

11 January 2008

Dear BLM folks and applicable US government delegates (you know who you are)

The plan (alternative 2) within the WOPR will impact Oregon forests to an extent that is not acceptable to me, my friends and my family. I believe that there is an inherent problem with this plan being that it has been born from a lawsuit. The lawsuit dictates that the BLM, under administrative pressure, develop a plan based on a law that is outdated to me, my family, my friends and many other Oregonians. The O&C act of 1937 is a problem that needs to be addressed by the people of Oregon, the USFWS, the BLM and others before the Northwest Forest Plan can be acceptably revised.

I will soon be having my second child and protest the reasoning of increased funds derived from logging limited old growth forests in Oregon to meet the public services of the people of Oregon. I would rather pay increased taxes to support necessary programs!!

Specifically, I have seen the current pressure within the Coast Range Mountains of Oregon on BLM lands. Over the last 5 years, I have driven and hiked through thousands of miles of the BLM owned coast range. The logging pressure upon old growth and second growth stands is shockingly high now, and an increase is not acceptable as stated within any action of the WOPR. BLM lands paired with private land make up too substantial of a vital limited resource in terms of old growth and second growth stands.

Please maintain the northwest forest plan as it is now. Please take advantage of the lawsuits that will result from this (WOPR) document to address the need to change the O&C act and preserve vital resources that you manage. Please initiate conversations regarding the use of BLM lands for other economically viable opportunities such as multiple use trail systems. Please consult with the USFWS and local wildlife biologists to address a new alternative via a blind panel. Please address the confounding nature of barred owls on spotted owls and how this may be impacted by further harvest of vital BLM old growth forests.

Thanks you for not attempting to initiate any action alternatives. The no action alternative is most suitable at this time.

Brian Meiering