

REVENUE: Revenue statement issued

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

---

<b>Action:</b>	Without Recommendation as to Passage and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means
<b>Vote:</b>	6 - 2 - 0
<b>Yeas:</b>	Bailey, Barnhart, Boone, Jenson, Smith J., Cannon
<b>Nays:</b>	Bentz, Gilliam
<b>Exc.:</b>	0
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Beth Patrino, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	4/21, 4/28

---

**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Authorizes State Board of Forestry (Board) to designate areas on state forestlands as natural resource conservation areas. Defines “low impact public uses” as recreational uses that do not adversely affect resource values of an area, do not require modification of natural setting and do not detract from long-term ecological processes. Authorizes Board and Department of State Lands to designate natural resource conservation areas on Common School Forest Lands and Elliott State Forest. Directs State Forester to manage designated lands for purposes of protecting high quality fish and wildlife habitat, protecting drinking water sources and mature and old-growth forests, storing carbon and allowing low-impact public uses. Lists permissible management activities in natural resource conservation areas, including restoring, enhancing and maintaining ecological systems and maintaining scenic landscapes. Permits limited harvesting and other forest-resource management activities if activities are consistent with purposes of natural resource conservation area, do not degrade suitability of area for low-impact public uses, and a detailed environmental impact statement is conducted and public is given an opportunity to comment. Lists prohibited management activities in natural resource conservation area including: harvesting or other forest management activities except as specified, road construction or use of motorized vehicles other than motorboats.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Uses of state forest lands
- Purposes of proposed natural resource conservation areas
- Similar legislation in Washington State
- Current forest-land management classification system in administrative rules

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** ORS 530.050 directs the management of state forest lands. House Bill 3249 authorizes the Board of Forestry and the Department of State Lands to designate natural resource conservation areas on Common School Forest Lands, the Elliott State Forest, and other state forest lands.