

To the Members of the Board of Forestry

In the late 19th century John Muir was passionately and eloquently advocating for the protection of our Pacific Northwest forests against short term economic interests in his book, "The American Wilderness".

I highly recommend a reading of what he has to say about the value of keeping our forests healthy and especially protecting our water sources.

And here we are, over a century since then still debating about whether to protect a healthy forest environment in our Oregon State Legislature.

I urge you to research and implement reasonable forestry practices throughout the state but especially in our fragile coastal forests, where I live. Our forests are directly connected to our drinking water, and are on the west slope of the Coast range so they are more vulnerable to silt runoff and landslides.

The DEQ prepared a comprehensive report in July 2015 that gives a clear picture of the effects of logging practices on our coastal environment. It was withdrawn from publication due to pressure from logging interests.

<https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/3251066-CoastDWPP-DraftFinal-July2015-v3.html#document/p1>

I am counting on you to look to the long run and work to protect our forests and environment. The time is now.

Thank you,
Susan C Walsh

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