

Measure 34: Supporters say the state will gain revenues with new plan

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"It's a perfect opportunity to have conservation and logging," he said. "It all comes down to the vision of the forest."

He added that if that vision is that of a tree farm, then the state's plan will work, but the measure's vision is also about conserving the habitat, he said.

The counties in which the forests are located get two-thirds of all revenues gained from timber harvesting. If the measure passes, it will cost the state between \$4.2 million and \$10.3 million a year in revenues. The state will also incur increased expenditures of between \$1.5 million and \$6.3 million a year, and one-time expenditures of about \$2 million, according to the Secretary of State's Office.

Opponents of the measure of the plan are not only concerned about the economic impact, but also the nature of the proposal itself.

Pat McCormick, spokesman for Alliance to Keep Our State Forests Working, said if the measure passes about 25 percent of the workforce in Tillamook would lose their jobs and counties

would have to bear the brunt of the cuts in different ways.

"The existing mechanisms for managing the forest are balanced," he said, adding that wildlife, endangered species and the habitat are all incorporated into the plan.

McCormick said that the measure proponents' claim that the state wants to log 85 percent of the forests is "ridiculous." Tillamook forest predominantly consists of Douglas Firs and such a monoculture is subject to various vulnerabilities such as infestations that threaten tree health, McCormick said. Part of the state's plan is to diversify the forest by planting other types of trees and getting rid of diseased trees, which would contribute to healthy forests.

"You want to harvest trees and protect all the things that are important to people," McCormick said.

He added that it took years to come up with the plan with 35 public meetings and verbal and written testimonies from thousands of people. He said the measure, with its proposal to have a special committee of sci-



Oregon's current forest management plan, which is the result of a 7-year public process, includes diversifying the forest and removing diseased trees to keep the forests healthy.

DANIELLE HICKEY
PHOTO EDITOR

entists from the top three Universities review changes to forest management plans, takes away from the public process of participation.

"The basic concern... is that this is trying to take away from the thorough and deliberate way that we use to make policy," McCormick said.

Tillamook County Commissioner

Tim Josi agrees that the measure "circumvents a very public seven-year process."

He said he believes that the adopted plan is better for the environment than setting aside 50 percent reserves and the plan has provisions for clean water, environmental restoration, salmon and recreation.

"I think (the proponents') real goal is to lock up the forest," Josi said, adding that a majority of the funding for the "very poorly thought out plan" is being taken from state groups.

If the measure passes, both Tillamook and Clatsop would lose 25 percent of their general funds, family wage jobs and sawmills may be forced to close, he said. Local governments in Tillamook, Clatsop, Columbia and Washington counties stand to lose about \$17 million.

"It would just be devastating for us if this passes and without good reason," he said. He added that Oregon schools would lose about \$8.6 million. And with less revenue to the forestry department in general, it will be unable to fund different projects such as replacing equipment and roads, providing recreational activities or having enough personnel to fight fires.

But Willer said that while there was input at public meetings that were attended by a few hundred people, the board did not pay attention to what

people really wanted.

"The Board of Forestry did not listen," he said, adding that the mission of the board is to promote timber and not wildlife or salmon.

Willer said that while the plan might decrease direct state revenues in the next two years, its long term ecological impact and financial gains were significant. He said when state timber production is decreased, private industry will step in to address the demand and the state will gain revenues because these industries pay taxes.

"It will be gained from economic opportunities opened up from our plan," Willer said. He added that 250,000 acres of the forest will continue to turn out timber.

Opponents like the Alliance to Keep our Forests Working have also expressed concern that if the measure passes, it could increase the danger of massive forest fires.

But Willer said these particular forests are not dry forests that are at high risk of fire and telling people that they are is "an insult to the intelligence of the voters in Oregon."

"Our economy is driven by our quality of life," Willer said. "Our plan is exactly for providing for the quality of life." Voters will decide on Nov. 2

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MEASURE 34

A yes vote: Management of Tillamook and Clatsop forests in an equally beneficial manner with half of the forests maintained for restoration and half for production.

A no vote: Maintains current laws with mixed-use state forest management and rejects requiring management with equal conservation and production specifications.

Source: Secretary of State Voters' Pamphlet



Laura Barth, senior biology major, and Tienna Perez-Close, senior political science major, prepare their makeup for the Best Dressed Breast Fashion Show Monday night in the EMU Ballroom.

TIM BOBOSKY
PHOTOGRAPHER

Breast cancer: Local stores donate clothing to help show

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the University's peer health educators hosted information tables in the EMU Ballroom lobby.

The show was less than one hour long, but provided an array of statistics and information to the audience.

Health Educator Annie Dochnahl said she was pleased with the show's attendance. Prior to the

event, she hoped to make it both informative and entertaining.

University freshman Liz Nolan, who attended with a group of friends, said she found the event beneficial.

"It was for a good cause and presented a lot of good information," Nolan said.

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