

Submitter: Llewyn Whipps

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,

I oppose House Bill 3103 and its amendments. This timber industry bill undermines the Western Oregon state forest habitat conservation plan (HCP) 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. 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*). This bill would skew the benefit toward the timber industry, to the detriment of all others who use and live near state forests.

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, enhance recreation and restoration, and safeguard our public resources for current and future generations. Oregon's state forests are meant to serve all of us. 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.

Please reject HB 3103.

Sincerely,  
Llewyn Whipps