

Submitter: Lynne Matejcek
On Behalf Of: myself
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4105

Dear State Forester,

I am writing to ask that you oppose HB 4105 because it increases industrial clearcut logging on Oregon's public lands, by putting pressure on the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) to increase harvest levels at the expense of natural resource values cherished by Oregonians.

Oppose HB 4105 because it upsets balanced management on state forests by elevating logging over intact ecosystem and habitat and cultural values. By establishing a mandatory harvest rule, the bill would elevate logging over clean air and water, fish and wildlife habitat, carbon storage and recreation. It would limit your State Forester's and the Board of Forestry's ability to protect public resources and prevent the ODF from implementing its Climate Change and Carbon Plan.

Furthermore HB4105 would only require consideration, not compliance, with the Habitat Conservation Plan and other policies that protect clean water, fish and wildlife habitat and carbon capture require to protect the rights of nature and the public good.

HB 4105 is an Expensive waste of taxpayers' and ODF time and money; Leads to increased litigation and limits the ODF's ability to manage state forests for multiple values.

Additionally it limits who has the right to sue for environmental damages, which should be unconstitutional.

This bill is expensive and would weaken the law protecting our State's natural resource and protected lands, with the new right to sue the ODF, it could cost the state significant resources in ODF and DOJ staff time and legal fees, estimated to upward of ten million dollars per biennium.

Please oppose HB 4105.

Thank you for your time and consideration.