

Submitter: Sam Mize

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,

The focus should not be on harvesting, the focus should be on cultivating healthy forests and harvesting may be a byproduct of maintaining healthy forests. Focusing on harvesting first is backward and will not benefit current or future generations. Harvesting is a technique that can cultivate healthier forests but only if you are approaching it from that direction. We can do better. The knowledge is out there, listen!

I oppose House Bill 3103 and its amendments. This timber industry bill undermines the Western Oregon state forest habitat conservation plan and would result in more clearcuts, more lawsuits, less habitat for salmon and wildlife, and less carbon storage. It would also imperil key drinking water sources.

I urge you to oppose this bill. Instead, I encourage this committee to focus on measures that would increase carbon storage in our state forests and safeguard our public resources for current and future generations.

Please do not let this bill pass out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Sam Mize