



from the

OFFICE OF REPRESENTATIVE CYRUS JAVADI

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Representative Javadi Spearheads Opposition to Dept. of Forestry's Habitat Conservation Plan

SALEM, OR – Representatives and Senators of rural and coastal communities sent a letter to Governor Kotek and the Department of Forestry (ODF) expressing detailed opposition to the proposed Western Oregon Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). Read the entire letter [here](#).

"The HCP, as currently proposed, would devastate the North Coast," said Representative Cyrus Javadi (R- Tillamook). "It would cost good-paying timber jobs and vital revenue that supports public safety services in Tillamook, Clatsop, and Columbia counties."

As proposed, the HCP would decrease harvest timber in North Coast forests by up to 35%. In a February 15 meeting, the Board of Forestry rejected a proposal that would have taken the plan back to the drawing board to balance the community's economic needs better.

The proposed reduction in timber harvest would gut local government budgets, with a total impact of nearly \$8.5 million – the hardest hit being local school districts (\$4.5 million) and Clatsop County (\$3 million). That is equivalent to 12 full-time employees in local government public safety programs. According to the Oregon Forest Resources Institute, eleven (11) jobs are created for every million board feet of timber harvested. Thus, the HCP could instantly kill up to 275 family-wage jobs, putting local businesses that serve those forestry workers at risk.

"My first priority is to protect the North Coast from harmful policies from Salem and Portland-centric policymakers," Javadi continued. "I have drafted priority legislation requiring ODF to do a full economic analysis and engage with various alternative plans before adopting one. This will ensure that the public knows how the ODF's actions impact their community."

LC 4295, as drafted, would require the ODF to consider other HCP Alternative plans and issue a detailed analysis of how ODF regulations impact local jobs. It will be formally introduced in the coming days.

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