

Submitter: Sarah Watson

On Behalf Of:

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

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5009

The Private Forest Accord (PFA) is a landmark agreement that strengthened protections for Oregon's private forestlands, safeguarding fish, wildlife, and clean water. A key part of this deal requires a federally approved Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) by 2027—without it, these protections disappear.

To keep this progress on track, I urge full funding for the Private Forest Accord Grant Program in the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's budget (HB 5009). This \$20M investment—\$10M from the state and matching contributions from the timber industry—funds critical habitat restoration projects across Oregon.