

Submitter: Kathaleen Parker
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or SB1541
Topic:

Dear Chair Golden, Vice-chair Nash, and Members of the Committee,

As of the end of 2025, Oregon's land-based systems (forests, soils, etc.) are recognized as a net carbon sink, although the exact total tonnage stored in the state changes annually. Key data from the 2025 Land-Based Net Carbon Inventory includes: Forest Carbon Sequestration: Oregon's forests are the state's largest carbon sink, with forests and wood products removing an estimated 49.5 million metric tons of CO₂ equivalent (\(MMTCO_{2}e\)) per year. Total Annual Sequestration: The net annual sequestration (removal) by all land categories is estimated at roughly 30.9 million metric tons of \(\text{CO}_{2}e\). Total Carbon Storage (Stock): Oregon's forests alone are estimated to store approximately 3.2 billion metric tons of carbon. While the state acts as a net sink, this capacity has declined by 46.3 \(\text{MMTCO}_{2}e\)) over the past 34 years due to factors like wildfires and declining sequestration in harvested wood products. Additionally, in 2021, Oregon produced approximately 38.54 million metric tons of CO₂ emissions from all sectors, according to the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

I urge you to pass SB 1541.

Kathaleen Parker
Salem