

February 6, 2022

House Committee on Environment & Natural Resources:

Rep. Pam Marsh, Chair  
Rep. David Brock Smith, Vice Chair  
Rep. Zach Hudson, Vice Chair  
Rep. Christine Goodwin, Member  
Rep. Ken Helm, Member  
Rep. Raquel Moore-Green, Member  
Rep. Mark Owens, Member  
Rep. Khanh Pham, Member  
Rep. Andrea Valderrama, Member  
Rep. Marty Wilde, Member

Re: **Support for HB 4148**

Dear Chair Marsh and Members of the Committee:

We request that this letter be entered into the public record on this matter. **We support HB 4148.**

First, a little background about us. My wife and I are retired, are small woodland owners and we own and manage about 84 acres of forestland in western Oregon near Estacada, which we have been doing for over 30 years. We are proud of our forest stewardship, and we were honored for our work in 2020 as the Clackamas County Farm Forestry Association's Woodland Farmer of the Year. We also received the "Fish & Wildlife Steward Award for Forestlands" in 2020 from the Oregon Departments of Forestry and Fish & Wildlife, primarily for our fish habitat restoration projects on our property. These projects have entailed the placements of engineered log jams, boulders and spawning gravels within the salmon-bearing creek that flows through our property and the design, project management and fund-raising efforts to replace a pair of county road fish-blocking culverts with a new bridge. All of these projects have been successful. We understand the importance of such restoration efforts and strongly encourage that the State of Oregon do what it can to promote more voluntary efforts along these lines. The concept of "salmon credits" appears to be a good idea to encourage additional restoration. While we do not anticipate that we will engage in any further activities on our properties (we have done all we can), we want to ensure that other woodland owners that have salmon-bearing streams can exercise such opportunities with minimal financial impact to themselves.

Small woodland owners own about 35% of the privately-held forestland in the state, much of it in the low-elevation, more productive salmon habitat. Therefore, all efforts should be undertaken to incentivize these owners to consider engaging in such fish habitat restoration projects.

**In summary, please pass HB 4148, provided it will be available to all Oregonians that possess salmon-bearing streams on their properties to apply for and to provide another vital tool in Oregon's tool kit to restore anadromous fish habitat.**

Thank you.

Sincerely,



David & Mary Ann Bugni  
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