

Submitter: Jen Hamaker

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3103

ONRI absolutely supports HB 3103.

ONRI is a 501c6 with the mission to protect, defend, and support natural resource jobs, families, communities, and business. ONRI represents over 11,000 Oregonians.

ODF has been lacking accountability and transparency for years. A couple people in ODF wrote state policy and implemented it without approval from the Board of Forestry. The Board of Forestry eventually approved the HCP knowing they could not legally obligate future legislatures. As a result 7 mills have closed, several generational logging companies shut down and sold their equipment. The Forest Trust and Advisory Council (FTLAC) is the only advisory council required under law to advise the Board of Forestry, but ODF refused to give FTLAC accurate information and information requested by FTLAC. FTLAC did not support the HCP, but ODF and the Board of Forestry didn't care, they implemented it way before it was approved and took FTLAC out of the equation.

HB 3103 will help bring more transparency and accountability to the department that has defunded itself.

At this point, Oregon doesn't have a state forester since Cal Mukumoto resigned after some really bad decisions were revealed. HB 3103 will set a precedent of transparency and accountability for a new state forester to direct the Department of Forestry.

Sincerely,  
Jen Hamaker  
President  
Oregon Natural Resource Industries