

LOGGING WITHOUT LAWS

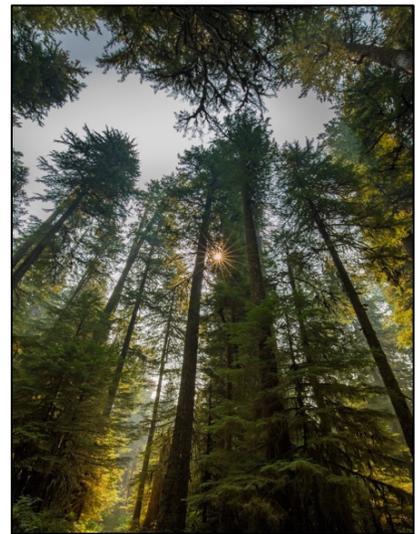
Congress is considering legislation that targets protected old-growth forests on public lands and guts our environmental laws

On November 1, the House of Representatives passed perhaps the single greatest attack on America's public lands in decades. The so-called "**Resilient Federal Forest Act**" (**HR 2936**) stokes fears about forest fires to justify gutting our environmental laws and fast-tracking aggressive logging projects on our public lands. The bill now heads to the Senate where Oregon's senators will play a crucial role in determining whether or not the bill becomes law.

Here's an overview of what the bill seeks to do:

1. GUT AMERICA'S BEDROCK ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS

- To streamline logging in our National Forests and other public forests, the bill creates massive logging loopholes to our most important environmental rules.
- One loophole exempts logging projects up to 45 square miles from environmental review and citizen oversight (that's an area larger than the city of Eugene!)
- Other loopholes would undermine the Endangered Species Act and prevent the public from holding the government accountable when it breaks the law.



2. DRAMATICALLY INCREASE CLEAR-CUT LOGGING ON PUBLIC LANDS

- HR 2936 seeks to prioritize aggressive logging over all other values and uses on millions of acres of public land throughout the state.
- The bill sets a logging mandate that Oregon's public lands known as "O&C lands" produce half a billion board feet per year.
- This new minimum requirement is triple the current logging levels in these forests, a goal that can only be met by targeting the last of our old-growth forests.

3. SHRINK THE CASCADE-SISKIYOU NATIONAL MONUMENT

- The bill also repeals portions of the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument in S. Oregon, and requires that these lands be managed for timber production.
- Simultaneously, the Trump administration is preparing to shrink the Cascade-Siskiyou NM, opening up thousands of acres of protected public land to aggressive logging.

TAKE ACTION!

Stand up for our public lands and core environmental laws

Now that HR 2936 has passed the House, all attention shifts to the Senate where there are already efforts underway to pass similar legislation. Due to his role on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, **Senator Ron Wyden will be a crucial player in the weeks ahead** as provisions from the bill passed recently are woven into Senate proposals.

THREE WAYS TO TAKE ACTION:

1. CALL YOUR SENATORS

Urge your senators to oppose HR 2936 and any related legislation.

Make it a habit: one call per week!

Senator Ron Wyden: 503-326-7525

Senator Jeff Merkley: 503-326-3386

Helpful Talking Points:

- I urge you to stand up for public lands by opposing HR 2936 and any related legislation!
- HR 2936 would suspend many of America's bedrock environmental laws and limit the voice of the public in management decisions.
- These exemptions from environmental review and public process would apply to logging projects as big as Eugene's city limits!
- The bill prioritizes aggressive logging above all other uses of our public lands and would rescind parts of the Cascade-Siskiyou NM

2. GET ONE OTHER PERSON TO MAKE A CALL

We need to spread the word about what Congressional Republicans are up to, especially because of the disproportionate attention given to the President right now.

3. WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor (LTE's) are short reactions from members of the community about a relevant issue in the news.

What gets published?

- Local perspective
- Timely
- Considers the audience
- Offer a counter-point

What doesn't get published?

- Too long or lack of quality
- Lack of authority
- Personal attacks
- Lack of context

Where to submit:

1. The Oregonian

- word limit: 250
- email your letter to letters@oregonian.com

2. Willamette Week

- word limit: 250
- email letter to mzusman@wweek.com

3. Portland Tribune

- word limit: 300
- google: Portland Tribune submit letter



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