

From: [Sarah Deumling](#)
To: [Exhibits HAGLU](#)
Subject: HB 2225
Date: Monday, February 4, 2019 10:06:15 PM

From: Sarah Deumling
Zena Forest LLC
4550 Oak Grove Rd.
Rickreall, OR 97371
February 4, 2019

To: House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee
Re: HB 2225

My son with his family and I live on and manage family forestland in the Eola Hills of Polk County. Over the past 30 plus years we have aggregated over 1300 contiguous acres of forest (contrary to the usual parcelization) from which we make our living. With the rapidly increasing number of dwellings in our area, many due to M. 49, it becomes increasingly difficult to practice forestry and one of our concerns is that the more houses, the more people, the more chance of fire. We are NOT in an ODF fire protected district so would have to rely on several small local volunteer fire groups who have no training in fighting wildland fire making the situation even more tenuous. We would actually like to see an end put to forest template dwellings all together but HB 2225 is an improvement over the current situation. I know that Friends of Polk County, of which I am a member, has had to keep an eye on these applications over the years and sometimes needed to oppose those which were inappropriate.

Of perhaps greatest concern to us is the fact that we are in a DWR Groundwater Limited Area. Houses that are built in these hills through one land use trick or another, including Forest Template, are generally McMansions which use a lot of water. Over the years older wells in the area have repeatedly run dry in the late summer months near to large new houses and once due to misuse of an irrigation well. Water resources are increasingly precious and it strikes me as foolhardy to allow new dwellings in such areas whose owners have nothing to do with natural resource management (ag or forestry).

I urge you so support the strongest possible version of HB 2225 and going forward to think about eliminating the Forest Template land use loophole entirely.

Thank you for your service and your consideration of these ideas.

Sincerely,
Sarah Deumling