

My Name is Jim James, a professional forester. I am opposed to HB 2379. It will implement a severance tax that will have a negative impact of family forest owners who often have less than a 5% return on investment following a timber harvest. The new tax could cause some family forest owners to consider converting their forestland to an agricultural use that does not have the same tax burdens. HB 2379 also eliminates Oregon Forest Resource Institute, an organization, I know for a fact, provides educational information to family forest owners, assisting them in managing their forests sustainably. Please do not move HB 2379 forward.

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