

March 28, 2017

Re: HB3226

Dear State Legislators:

We are the owners of a small family tree farm (200 acres). Site preparation and planting (much with our own hands) in the late 1970's, has produced a tree farm that we are very proud of. We have endeavored to abide by the Oregon Forest Practices Act, with each activity, whether it has been small stand thinning, later machine thinning, or clear logging in areas that need to be cleaned up and started over. We have contracted licensed sprayers when indicated, as a critical step in site preparation, and establishing a new stand of trees. This has been done with great care, to protect the environment and honor buffers from streams, populated areas or neighbors boundaries. Only approved and safe herbicides have been used to accomplish what otherwise may have been unsuccessful. Appropriate notifications and approval have regularly been obtained from the State Forestry.

The current Oregon Forest Practices Act, though not perfect is an outstanding document to guide foresters and small woodland owners in the management of their lands.

We realize that there are always those on the sidelines who for selfish reasons want to disrupt what is working quite well in our society. HB 3226 is one of those efforts, that would make it almost impossible to retrieve any rewards for our previous efforts. As our legislators, we would encourage you to study the bill and see the devious intent behind it, and take appropriate steps to defeat it. I hope to be in attendance on Thursday March 30th, and add my support to the many Oregon Small Woodland owners, who unitedly make Oregon the beautiful and special state that it is.

Sincerely yours,

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