

Submitter:	Mathieu Federspiel
On Behalf Of:	
Committee:	House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic:	HB3846

I am opposed to this bill and urge the committee not to pass it.

This bill, to have ODF lease the Ochoco National Forest, will be disruptive and destructive to Oregon and especially to Crook County where I live, for these reasons:

- * A temporary lease of 15 years is inappropriate to forest lands that require management planning for 50 or 150 years or more. A forest cannot be managed for a short term and remain a healthy forest, or even a viable timber plantation. Such short term thinking destroys forests and landscapes.

- * How would job disruptions be handled? Would our local Forest Service employees be laid off, further disrupting local job markets? Would new ODF employees need to be hired who have little experience with the Ochoco Forest and local people? And then what will happen when the lease ends?

- * Is ODF ready to handle wildfires over this area?

- * Is ODF ready to handle the multiple uses that public depends upon from this forest, such as various recreational opportunities such as camping, hiking, biking, and hunting? Our economy in Crook County depends on so much more than timber from this forest.

This bill appears to be from a group who want to remove, though various political and administrative efforts, all or most management of our public lands, and give industries like timber primary control. This is detrimental to the greater public good, where the needs for recreation, clean air, and clean water, are dependent upon a biodiverse and healthy forest ecosystem. While federal management of this national forest may not be perfect and may not fully meet the desires of any one group, HB 3846 will only cause pain and suffering and destruction of beautiful Oregon. Do not pass this bill!