

Protect Oregon's State Forests & Finances

Vote No on HB 3103!

House Bill 3103-5:

- **Increases logging on Oregon's public lands.** HB 3103 requires the annual logging levels established by the State Forester to be set through rulemaking and legally enforceable. Once annual levels are established for state forests, any volume not harvested in one year must be added to the following year's harvest. This will create unrelenting pressure for the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) to increase harvests without an equal opportunity to adjust levels to ensure sustainable forest management.
- **Upsets the balance established by managing for the Greatest Permanent Value.** Currently, ODF considers other forest values, such as recreation, clean water, wildlife habitat and climate resiliency. This bill gives timber production precedence over all those values.
- **Leads to increased litigation.** HB 3103 creates a new mechanism by which timber companies, counties, school districts, or other entities that receive state forest timber revenue can sue the ODF if annual timber harvest does not meet the predicted levels. As a result, ODF is likely to be sued often, diverting agency staff and public funding away from forest management.

This bill is expensive: Implementing this bill would require \$1.1 million of initial funding to start this program. The new right to sue would also cost the state significant resources in ODF and DOJ staff time and legal fees.

This bill is entirely unnecessary: The State Forester, with guidance from the Board of Forestry, already sets sustainable harvest levels consistent with the mandate to manage for Greatest Permanent Value and reports this to the legislature.
HB 3103-5 is currently in the Ways & Means Committee - with the tight state budget, Oregon does not have the money to spend on unnecessary bills.



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