



RE: SB 530

Dear Chair Golden, Vice-Chair Girod, and members of the Committee,

On behalf of Great Hells Canyon Council (GHCC) I wish to offer our excitement, gratitude and support for SB 530, which will help maximize carbon sequestration and improve the resilience of Oregon's forests, agricultural lands, wetlands, and natural resource economies.

We are proud to be part of a broad coalition of non-profit organizations, local elected officials, farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners across Oregon who are eager to see the legislature advance Natural Climate Solutions and pass SB 530 this session.

GHCC is based in rural Northeast Oregon. We see first hand and are working daily with a diverse group of stakeholders (ranchers, farmers, tribal partners, other NGOs, and natural resource practitioners) who are all extremely concerned about the effects of a changing climate. We are already seeing the effects of climate change on the livelihoods of our local producers, pollinators, wildlife, forests, and water.

Science tells us that in order to avoid climate catastrophe, we must transform the way we use and manage our land—from how we grow our food, to how we manage our forests and wetlands.

By investing in Natural Climate Solutions, SB 530 will both help address climate change *and* make our natural resource economy more resilient in the face of ever-worsening climate impacts.

As a conservation organization, our work is driven by the desire to maintain all the pieces of our incredible and diverse ecosystems for their intrinsic value and for the many tangible and intangible benefits to our human communities. As people, our staff is also driven by personal relationships with our friends and neighbors who caretake much of the land and need solutions, guidance, and funding to adjust their practices. Collectively, we are focused on utilizing trees, soils, and our shared abilities to help us fight the worsening effects of climate change and the biodiversity crisis.

This common sense legislation will help ensure our forests, waters, agricultural lands, and natural resource economy is more resilient in the face of ever-worsening climate impacts, while maximizing carbon sequestration to help achieve our climate goals.

For these reasons, I **strongly urge you to vote YES on SB 530.**

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emily Cain".

Emily Cain
Executive Director, Greater Hells Canyon Council

