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January 11, 2008

U.S. Bureau of Land Management  
Western Oregon Plan Revision  
P.O.B. 2965  
Portland, Oregon 97208

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Dear Sirs:

I am writing to request your agency to please keep T. 19S. R.06W. Sec. 17 as a Late Successional Management Area. In this section is a small, beautiful, old growth grove, the "Grandmothers of Wolf Creek", and nearby older forest, which together comprise approximately one quarter of the section. This is an area for environmental education and recreation that is greatly valued by students, teachers, and residents in Crow and Eugene.

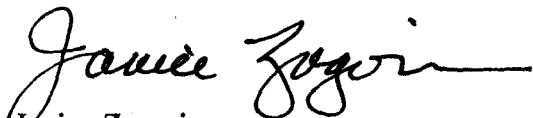
This old-growth forest near Crow is one of the oldest stands of native forest close to Eugene. It has 300 - 400-year-old Douglas firs, along with very old western red cedar and western hemlock, younger trees of diverse ages, diverse understory of shrubs, herbaceous plants, mosses, and fungi, habitat suitable for spotted owl and marbled murrelet. This forest stretches from Wolf Creek up to Timber Ridge, a 600-foot elevation span, that adds species and habitat diversity to the area.

I am not an adjacent landowner, but while serving as a volunteer in a class at LCC, was fortunate to accompany students at Lane Community College on a field trip to this area. The field trip finally showed me what an old growth forest is! I believe it is important to retain this area for learning about the forest in the Coast Range and west of Eugene, in addition to the B.L.M.'s two formal Environmental Education areas east of I-5, which are not in the Coast Range. It helps many educators and students to have an old-growth forest close to educational institutions in and near Crow, Lorane, Veneta and west Eugene, so easily accessible to everyone. I believe this forest is the closest publicly owned old-growth forest in our area that is accessible from a paved road.

I hope this lovely old growth grove can remain as a Late Successional Management Area, for the continuing benefit of Lane County students now and for generations to come.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely yours,



Janice Zagorin  
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Eugene, OR 97402