

Submitter: Greg Miller

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3103

Co-chairs Helm and Owens and members of the committee,

As a retired forester, I ask for your support of HB 3103.

This is a reasonable good governance bill that directs the state forester to establish and publish sustainable harvest levels on state forests. As a former inventory forester, it also develops a modern timber inventory model to track forest conditions and guide responsible management. This is key to ensuring viable sustainable timber sales. Moreover, it will provide greater transparency and accountability in how our state forests are managed.

This bill does not increase harvest on state lands. Instead, it simply provides local businesses who depend on state timber harvests the predictability they need to plan for the future. An added benefit is that such predictable state timber harvests also support those local timber-dependent communities.

Bottom line: it asks the state to tell us what they're going to harvest, and then do what they say they're going to do. That's it.