

**From:** Jennifer Hamaker <[jenhamaker1@gmail.com](mailto:jenhamaker1@gmail.com)>

**Date:** July 22, 2023 at 10:05:46 AM PDT

**To:** [Jim.Kelly@odf.oregon.gov](mailto:Jim.Kelly@odf.oregon.gov), Deumling Odf <[ben.deumling@odf.oregon.gov](mailto:ben.deumling@odf.oregon.gov)>, [Karla.S.Chambers@odf.oregon.gov](mailto:Karla.S.Chambers@odf.oregon.gov), [Brenda.McComb@odf.oregon.gov](mailto:Brenda.McComb@odf.oregon.gov), [Joe.Justice@odf.oregon.gov](mailto:Joe.Justice@odf.oregon.gov), [boardofforestry@odf.oregon.gov](mailto:boardofforestry@odf.oregon.gov), [Liz.Agpaoa@odf.oregon.gov](mailto:Liz.Agpaoa@odf.oregon.gov), [Cal.T.Mukumoto@odf.oregon.gov](mailto:Cal.T.Mukumoto@odf.oregon.gov), Olivos-Rood Odf <[hilary.olivos-rood@odf.oregon.gov](mailto:hilary.olivos-rood@odf.oregon.gov)>, [Chandra.Ferrari@odf.oregon.gov](mailto:Chandra.Ferrari@odf.oregon.gov), [michael.wilson@odf.oregon.gov](mailto:michael.wilson@odf.oregon.gov), [Geoff.HUNTINGTON@oregon.gov](mailto:Geoff.HUNTINGTON@oregon.gov), Olivos-Rood Odf <[hilary.olivos-rood@odf.oregon.gov](mailto:hilary.olivos-rood@odf.oregon.gov)>

**Subject: ODF Forgot to include SDAO in their HCP**

Chair Kelly, Member of the Board of Forestry, State Forester Mukumoto, and others,

We found this letter from SDAO (Special District Association of Oregon) in the public records for the June 7th meeting in Sisters regarding their opposition of the HCP and why.

Upon further review of the HCP and its EIS, we cannot find where these 512 special districts are included in the economic impact section. If there were only one or two of these districts within the HCP area, we might be able to understand why they weren't mentioned, but there are 512 of them with no mention of how they will be impacted.

We didn't want this to slip through the cracks as many other issues have like a plan for fire, emergency response, inflation being included in economic projections, cost of living increases, even possibly insurance on the forests that will be left to accumulate fuel for 70 years.

This HCP is not just a 70 year conservation plan, it's an economic and community plan too. We would like the Department of Forestry to contact the county services and these special districts within the HCP counties to warn them of the impacts they will face if you accept this HCP.

Sincerely,

Jen Hamaker  
President  
Oregon Natural Resource Industries  
805-245-2612

June 7, 2023

Board of Forestry  
ODF Board Support Office  
2600 State St.  
Salem, OR 97310

RE: June 2023 Board of Forestry Meeting Written Comments – Agenda Item 1

Dear Board Members:

The Special Districts Association of Oregon represents over 960 special service districts throughout Oregon who provide services ranging from fire protection, health care, water, wastewater, park and recreation, irrigation, transportation, and many others.

512 of these districts are located in the fifteen counties that are part of the Council of Forest Trust Land Counties. Many of these districts are almost entirely dependent on property taxes and the revenues they receive from State Forest Lands. Property tax dependent special districts have limited to no options for raising additional revenue because of Oregon's property tax limitations. Fire districts are probably the most impacted type of special district, because of their high reliance on the limited property taxes they receive. Reducing their revenue from any source, especially from State Forest Lands, will have a direct impact on their ability to assist in protecting from wildfire the forests that the Board of Forestry is charged with managing.

You will see from the attached document, which displays the operating budget of special districts located within the fifteen counties, that most of these districts serve disadvantaged communities with significantly small budgets. 170 operate on a budget of under \$100,000. For these special districts even a small reduction in revenue is the difference between affording tires for trucks, purchasing needed medical supplies or adequately staffing critical lifesaving services.

Because of the critical financial impact on special districts and the communities they serve SDAO supports the Forests Trust Land Advisory Committee's position that the Habitat Conservation Plan process should be paused to fully consider the financial impact that it will have on the special districts that rely on State Forest Land funds to serve their local communities and protect the State forests.

Sincerely,



Frank Stratton  
Executive Director