

Please submit my testimony in regards to HB 3226:

The manner in which Oregon's forests are grown and harvested affects the water quality for all of us. In addition, the industries of fishing, farming, the safety of schoolyards, and residences are impacted. The 2017 proposed forest plan is not enough to cool the streams running through coastal timber country.

During a presentation by the Oregon Department of Forestry, November 16, 2016, at Clatsop Community College, it was made apparent to most attending, that the measures described in the plan will not be adequate to cool any fish bearing streams to the temperatures needed to preserve or enhance the salmon populations. The twenty and forty foot "baby buffers" leave too few trees to shade the water. And leaves, a laughable, two or three trees within the cut area for wildlife.

In addition, it ignores the "non-fish bearing" creeks, which contribute from their up stream location, pouring their non-shaded, warmed water into the sun shielded, cooler fish bearing streams below – heating them up. Thereby canceling out the cooling effects of the buffer zones.

The plan makes no sense. The diagrams in the displays were confusing and graphically inaccurate. It's as if the Department of Forestry is doing the least it needs to do to satisfy salmon habitat requirements for the federal government and environmentalists.

Spray operators for the timber companies are not regulated or held responsible when spraying herbicides over tree "crops". Much like the Army Corps of Engineers they are held unaccountable for their actions, and not able to be prosecuted. Wind drift, miscalculations of weather, and chemicals poorly combined will occur, without parties being able to collect damages or have regulations changed for safety. In addition, 2,4-T states on its material data safety sheet (MDSS) that it's hazardous to fish. So why is it being used as an herbicide near fish bearing streams?

Buffer zones should be seventy five to one hundred feet if they are really serious about recovering salmon. And different herbicides or agricultural weed suppression techniques need to be used.

Regards,

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