

# Stephen Lawn – Biomass Consulting

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Joint Subcommittee on Natural Resources  
Oregon State Legislature  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Written Testimony  
HB 5019 Department of Forestry

Honorable Co-Chairs Devlin and Rayfield and Committee Members:

This letter is provided as written testimony on HB 5019 which requests general funds for various programs operated by the Oregon Department of Forestry. As a consultant that focuses on the development of biomass utilization projects, I am in support of the specific funding request in HB 5019 to promote the use of forest biomass.


I have been working with several companies that are expanding the use of forest biomass through the development of innovative and creative uses of low value forest residuals. Specific focus has been on the full utilization of western juniper. The continued efforts of the private sector in partnership with the Oregon Department of Forestry will increase the removal of juniper to reduce hazardous fire conditions and improve habitat conditions for the sage grouse.

The state's promotion of market opportunities for forest biomass leverages the efforts of the private sector to develop projects that can technically and economically utilize the forest biomass removed during forest and rangeland restoration projects. These efforts not only restore forest and rangeland habitats, they also result in rural economic development and stability.

I urge the subcommittee to support the Oregon Department of Forestry's request presented in HB 5019, specifically the request for funds to promote the use of forest biomass.

Thank you for your efforts and attention to this measure. Please feel free to contact me at your convenience if you have any questions on this matter.

Sincerely,



Stephen Lawn