

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 state forest habitat conservation plan and would result in more clearcuts, more lawsuits, less habitat for salmon and wildlife, and less carbon storage.

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 and safeguard our public resources for our children and future generations. As an active camper, hiker, birder and bird photographer who has passed these activities onto my children and grandchildren it is critical to save Oregon forests so that future generations can enjoy these activities, this special environment, and the animals and plants found in it.

Please don't let this bill pass out of committee.

Sincerely,

James Tomasek