

February 27, 2013

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**Please vote YES on HB 2202:**

I just keep hearing Joni Mitchell's song "Big Yellow Taxi" playing in my head when I think about this topic.

They paved paradise  
And put up a parking lot  
With a pink hotel \*, a boutique  
And a swinging hot spot

Don't it always seem to go  
That you don't know what you've got  
Till it's gone  
They paved paradise  
And put up a parking

We have a finite amount of farm land and farmer's have no other land to farm. We have many others areas from which to extract rock. Why in the world would we forever change the nature of our Class I and Class II farmland? A cheap buck? I say protect EFU and vote YES on HB 2202!

Our population never seems to go down and we are left with a finite amount of farmland to feed the ever growing masses.

Please do the right and protect the more than 99% family owned EFU farmland in Oregon by voting YES on HB 2202. We cannot afford to lose another acre for any reason.

If mining is allowed on EFU, reclamation does not work and humpty dumpty can not be put back together. There are some things that should not be messed with, and frankly this is one of them.

By the way, I learned from the National Resource Conservation Service that Marion County and the Willamette Valley grow a wider variety of crops than any other area in the world. That is an astonishing fact. This is the most diverse and productive area of farmland in the world. Can we really afford to degrade even an small area?

**Vote Yes on HB 2202 and protect farmland for future farming!**