

Submitter: Megan Shinn
On Behalf Of: Future generations and natures incumbents
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4105

Hello and thank you for your consideration. I oppose this bill because it is unnecessary, expensive, and harmful.

“The State Forester already sets sustainable harvest levels consistent with the mandate to manage state forests for “Greatest Permanent Value” for all Oregonians and reports this to the public. The ODF has exceeded its harvest objectives over the past 10 years.

Based on 2025 fiscal impact estimates from an identical bill, implementation would require \$1.1 million of initial funding to start this program. The new right to sue the ODF would also cost the state significant resources in ODF and DOJ staff time and legal fees, estimated to upward of ten million dollars per biennium. 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 the 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. The bill 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.”

30 years ago, Timber giant Georgia Pacific took their employees on field trips and made merch that said “Spotted Owl: Tastes Like Chicken”. The logging industry has limited their habitat to the degree that the US Congress just approved a plan to kill massive quantities of the invasive Barred owls in order to preserve and protect the Northern spotted owls. This bill directly contradicts that effort and is not in the best interest of Oregonians.

Thank you.