

Submitter: Curtis Booton

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4105

To Committee Members,

Oregon State Forests Belong to ALL Oregonians, and are Crucial Habitat for Salmon and Other Endangered Species. Western Oregon holds more than 600,000 acres of state public forest lands, from the Santiam State Forest to the Tillamook and Clatsop, the outskirts of Salem and Portland to the Pacific Coast. Our forests support clean flowing rivers for salmon, critical habitat for a wide range of wildlife, recreation areas, and a robust outdoor economy.

Oregon State Forests Are Economic Powerhouses - As Intact Forests! 600,000+ acres of state public forestlands drive a massive \$550M outdoor economy

Support 10,500+ jobs

Are home to six salmon stronghold rivers

Are home to 17 endangered or at-risk species

Provide clean drinking water for 500,000+ people

Please oppose HB 4105 and write legislation that protects our forests with reforestation measures for lands already scraped clean of timber. We moved here to Oregon because of its lush forest greenscape although I was already shocked to see the brown mountains which exist here, mountains that were green when we came here on our honeymoon in the 1970s. Why hasn't there been proper forest management? Profit, power and greed are behind timber logging. If you maintain the forests we have and plant more, there will be plentiful jobs to boost the Oregonian economy for future generations. Even air quality is better because trees inhale all the nasty carbon dioxide in the air to purify it. Talk about unhealthy air quality and filthy waterways that the timber industry already pollutes instead of reducing what makes Oregon a healthy environment to raise a family in. OPPOSE BILL 4105.

Sincerely,
Curtis W. Booton