



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Forestry

State Forester's Office

2600 State Street

Salem, OR 97310

503-945-7200

FAX 503-945-7212

TTY 503-945-7213 / 800-437-4490

<http://www.odf.state.or.us>

April 7th, 2017

Honorable Brian Clem, Chair
House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources
Room 347, State Capitol
900 Court St. NE
Salem, OR 97301



Re: House Bill 3151 – Relating to Sudden Oak Death; and declaring an emergency.

Dear Chair Clem and Members of the Committee:

The Oregon Department of Forestry appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 3151. ODF does not have a position on this bill.

Since 2001, an interagency task force and affected landowners have worked to slow the spread of sudden oak death (SOD) in Curry County. Activities ranging from timber harvest and collection of special forest products to ornamental nursery production have been affected by SOD. In order to minimize the risk of new infestations and prevent human assisted spread, state and federal quarantines are in place in Curry County (ORS 603-052-1230 and 7 CFR 301.92).

As a part of the interagency team, the Department is the lead agency for the survey, detection and monitoring, and planning and administration of eradication treatments on non-federal land. The Department also assists landowners with education and treatment options for slowing the spread of SOD. These operations are managed by the statewide forest pathologist in the Salem Private Forests Division and two Coos Bay District SOD foresters located in Brookings.

Funding for the SOD program has been shared by both state and federal agencies, including the USDA Forest Service and the DOI Bureau of Land Management. Financial contributions from the Department fund the pathologist and the two SOD foresters in addition to \$75,000 per year for eradication treatments. All aspects of the SOD program are essential to slow the spread of the disease in Curry County. State funds provide the cost sharing amount necessary to receive federal funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide information regarding the SOD program within the Department.

Sincerely,

Lena Tucker, Chief
Private Forests Division
503-945-7482
Lena.L.Tucker@oregon.gov