

Submitter: Rex Verley
On Behalf Of: The world
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3103

On behalf of all current and future residents of the State of Oregon to ODF and all State congressional representatives and Governor Kotek:

Please, for all of us living in the Great Northwest, stop destroying what little is left of a once incredibly valuable ecosystem. I heard someone refer to Clatsop County and surroundings as a Rainforest this morning.

That was once true; and what a magnificent Rainforest it once was.

There is so little of that left, less than 3%, and my county, Clatsop, was the nexus for the beginning of the industrial exploitation and destruction of this entire ecosystem.

The North Coast Range in Oregon has been historically the most misunderstood and mistreated landscape in the state.

By the time I was born and raised, over 70 years ago, in one of the tiny early logging towns along the Great River of the West, Westport, this entire ecosystem was nearly completely erased.

Clearcuts should be outright banned.

Any tree over 24 inches in diameter, no matter what species, should be left untouched, with a 1/4 acre buffer surrounding any such tree.

Spraying of herbicides and use of gmo trees banned outright.

We must begin now to build back this ecosystem if we expect livability in our state to continue to be a good and fair experience for all Oregonians.

Our drinking water is routinely poisoned by runoff from these clearcuts, many being carried out on incredibly steep slopes, leading to soil loss and eventually, permanent deforestation.

If the environment we all depend upon is not your most important consideration, especially when it comes to sustainability of this important ecosystem, one of such importance it used to be a major controlling factor of our very weather systems, which used to bring in twice as much moisture as we now experience; oh, and by the way, the forest itself sustained the biggest salmon runs in the world, then you should, in all honesty, step down from your positions.

Climate change will soon visit Oregon in ways we will have no defense against.

Restore the Earth!

PLEASE PAY ATTENTION!

Oh, and please invite every Native tribal leader from both sides of the River to present their Indigenous viewpoints.

Without this oversight, everything you decide to do lacks any real legitimacy. Peace.

Sincerely,

Rex Blaine Verley
4798 Cedar St
Astoria, OR 97103
503-468-0691
bverex@yahoo.com