

Submitter: Stephanie Duffy
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB4105

Dear Co-Chairs Helm and Owens, and Members of the Committee,

I oppose House Bill 4105 and its amendments. This timber industry bill undermines the state forest habitat conservation plan and would result in more clearcuts, more lawsuits, less habitat for salmon and wildlife, and less carbon storage.

The State Forester already sets sustainable harvest levels consistent with the mandate to manage state forests for “Greatest Permanent Value” for all Oregonians and reports this to the public. The ODF has exceeded its harvest objectives over the past 10 years.

As well, this bill is EXPENSIVE. Based on 2025 fiscal impact estimates from an identical bill, implementation would require \$1.1 million of initial funding to start this program. The new right to sue the ODF would also cost the state significant resources in ODF and DOJ staff time and legal fees, estimated to upward of ten million dollars per biennium.

This bill would upset the balanced management on state forests by elevating logging over other values. By establishing a mandatory harvest rule, the bill would elevate logging over clean air and water, fish and wildlife habitat, carbon storage and recreation. It would limit the state forester's and the Board of Forestry's ability to protect public resources and prevent the ODF from implementing its Climate Change and Carbon Plan. The bill would only require consideration, not compliance, with the Habitat Conservation Plan and other policies that protect clean water, fish and wildlife habitat and carbon capture.

I urge you to OPPOSE this bill. Instead, I encourage this committee to focus on measures that would increase carbon storage in our state forests and safeguard our public resources for our children and future generations.

Please don't let this bill pass out of committee!!!

Signed, a lifelong Oregonian raising a family here, who is invested in the protection of our forests,

Stephanie Duffy