

1846

RECEIVED
JAN 10 2008

January 7, 2008

Western Oregon Plan Revisions Office
P O Box 2965
Portland, OR 97208

This Friday, the federal Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will close public comment on the Western Oregon Plan Revision, a Bush administration plan to nearly triple logging on 2.5 million acres of federal land in Western Oregon – including a 700 percent increase in cutting trees over 200 years old.

These cut levels are not right for Oregon. Over the past decades, we've been adjusting our timber industry to mill smaller trees and build sustainable practices for the future – turning back to clear-cutting old growth is not the way to go.

The proposed plan would also reduce protections for Oregon's creeks and streams, logging over 200,000 acres of currently protected streamside forests and shrinking the buffer for streams and wetlands to 25 feet or even less. That is why a coalition of hunting and fishing groups from across Oregon has come together to oppose the draft plan.

I would like to advocate for sustainable forest practices – focusing cuts in secondary growth, thinning smaller trees and reducing fuel loads in wilderness interface areas. And we need a major federal investment in cellulosic ethanol and biomass energy research to allow us to use our forests to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels.

The BLM's proposal to turn back the clock and accelerate old growth logging will not provide a sustainable basis for Oregon's timber industry and threatens our natural heritage. It's the wrong approach and not appropriate to use the public's land to do it.

Please understand that I do not support this Revision at all. It does not honor Oregon's environment or heritage.

McLaren Innes
McLaren Innes
4807 Birch Street
Astoria, OR 97103