

Submitter: Mary Hansel

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 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.

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

The State Habitat Conservation Plan provides balanced protection for 17 species of salmon and wildlife that are listed under the federal Endangered Species Act. ODF is currently following the guidelines of the HCP, while awaiting final approval by federal agencies. HB 3103 would prohibit ODF from using the HCP until it is approved by federal agencies, which would allow clearcuts in habitat protected by the HCP. Given the Trump Administration's cuts to federal agencies, final approval could be delayed for years.

Sincerely,
Mary Hansel