

Submitter: SUSAN APPLEGATE
On Behalf Of: Self
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or HB4105
Topic:

The State of Oregon has an Oregon Department of Forestry under whose supervision state lands are managed. We have agreed on a vision for wildlife habitat considerations in the management of our state lands. This bill is an attempt to run around already clearly stated objectives and management principles. This bill creates confusion and conflict. Under this directive, the State Forester is required to determine the sustainable harvest levels during a time when drought has placed our dominant Douglas Fir forestlands at high risk for bug infestations, disease and death throughout the region. The drought brought on by global climate crisis has rendered these forests vulnerable to forest fires. There is no simple panacea for correcting this situation, like extreme thinning measures in wild forestlands — it hasn't proven that these measures have not protected forests from wildfires. Are there any considerations for the State Forester to measure the carbon within the state forest being considered for "sustainable logging?" No, I'm sure that carbon sequestration in our state forests is not being considered. This Bill is an end run and complicates already established management objectives. Please vote NO on this Bill.