

Submitter: Mary Jo Mann

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB5521

Please support full funding in the Oregon Department of Forestry's budget (SB 5521) for two critical Private Forest Accord programs. The SFISH grant program for small forestland owners should be fully funded at \$10 million and the Adaptive Management Program designed to evaluate the effectiveness of the new rules should be fully funded at \$6 million.

The Private Forest Accord (PFA) was an agreement between timber industry representatives and conservation and fishing groups to bring reforms to Oregon state forest laws regarding private forests. The law provides protections for fish, stream-dwelling amphibians, wildlife in the forests adjacent to streams, cold clean water, and for the people who rely on these resources. The agreement calls for the state of Oregon to get a federally approved Habitat Conservation Plan across more than 10 million acres of private forestlands. However, without a federally approved Private Forest Accord Habitat Conservation Plan by 2027, the new rules roll back entirely to outdated standards.

Thank you for supporting this important legislation.