

The economies of Coastal Oregon counties depend on the woods products industry. The decision you will ultimately make matters a great deal to us, and I urge you to consider the economic and social impacts to counties and to our communities and citizens.

For Oregon's rural counties, the strength of our economies and our social fabric are linked to the vibrancy of our employment base. Jobs in the timber industry are some of our best jobs. They combine high wages with full benefits. It is VERY important for rural counties to protect these valuable jobs.

In Douglas County, the average private sector wage is just over \$27,000 per year. Jobs in the woods, in lumber manufacturing and trucking pay between \$45,000 and \$51,000 per year. By comparison, tourist sector jobs in Douglas County average just under \$17,000 per year.

So, for counties, the best outcome is to permit active management activities on as much land as possible.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,



Tim Freeman
Douglas County Commissioner