments on behalf of the Lane County Audubon Society urging you to oppose House Bill 3103 and its amendments. Our members value our state resources for bird watching and outdoor recreation, as well as for the natural beauty and habitat provided for birds and other wildlife.

Even after decades of clearcutting and loss of mature forests, House Bill 3103 would force the Department of Forestry to log our public forests at reckless and unsustainable levels. This timber industry bill would undo years of hard-fought negotiation and compromise on how to manage our state forests.

Multiple scientific reports have affirmed that we are losing biodiversity at an alarming rate. Bill 3103 would remove habitat that supports birds and other wildlife. It would threaten clean water supplies for people as well as the salmon and other wildlife that depends on our waterways. It would undermine the ability of our forests to play their key role in carbon storage and sequestration. It would impact the growing tourism and recreation industry that provides jobs and revenue.

Oregon's state forests belong to all of us. Please reject HB 3103.

Thank you,

Debbie Schlenoff, Ph.D. Conservation Chair Lane County Audubon Society