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Re: Western Oregon Plan Revisions This is copy of a letter to the editor.

Save the forests? What about us? (RG 1/3/2008)

OK! Let's cut every tree that is over 100 years old and while we are at it tap all the oil fields until they are dry!

But . . . what about our children and their children? What about them?

It takes hundreds of years to create an old growth forest and the soil on which it depends. There is pitiful little left as it is. There is enough forested land to continue the farming of trees for wood and paper. These managed forests gradually lose the biodiversity that makes old growth forests unique. This has been demonstrated clearly in the forests of Europe where the only old forests left are in Finland and Russia.

I think all our great grandchildren should be able to walk into a western rainforest in pristine condition with ferns, fungus, creatures, rotting wood, and giant trees. And at the same time have some petroleum available for chemical uses such as manufacturing plastics and drugs. Oil is renewable only on a scale measured in millions of years. When the easy oil has been used up, the energy needs of our great grandchildren will be hard to meet, not to mention the thousands of essential uses unique to petroleum.

It is not all about us! We must think of them as we use and deplete scarce resources. **The remaining old growth should be off limits to logging.** Think of this as you advise the BLM on their forest plan this month. (Deadline is Jan 11, 2008)

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