From: Chris Freeman
To: ODF_DL_Board of Forestry
Subject: Worried about our state's economy
Date: Thursday, September 03, 2020 2:02:59 PM

Dear Board of Forestry,

As a business that operates in both California and Oregon, I'm worried that Oregon will follow the path of California and put forests, communities, wildlife and jobs at risk.

That's why I'm writing to ask that you protect Oregon's forest industry and 60,000 family-wage jobs Oregonians need now more than ever.

A Habitat Conservation Plan that cuts timber harvests and sets aside forests as off limits reserves under the assumption of improved habitat and safety is naïve at best. California has tried this approach and as a result, wildfires have increased, habitat has been lost and communities threatened with lives lost and billions of dollars in property damage.

Please remember the mill workers who count on fiber from state forests. Please remember that rural communities in western Oregon rely upon the revenues from timber harvests to fund schools, libraries and other critical services. Please do the right thing.

Let's manage our forests with our children and grandchildren in mind – making sure our forests and the communities nearby will be healthy and thriving decades from now.

Thank you,