

November 6, 2019

Oregon Board of Forestry  
2600 State Street  
Salem, OR 97310

**RE: A Positive outlook for Wildlife in Working Forests**

Chair Imeson and fellow members of the Oregon Board of Forestry:

I am a consulting Certified Wildlife Biologist® and the owner of a small wildlife consulting firm. I earned my Bachelors of Science Degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Management with a focus on managed forest interactions from Oregon State University in 2000. My entire professional career focuses on working with landowners to promote sustainable timber harvest. Much of my work is developing and implementing biodiversity management plans for timber companies. Through this effort I work with companies who own timberlands extending throughout western Oregon.

I have written and I help implement wildlife and biodiversity management plans for my clients and I'm excited to share that this equates to over a half million acres of workings forest extending throughout western Oregon from Washington to California!!

I am alarmed and surprised when I hear statements like "wicked problems". And I'm frustrated when I hear we are responding to another single species petition. To me, it feels like the tone here at the Board of Forestry meetings is that "something is broken" and that "without immediate action" the fisheries and wildlife species found in Oregon's forests will perish.

I'm here today to offer an alternate view based on my years of experience working directly for wildlife in working forests. I have spent my career working with landowners such Lone Rock Timber, Starker Forests, Giustina Land and Timber, GreenWood Resources, and more. And I can tell you we are making decisions and implementing actions that benefit wildlife. We do this all the time. For example, we retain or create snags for cavity nesting birds, we leave legacy trees for the many species of wildlife that rely on large diameter wood, we leave downed wood in the forest for small mammals, amphibians and reptiles, we protect streams by leaving buffers, we complete fish habitat improvement projects, and work to remove barriers to fish passage. We intentionally create bio-dens! We manage intentionally for wildlife! These examples only scratch the surface of the work we're doing for wildlife. This is across more than a half million acres of land in Oregon. Also, this number only reflects some of my clients. We can do so much together. I bring all this to your attention to shed light on the positive actions occurring every day for wildlife in Oregon's forests.

Thank you



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