

SENATE RESOLUTION

8633

By Senators Chapman, Krishnadasan, Saldaña, Shewmake, Valdez, Warnick, J. Wilson, King, MacEwen, Muzzall, Short, Torres, Schoesler, Boehnke, Harris, Lovelett, Wagoner, Fortunato, and Hasegawa

1       WHEREAS, Washington's forests are an essential part of the  
2 state's history, culture, economy, and environment, covering 22  
3 million acres of the state; and

4       WHEREAS, Forests purify the air we breathe and provide clean  
5 water to our communities by absorbing and storing carbon dioxide, and  
6 they provide countless other benefits, including fish and wildlife  
7 habitat, recreation, scenic beauty, local renewable energy, and wood,  
8 an energy efficient green building material; and

9       WHEREAS, Forests products play a critical role in combating  
10 climate change due to the natural process of photosynthesis where  
11 trees absorb carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas, release oxygen into  
12 the atmosphere and capture carbon which is stored in wood products  
13 for the life of the product; and

14       WHEREAS, From 2001 to 2021, state and private forest landowners  
15 in Washington removed nearly 9,200 fish passage barriers and opened  
16 up nearly 6,500 miles of historic fish habitat as part of their  
17 commitment to implementing the Forest and Fish Law; and

18       WHEREAS, The production of wood, paper, and energy products from  
19 the forest supports more than 42,000 direct jobs and another 60,000  
20 forest sector related jobs, paying wages of nearly \$6 billion each  
21 year; which provide family-wage employment opportunities, sustain  
22 rural economies, and strengthen local communities; and

1           WHEREAS, Products harvested from sustainably managed forests  
2 are renewable, recyclable, biodegradable, and sustainable, an  
3 essential part of our green economy that continues to grow and  
4 innovate through a skilled workforce dedicated to responsible  
5 forestry practices and advanced manufacturing; and

6           WHEREAS, In the face of increased threats to our forests  
7 including diseases, insects, droughts, and wildfires, we need to  
8 increase the resilience and health of our state's forests and  
9 preserve their key role in mitigating climate change; and

10           WHEREAS, Washington's integrated forest products sector and  
11 the workers, mills, logging contractors, and forestry  
12 professionals are essential to efforts to restore and maintain  
13 the health of forests, reduce the risk of catastrophic  
14 wildfires, and make forests more resilient to drought and  
15 climate change; and

16           WHEREAS, Washington's pulp and paper mills are state and  
17 federally recognized essential businesses that keep vital paper  
18 products available in the Pacific Northwest across the United  
19 States and globally. Washington's mills provide approximately  
20 7,500 predominantly union-backed, family-wage jobs in some of  
21 Washington's more rural, economically distressed communities  
22 providing a 3:1 job multiplier. Mills are often the single  
23 largest employers and taxpayers in these counties, providing  
24 critical tax funding for police, fire, and emergency medical  
25 services, as well as funding for local school districts; and

26           WHEREAS, Washington Forest Products Day at the legislature  
27 takes place on April 9, 2025, when legislators will visit with  
28 individuals from across the state representing the diverse  
29 nature of Washington's forest products industry, including  
30 workers who help drive the economy forward while advocating for  
31 responsible policies that protect both jobs and the environment;

32           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Senate acknowledge  
33 and honor the workforce and industry professionals whose work  
34 within this important industry has contributed much  
35 to the strength and vitality of our economy, our environment,  
36 the character of our communities, and the general well-being of  
37 our citizens.

1 I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate,  
2 do hereby certify that this is a true and  
3 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8633,  
4 adopted by the Senate  
5 April 9, 2025

6 SARAH BANNISTER  
7 Secretary of the Senate