



Council of Forest Trust Land Counties

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TIM JOSI/FTLAC COMMENTS TO BOARD OF FORESTRY

JUNE 8, 2016

Good morning, I am Tim Josi, Chair of both the Forest Trust Lands Advisory Committee and the Council of Forest Trust Land Counties.

As directed by our bylaws, I have a majority vote from the FTLAC/CFTLC board to present my testimony to you today.

1. Gilchrist State Forest parcel sale to Crescent Sanitary District:
 - We support the 200-acre parcel sale.
 - This sale will have an insignificant impact on management of the Gilchrist.
 - The proposed Sanitary District Community Sewer System will protect public health and promote economic opportunity.
 - Most importantly, the Klamath County Commissioners support this sale

2. Proposed POP on Education, Recreation and Interpretation GF request to cover 75% of the cost, with the remaining 25% paid through public/private partnerships:
 - We discussed this issue thoroughly and decided to not weigh in at this time
 - ODF is in the beginning stages of developing its entire package
 - We will wait for more information
 - However, we do understand the public benefits associated education, recreation and interpretation.
 - These are mandated services as directed by the 1991 House Bill 2501 and include:
 - Camping, fishing, hunting, hiking, mountain bike riding, off-highway motorized recreation, education on forest management for the general public and school children
 - ODF invests approximately \$3.5 million a year (including OPRD funds) in these services
 - Public demand is outpacing State Forests' ability to provide these social benefits with existing revenue and staff.
 - We are aware of the upcoming GF demands. The likelihood of obtaining legislative support will be difficult.
 - Regardless, the public benefits provided by our State Forests are obvious.
 - ODF's current fiscal crisis will require difficult decisions that may impact these important social benefits.