

Submitter: Sharon Waterman

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery

Measure: SB1534

I urge you to oppose SB 1534 or set it aside for another session. As a landowner, I am opposed to the working lands concept as we already are proactive in managing our land for conservation and carbon sequestration. This bill provides for growing more government through the creation of advisory committee which will create goals and directs a carbon sequestration inventory for natural and working lands. I figure in the end this will create more restrictions on the land and its management by a bureaucracy that has no experience on the ground doing such projects on their own land. I'm concerned that some of the definitions will fall short of maximizing our forests' potential to contribute to climate change mitigation. The bill shortchanges the long-term carbon storage benefits of building with wood products in favor of policy that would reduce timber harvests which we currently see in 2022 SB 1501 & 1502. There is no reason to pass this bill in the short session. It is time to send the bill into a work committee of actual on the ground agriculture and forest land managers.