

Submitter: Denise Tschann

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5009

I strongly believe the Private Forest Accord (PFA) is the result of hard negotiations, and a commitment on both sides to finding solutions to complex problems. It's the first major update to the Oregon Forest Practices Act in decades, negotiated by 13 conservation groups and 13 timber industry representatives. The PFA improves protections for fish and water quality, while also providing more certainty for forest landowners. Thus a key part of the agreement calls for the state of Oregon to get a federally approved Habitat Conservation Plan across more than 10 million acres of private forest lands. Without a federally approved Private Forest Accord Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) by 2027, the new rules roll back entirely to the outdated standards.

The work of the PFA can guide forestry on private land for generations. Please secure these improved protections for clean water, forests, and fish now and into the future by fully funding these programs.

I thank you for your consideration,
Denise Tschann