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JAN 11 2008

Jan, 9 2008  
2235 N. Alberta St  
Portland OR 97217

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Dear Mr. Hoffmeister,

Am writing hoping to give you input concerning the WOPR plan to liquidate through logging the low-elevation late successional forests of Oregon. To my mind there are a number of cogent arguments against such plans, i.e. against options 2, 3 or 4.

These forests have great value as watersheds for drinking water of the many communities of Western Oregon, for fish and wild life as well. Logging has always been a boom and bust industry and there's no sense in pumping up communities' economies only to let them down, leaving them in the process with a devastated clear cut environment that will discourage growth + prosperity in the future. No one cares to live next to a wasteland of stumps. Moreover, there are abundant tree farms in Oregon that need thinning in order to avoid forest fires. Old growth which is saturated with water doesn't burn well.

Finally, as a long time forest watcher and friend I am awfully tired of watching our forest used as a political football. If you listen to the scientists on the ground of the Forest Service (and I have met and talked with some) they say that old growth and forest habitat is far more valuable in itself than as mere temporary cash crops.

Please activate option #1, i.e. do nothing.

Sincerely yours

Rayner Word

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