

Submitter: Todd Vaughn

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources

Measure: SB795

My name is Todd Vaughn, and I am a resident of Douglas County. As articulated in the O&C agreements, these forests are to be "managed for the greatest value". This "value" should be defined by timber-harvest and recreational opportunities, and in the case of timber harvest, fifty % of gross receipts goes to the counties. This agreement (and the revenue that was promised) has been unlawfully reneged upon, under the guise of the "value" as defined by habitat considerations which are arbitrary at best. In the meantime, tens of thousands of acres of this O&C timber are destroyed by wildfire every year, while counties like ours slowly go broke. This bill would rightfully give these forests back to the counties from which they were taken, thus allowing the counties to manage them according to their own Land Use Plans, to the benefit of the residents that live near and throughout these forest-lands.