

Submitter: Nic Westendorf

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 am concerned about and oppose House Bill 3103 and its amendments in their current state. This bill potentially undermines the state forest habitat conservation plan and would could result in more clearcuts, more lawsuits, less habitat for salmon and wildlife, and less carbon storage.

I urge you to work to ensure whatever final bill is passed focuses on measures that would increase carbon storage in our state forests and safeguard our public resources for our children and future generations in addition to allowing timber harvest. Timber harvest is an important cultural and economic activity in our forested but with current climate and ecological conditions it cannot be the primary driver for forest management decisions.

Please don't let this bill pass out of committee without further amendments to protect our forests and enhance all benefits of our forests beyond timber harvest.

Sincerely,

Nic Westendorf