

I am writing to voice my support for Bill HB2813 banning the commercial use of Arundo donax in Oregon. Arundo donax is extremely invasive and difficult to control, especially in wetlands. Oregon wetlands house much of our best habitat for wildlife, including ducks important to the nations hunting community and songbirds important to the nations birders. Several endangered species, including Oregon's endemic Turtle and Bradshaw's lomatium would also be threatened by escaping Arundo donax. State and Federal authorities are already underfunded and under legal pressure not to use chemical controls for invasive weeds, and private landowners should not be expected to take on yet another expensive invasion. Arundo donax is non-native to this region and would impose significant ecological and financial threats to our area. Any biofuels based initiative should use local species or species already known to be easy to control and non-invasive. We have these species already in state (Oregon ash, Douglas fir, Balsam Poplar all come to mind).

Please pass this information along to the committee.

Sincerely,

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