

The new administration in Washington is ringing civility out of governing while it shreds democracy at every turn. We live in a state that is generally responsive to public needs and rights. The State Board of Forestry did the right thing by citizens and the natural world when it adopted the Habitat Conservation Plan. The State should continue to abide by the HCP. Our salmon, waterways for recreation and drinking water, and our carbon-sequestering forests are critical to the welfare of the state. Currently all are in fragile balance by way of extreme weather and climate effects. Oregon is scarred by ugly clearcuts. Torrential rains and years of drought make clearcutting doubly risky and unsustainable. I oppose HB 3103 and implore the State Board of Forestry to do the right thing: Continue to abide by HCP, rather than yield to corporate expedience. Our state needs to be a light, as greed and ditching science are banners for the current federal administration. We cannot afford to do it wrong with any practice that affects the environment.