Submitter: Doug Cooper

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural

Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or

Topic:

HB3103

I urge you to support House Bill 3103, to insure the Department of Forestry manages our state forests at sustainable harvest levels, and develop an accurate timber inventory to inform sustainable harvest levels.

Oregonians expect their leaders to stand up for our rural and urban communities, and protect the environment.

Oregon manages the State Forests for multiple benefits under a FMP (Forest Management Plan). A Draft State Forest HCP (Habitat Conservation Plan) is being developed by the Department of Forestry, and following years of attempted input from the counties and stakeholders, the draft HCP has been revised behind closed doors by the department, and the revised draft has not been made available to the public. The draft HCP has not yet been approved by the Federal agencies and Oregon Board of Forestry. Regardless of the draft HCP being approved, accurate inventory data and active management, including the sustainable harvest of timber, is the key to achieving Oregonians expectations.

Oregon's state forests serve all of us, and provide multiple benefits, with critical economic benefits to the rural communities surrounding the State forests, and all Oregonians.

Please support HB 3103.