

To the Oregonian and the

May 26,2019

OREGON BOARD OF FORESTRY

2600 State Street

Salem, OR 97310

To the Board of Forestry;

I moved to Oregon from California fifteen years ago, having found my hearts home here. In the fifteen years I have lived here I have witnessed the horrific devastation of our forests from the effects of clearcutting. The area where I lived in California was in the Sierra Nevadas, in a community largely supported by the lumber industry. You do not see clear cuts in California (or Washington) as they have progressive forest practices, nor does the state deal with the problems associated with clear cuts: run-off pollution of water sources, toxic pesticides affecting both animal and human populations, landslide dangers. As experienced in the recent wildfires, erosion, siltation and mudslides increase whenever the land is denuded. Our Oregon Forest Practices Act is woefully out of date, making a mockery of Oregon's 'green' reputation.

As policies stand, vital services are tied to the continued destruction of our forests. Why then have the local taxes on the timber industry been eliminated? Oregon could be enjoying the benefits of increased eco-tourism, agri-tourism, or alternative energy industries, if funds were provided to retrain lumber industry employees.

It looks to many of us that the timber industry controls our state. I understand timber lobbyists exert extreme pressure on legislators. However, an ever growing number of the voting citizens of this state are finished with witnessing the rape of our once beautiful forests.

Please:

- Reinstate taxes on the timber industry at all levels
- change current practices to disallow clearcutting
- fund retraining programs for timber industry employees
- stop the use of pesticides and herbicides on clear-cut lands

I am including in this email photos of the devastation of the forests within two miles of my home. Please come see for yourselves the extent of the damage and danger to our natural spaces in Tillamook and Clatsop counties.

Sincerely,

Glenna Gray

Nehalem OR

