

Submitter: William Littlefield

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3846

House Bill 3846 could transfer federal land to state control by leasing the Ochoco National Forest to the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF). This proposal would add 845,498 acres to ODF's existing 738,402 acres of state forest lands, significantly expanding its management area. With ODF already facing budgetary challenges and limited capacity, this expansion would likely push the Ochoco National Forest toward extractive uses at the expense of public access and ecological health. Oregon couldn't manage a forest if its state sovereignty depended on it! As an avid outdoorsman who spend a lot of time in the Ochoco National forest, I can assure you letting the state manage it is in no way a win.

This bill raises serious concerns about potentially restricted access to these lands for hunting, angling, and other recreational activities that are crucial to Oregon's outdoor traditions and economy. Please oppose this bill with me.