

Submitter: Teresa DeLorenzo

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means Subcommittee On
Natural Resources

Measure, Appointment or SB5521
Topic:

We need the Private Forest Accord to provide more certainty for forest landowners and improve protections for clean water and fish over the next 50 years.

But these changes aren't guaranteed. Without a federally-approved Private Forest Accord Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) by 2027, the new rules roll back entirely to the outdated standards that failed to protect clean water and salmon habitat. Without a solid commitment to fund core conservation programs, Oregon's path to federal approval is unclear.

Please fully fund \$10 million for the SFISH grant program for small forestland owners and \$6 million for the adaptive management program to evaluate the effectiveness of the new rules in the Oregon Department of Forestry's budget (Senate Bill 5521).

Oregon has made significant investments in bringing the Private Forest Accord this far. It's time to sure these improved protections are sustained for generations.