

Submitter: Diane Meisenhelter

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3103

I urge you to reject House Bill 3103, which would force the Department of Forestry to log our public forests at reckless and unsustainable levels. At a time of climate crisis we need to be preserving our forests for both sequestration and ecological biodiversity. Under the new administration and the proposed NW Forest Plan, mature and old growth forests are under attack and we need to not be allowing overcutting of state forests to counter balance these attacks. Oregonians expect their leaders to stand up for our environment, not cave to the demands of timber executives seeking bigger profits. 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). 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 oppose this bill!