

Submitter: John Parulis

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3103

Dear Oregon Legislators

March 3, 2025

You stand at a pivotal point in time in Oregon's history. The science behind HB 3103 is deeply flawed. It fails to consider relatively new science on the importance of maintaining mature, old growth forests and the vital importance of the mycorrhizal network of fungi and microbes in the forest soil. By passing this bill, you are taking a stand that science doesn't matter. You will be signing your names to a bill that further erodes the life saving capacity of our unique forests to capture carbon and nourish the life that lives within it. Clear cutting as a practice must end. It is analogous to carpet bombing the forests and worse because clear cuts are then sprayed with poorly studied herbicides with the reasoning that this is needed to promote new planting of uni-crop tree farms. With only 4% of Oregon's forests protected, the importance of opposing this timber industry Trojan Horse becomes all the more urgent.

Time for you to turn the page on the Oregon Legislator's sad subservience to an extractive industry that's decimating Oregon's timber lands for profit, while exporting thousands of mill jobs overseas. Below are lists of some the "new" forest science you must in good conscience study.

<https://mothertreeproject.org/background/journal-articles/>

<https://www.kswild.org/plantations-burn-hotter#:~:text=In%20contrast%20to%20the%20fire,slow%20the%20spread%20of%20wildfire>

<https://www.climate-forests.org/post/mature-trees-are-fire-resistant#:~:text=At%20the%20stand%20level%2C%20mature,enhance%20stand%20Dlevel%20fire%20resistance.>

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/can-forests-protect-themselves/>

https://www.centraloregondaily.com/news/regional/wildfire-prevention-old-growth-forest/article_16a79402-29af-11ef-b0f5-57033d478f3e.html

<https://pacificwild.org/better-left-standing/>

<https://www.oneearth.org/old-growth-forests-in-the-us-key-to-solving-global-climate-and-biodiversity-crises/>

<https://www.seattletimes.com/opinion/white-house-must-redirect-the-forest-service-to-preserve-old-forests/>

Sincerely,

John Parulis, Waldport Oregon.