

Representative Clem and Committee Members

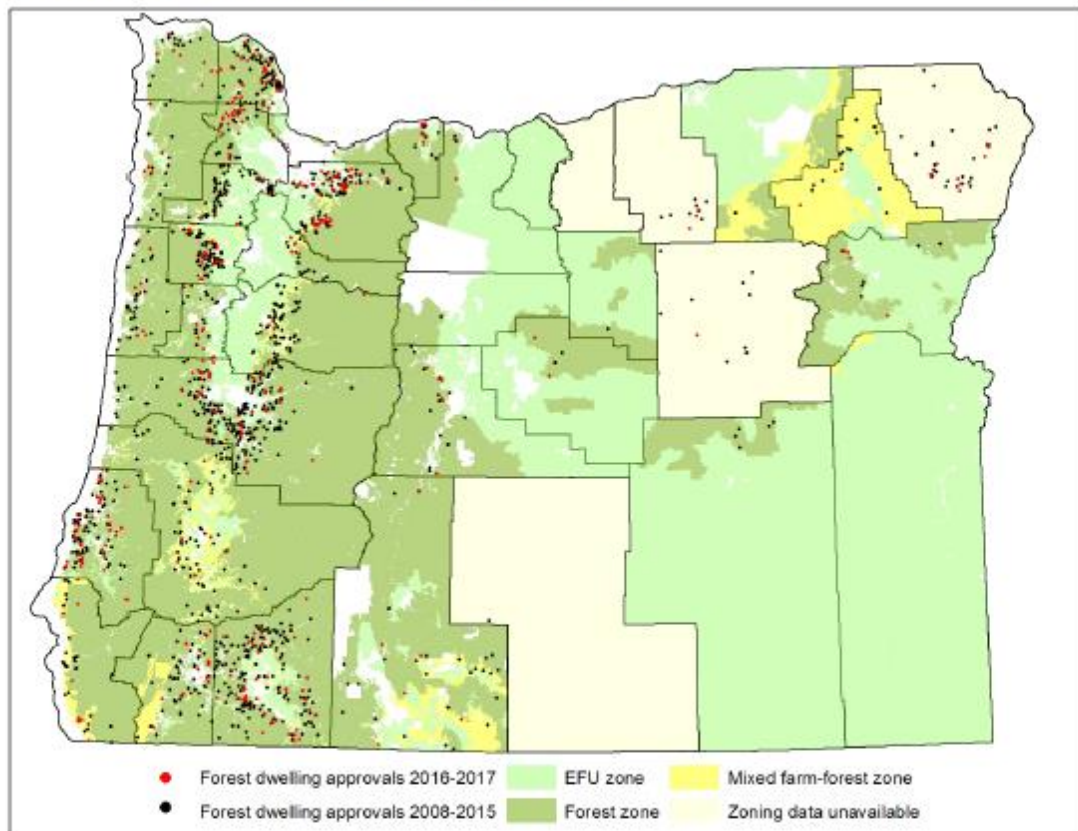
Comments on HB 2469

This is a very bad bill and if passed would provide a blank check for more dwellings on forest land. According to the 2016-2017 Oregon Farm and Forest Report:

- 1) most dwelling approvals on forest land are template dwellings
- 2) 85% of template dwellings are on the most productive forest soils, and
- 3) 66% of the 2016-2017 template forest dwellings are on parcels of 20 acres or less.

This bill could potentially double the number of forest dwellings already present (see figure below) and is not necessary for family forest management. I own and manage 156 acres of forest property in Benton County. If current forest land owners need help to manage their property, they can apply for a hardship dwelling under current regulations.

Figure 13. Map of new dwellings on Forestland, 2008-2017



Any new regulations for additional forest dwellings should take into consideration:

- 1) relationship to actual forest uses,
- 2) demonstrated forest operator requirements,
- 3) minimum acreage requirements, and
- 4) increased fire risks especially near rural-urban interfaces.

This proposed “blank check” does nothing to protect forest land and does not comply with the state’s forest land policies. Please vote no on HB 2469.

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