

Submitter: Ellen Mendoza

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3103

I urge you to reject House Bill 3103, which would force the Department of Forestry to log our public forests at reckless and unsustainable levels. State forests are only 3% of the total forests of Oregon, yet the preamble clauses of HB 3103 imply that the economy of towns are dependent on the logging of these forests. In fact, private forests provide most of Oregon's logs, and Oregon continues to be the nation's highest producer of softwood timber.

[https://site.oregonforests.org/sites/default/files/2023-01/OFRI\\_2022ForestFacts\\_Web.pdf](https://site.oregonforests.org/sites/default/files/2023-01/OFRI_2022ForestFacts_Web.pdf)

The State Forest HCP was developed with years of public input, and the courts have upheld Oregon's right to manage these forests for multiple benefits (County of Linn v. State of Oregon). Oregon's state forests are meant to serve all of us, not line the pockets of timber companies. Oregon forests have a crucial role in providing habitat for threatened and endangered species, watershed protection for community water supplies, recreation opportunities, and for mitigation against global warming.

Now is the time to make it clear that these lands must be managed for clean water, wildlife, recreation, and future generations—not just logging.

Therefore you must reject HB 3103.