

Testimony 3-31-15

Mark Gourley

Support HB 3428, HB 3429, HB 3430, HB 3434

I prescribe, prepare, and administer vegetation management in forest ecosystems in the Oregon Coast Range.

For 37 years I have been treating about 5000 acres per year using:

- Chainsaws
- Backpack applications
- Aerial application
- Hack and Squirt

For the past ten years I have been chairman of the Forest Vegetation Research Cooperative at Oregon State University.

I co-hosted the International Forest Vegetation Management Symposium eight years ago.

I have worked with more than three dozen Master and PhD students at Oregon State University collaboratively researching vegetation management, habitat, and fish and wildlife interactions.

I discovered that by controlling **Brachypodium sylvaticum** (false broom) with aerial applications of Roundup and Velpar, we enhanced the growth of Kincaid Lupine, the primary nectar source of the Fenders Blue Butterfly, an endangered species

recently rediscovered by Dr. Paul Hammond, an entomologist at Oregon State University.

Working with watershed councils using OWEB monies and Janet Fults, formerly with ODA pesticide division, we developed protocols for the safe treatment of Habitat, an aquatic herbicide, in fish bearing streams to control the invasive Japanese Knotweed.

Our buffers for adjacent crops and aquatic systems are adequate.

Before our spray projects, I notify adjacent landowners. Several are rentals, off the power grid cabins, and weekend property users. We are often outside cell range for phones. Adjacent to our property are two trailer parks with a migratory work force.

My experience shows that there is not one particular system of advanced notice that will work for contacting everyone each time we spray.