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Bureau of Land Management
P.O. Box 2965
Portland, OR 97208

Re: Western Oregon Plan Revisions

As a 60-year resident of the southern Oregon area, I have hunted, fished and hiked miles and miles of local BLM public land. Over the years, I have seen many changes and not many of them were good for wildlife, fish or the land. This newest BLM plan would accelerate the destruction of habitat for wildlife and fish.

I oppose your preferred alternative of reducing protection for streams of any size. Wildlife and aquatic species depend upon these water sources and logging within 25 feet would drastically alter the stream's riparian buffers.

I oppose your preferred alternative of logging of late successional reserves because they are already so depleted and so much of our wildlife and fish depend upon them for shelter and food.

I oppose your preferred alternative of building 1000 miles of new roads. Our forests are already roaded adequately. I am also very much opposed to your activities of building huge berms and tank traps to prevent folks from driving upon existing road. In our southern Oregon area, miles of long-existing roads have been closed to driving (except by motorcycles and ATVs who can get around the blockages). Leave the roads open that exist, but don't make new ones.

I oppose your preferred alternative of creating OHV areas. Especially the Timber Mt/Johns Peak site. Over the years, this area has been severely degraded by OHV riders. Prime wildlife areas have been ruined by hundreds and hundred of trails; noise, dust and disturbance has driven animals and birds out; hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities have declined drastically. OHV riders I know blatantly state that existing trails are no fun—they love to create new ones and won't stop doing it.

Finally, I oppose your "thinning" activities. Chopping, sawing and girdling brush, madrones, oaks and other woodland vegetation is terrible for the forest. The small and large animals and birds rely upon these for cover and food. A monoculture forest of only log-able trees is not healthy.

Sincerely

Joanne K. Bigman
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