

Submitter: Ronald Bunch

On Behalf Of: Self

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB530

Chair Golden and Vice-Chair Girod and Members of the Senate Natural Resources Committee:

I am writing on behalf of myself and family in strong support of the Natural Climate Solutions Bill (NCS) - SB 530. We have a small timber-parcel on the east side of the Oregon coast range. From the way the landscape is changing and it has become obvious that the weather is becoming hotter. There is less soil moisture and obvious heat stress on trees and other vegetation. Some of the small streams don't flow as well or often as they used to. We are now more concerned about wildfire even though the land is far west of the Cascades. Therefore we support the NCS legislation because it will provide needed support to help make lands like ours more productive and resilient to extreme weather.

Also, natural and working lands can help mitigate climate change by locking up carbon in vegetation and soils. Carbon is a key part of healthy, productive soils and helps water retention, growth of high quality plant communities including healthier and more resilient trees. These conditions are also good for fish and wildlife. Therefore we support HB 530 for these other obvious benefits.

Thank you.

Ron Bunch