

Submitter: Eric Owen

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3103

House Bill 3103 would weaken protections for our state forests. We need sustainable forestry, less clearcutting, and less kowtowing to big timber interests. We have already prioritized clearcutting of forests across the state for the better part of a century, and we have already caused irreparable damage to our habitats. Less than 10% of old growth forests remain across the state, and that number will never grow if we continue to harvest at the current rates and unsustainable practices. Our state legislature should be prioritizing healthy, high quality habitat, clean water, fish and wildlife, and recreation for Oregon's forests. We are entrusted with safeguarding our public resources for future generations, and have an obligation to work towards that goal. It would be environmentally irresponsible to allow this bill to pass through committee.

Eric Owen