

Submitter: Priscilla Earls

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3103

My father, born in 1889, was a lumberman. He supported our family with a cedar shingle mill. He realized our beautiful forests were being destroyed, and in the fifties bought a small piece of old-growth timberland because he wanted his children to see how magnificent a wild forest was. The land was in between Eugene and Florence, Oregon.

That magnificence can't grow in a short human lifespan. "Renewable resource" doesn't mean much compared to barren hillsides and destroyed ecosystems we live with today. I can't wait another 100 years for "renewal". Ecosystems develop over years and are like the "pick up sticks" game. All the little "sticks" (plants, streams, animals, minerals, trees, climate) pile up together and **DEPEND** on each other. Trees are a linchpin holding the ecosystem together. If you pull one little part of the system apart all parts will be affected. Ecosystem failure is a slow-moving death sentence. Surely we can find other ways to make a "buck" without destroying the forests.