

# Protect Oregon's State Forests & Finances -

## Please Oppose HB 4105

### **Oregonians support natural resource protection over logging!**

Recent polling by the Oregon Forest Resources Council shows that Oregonians value clean air, clean water and wildlife habitat over logging. This is consistent with polling conducted in 2022 by the Oregon Values and Beliefs Center showing strong support for resource protection on state forests.

### **HB 4105 is a Timber Industry Bill That Would**

- **Increase industrial clearcut logging on Oregon's public lands.** HB 4105 requires the state forester to establish 10-year logging levels, in annual increments, set through rulemaking. This would create additional pressure on the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) to increase harvest levels at the expense of natural resource values cherished by Oregonians.
- **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.

### **HB 4105 is an Expensive waste of taxpayers' and ODF time and money**

- **Leads to increased litigation.** The bill would create a new right for timber companies, counties and tax districts to sue the ODF for alleged violations of the timber harvest rule, creating endless litigation and limiting the ODF's ability to manage state forests for multiple values. Further, limiting who has the right to sue may be unconstitutional.
- **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.

### **HB 4105 is Unnecessary**

- **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.
- **Revenues from state forests are expected to increase over the next ten years.** The ODF is currently evaluating plans, with the support of timber dependent counties, to increase timber harvest and revenue from state forests for the next ten years in a way that is consistent with the state forest Habitat Conservation Plan.

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### Oregon State Forests Belong to ALL Oregonians, and are Crucial Habitat for Salmon and Other Endangered Species

Western Oregon holds more than 600,000 acres of state public forestlands, from the Santiam State Forest to the Tillamook and Clatsop, the outskirts of Salem and Portland to the Pacific Coast. Our forests support clean flowing rivers for salmon, critical habitat for a wide range of wildlife, recreation areas, and a robust outdoor economy.

### Oregon State Forests Are Economic Powerhouses - As Intact Forests!

- 600,000+ acres of state public forestlands
- Drive a massive \$550M outdoor economy
- Support 10,500+ jobs
- Are home to six salmon stronghold rivers
- Are home to 17 endangered or at-risk species
- Provide clean drinking water for 500,000+ people

### A Legacy Threatened

For too long, the timber industry has called the shots and clearcut Oregon's state forests. Now, in a rapidly warming climate with increased temperatures driving threatened salmon runs and imperiled wildlife to extinction, industry still wants to increase clearcutting on state forests.

The industry has tried to stop, stall, and discredit efforts to reform the way ODF manages this shared resource. We need your help to stand tall for Oregon Forests!



OREGON  
WILD

CASCADIA  
WILDLANDS  
We like it wild.



350  
PDX



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