

Submitter: Denice Searcy
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or HB4105
Topic:
YES on HB 4105

I support HB-4105. HB 4105 :

- The Bill promotes sustainable forest management by requiring the State Forester to regularly assess available state forestland and establish harvest levels that balance timber production with environmental health.
- It ensures accountability by allowing certain individuals and entities to seek court intervention if the State Forester fails to meet management or harvest requirements.
- The Bill mandates consideration of both state and federal legal requirements, including habitat conservation plans and the Oregon Forest Practices Act, helping protect wildlife and maintain compliance with environmental standards.

HB 4105 provides a clearer governance framework by requiring the establishment of a sustainable timber harvest level on a defined timeline, by ensuring that material changes in management are accompanied by updated determinations, and by reinforcing accountability in how available state forestland is managed. These structural elements promote consistency and transparency in the decision-making process.

It will help the Oregon economy. Every logging operation is required to prepare an environmental impact statement that has to be approved by the state. It is monitored by the state. The logging operations are required to replant. This is a common-sense good governance bill that directs the state forester to establish and publish sustainable harvest levels on state forests, develop a modern timber inventory model to track forest conditions and guide responsible management, ensure timber sales support timber-dependent communities, and above all, provide greater transparency and accountability in how our state forests are managed.

This bill DOES NOT increase harvest on state lands. Instead, it simply provides local businesses and communities who depend on state timber harvests the predictability they need to plan for the future. Bottom line: it asks the state to tell us what they're going to harvest, and then do what they say they're going to do. That's it.

Please VOTE YES ON HB 4105!!

Thank you,

D. Searcy