

Our 171 acre timber farm is located just outside of Philomath, in Benton County. As of 2021, it has been in my family for 100 years. My siblings and I inherited it from our mother in 2010. She, in turn, inherited it from her Polish-immigrant mother, our grandmother.

The timber on our farm has been sustainably managed by professional foresters (Trout Mountain) for decades. We seldom harvest, and when we do, we use the proceeds to maintain the property. The farm has never been the means of support for any of its family owners. Our forest practices have entitled the farm to FSC certification: "FSC certification ensures that products come from responsibly managed forests that provide environmental, social and economic benefits. The FSC Principles and Criteria provide a foundation for all forest management standards globally, including the FSC US National Standard."

Since 2010, I have been the sibling in charge of tracking farm income and expenditures. My siblings and I have never taken a profit personally from the few harvests during our ownership. To the contrary, we have each contributed several thousand dollars toward the yearly expenses of paying, among other things, the taxes, insurance, professional accountant, professional forester, maintaining equipment, maintaining forest roads, maintaining the bridge that connects the two halves of the farm, and reducing the number of invasive species. Our labor is free and we love and care for our piece of heaven which has great personal meaning to each of us.

We have a succession plan intended to ensure that the farm remain as a family jewel that nevertheless comes with a negative economic impact. That negative impact makes sustaining the farm as it currently operates possible only to the extent that the owners can continue to afford to support it. The farm, as it currently operates, will never be self-supporting.

The way we manage our farm benefits Oregon, the nation and the globe. We intend to continue this style of management unless it becomes impossible to afford. We currently pay our share of taxes as beneficiaries of the STF designation. Please help us continue to afford our farm by opposing this bill that would substantially increase our taxes.