

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Item 31: Department of Forestry Forest Legacy Tualatin Hills Acquisition

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Natural Resources Subcommittee
Carrier: Senator Frederick

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Interim Committee on Ways and Means approve, retroactively, the submission of a federal grant application to the U.S. Forest Service, Forest Legacy Program, in the amount of \$10.2 million for the acquisition of forestland in the Tualatin hills.

The Tualatin Mountain Forest Project would establish a working research forest owned by Oregon State University, to serve as a national model for an actively managed forest that balances financial productivity with conservation. The match requirement of \$3.4 million, or 25%, has been committed by Metro. The application deadline was August 31, 2023. No additional positions or FTE are necessary, however, the Department may submit a subsequent request for additional Federal Funds expenditure limitation during the 2024 session.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends approval.