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Kudos to Oregon. What a novel concept: bipartisan discussion, compromise, and agreement.



<https://katu.com/news/local/oregon-gov-kate-brown-announces>

Gov. Brown announces deal between Oregon forest industry and environmental groups

by KATU Staff

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SALEM, Ore. -- Gov. Kate Brown made what she called a 'historic' announcement on Monday, announcing a deal between the forest industry and environmental groups.

"Healthy forests and a vibrant forestry industry as not mutually exclusive. Oregonians need both for prosperous and sustainable community," Gov. Brown said.

Gov. Brown announces 'historic' agreement on Oregon forest management

"Healthy forests and a vibrant forestry industry as not mutually exclusive. Oregonians need both for prosperous and sustainable community," Gov. Brown said. Brown says that a memorandum of understanding had been signed by Oregon's leading timber companies and environmental organizations, which will lead to a science-based course to forest management in Oregon.

Representatives of both the forestry and environmental coalitions joined the governor in making the announcement Monday.

Brown says the end goal will be to create a statewide habitat conservation plan on all private timber land in the state so that we can protect our threatened and endangered species and provide certainty for the industry.

According to a statement from governor's office, the signed memorandum of understanding addresses three key issues:

1. *Drive a process for Oregon to update its timber practices: For the first time, Oregon will strive for the endorsement of federal wildlife agencies, signifying that the state's forest practices are protective of threatened and endangered species, including Oregon's iconic salmon. Through this process, the state will seek a Habitat Conservation Plan, allowing Oregonians to continue their long tradition of working in the woods while honoring natural habitats.*
2. *Support passage of new legislation for the 2020 session on aerial spraying of pesticides: A state-of-the-art system will build confidence with forest neighbors, who will be eligible to receive real-time notification that aerial spraying will occur. This first of its kind system will expand protected spray buffers around drinking water, homes, and schools.*



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3. *Expand forest stream buffers in the Rogue-Siskiyou region: New legislation will also expand forest stream buffers along salmon, steelhead, and bull trout streams, aligning forest practices in the area with those of the rest of western Oregon.*

When asked if this deal will affect the cap-and-trade bill, Gov. Brown said no.

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