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December 31, 2007

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
Oregon Plan Revisions Office
333 SW 1st Avenue,
Portland, Oregon 97208

Re: BLM Western Oregon Plan Revisions (WOPR)

Dear BLM:

The Bush Administration BLM is, charged with the care and management of public lands, a small amount of that land is Oregon wilderness and forest land, including some of our nation's oldest and best still standing, living trees. The BLM has now decided that, for them, the best way to manage these magnificent forests is to cut them down. Yes, as in clear cut, eliminate, destroy and thus minimize their management of nearly 2.6 million acres of federal forests under the WOPR. The BLM is proposing changes which will unravel and destroy protections of the Northwest Forest Plan, and further, add hugely to global warming by destroying the larger, older, more protective trees, that aid by shading, cooling and contributing to the cycling of more oxygen over all the Earth. This greedy, irresponsible, and reckless change will lead to water pollution, degraded habitat, increased conflict and controversy. Throw in the proposed OHV (off highway vehicle, another name for atvs and orvs) trails and watch Oregon become a desert. That's right, do the real research, and after the total physical environment being much destroyed, all greenery surrounding the logged trees will also be wiped out. Along with losing the beauty, our national treasures-those trees, our property values are already starting to plummet due to the proposed destruction of Oregon.

The Bush administration would place half of the public land they manage, which also includes most of our best old-growth BLM forests, into 'timber management areas', set be clear cut every 80 years. Bush's BLM's preferred alternative desires to clear cut 110,000 acres of Oregon's old growth (120+ yrs), and to build 1,000 miles of new logging roads every decade while creating over 100,000 miles of offroad vehicle recreation emphasis area, which here and for confusion sake the gov't has chosen to call it OHV (off highway vehicle), all at the expense of our neighborhoods, our quiet, our cleanliness, while further threatening species, increasing destruction of our water sheds, and allowing reckless, noisy, drunk-driven vehicles to destroy and eliminate non-motorized recreation. And, this idiotic proposal comes at a time in which Americans are finally beginning to 'get it' about global warming and the responsibility of every government, including all of it's' agencies, and every individual to heal and protect our Earth.

Most Americans want and assume that federal management includes the thinning of second growth forests while guarding the old growth to safeguard communities from wildfire and protect what remains of our nation's ancient forests. Many Oregon forest managers are already focusing on preciously logged public forestlands, many of which are overgrown and in need of thinning. They provide wood to local mills while actually improving conditions for fish and wildlife and keeping saws out of precious old growth forests.

Instead, wopr has already begun to re-fan the flame of controversy regarding the destruction of our national treasures for a short-term financial remedy which puts water quality at risk and destroys some of Oregon's most special places. It is our duty to protect these awesome, American treasures, our precious old growth forests on public land. We cannot allow some shortsighted, greedy federal employees to destroy our public lands, we cannot allow them to clear cut those national treasures.

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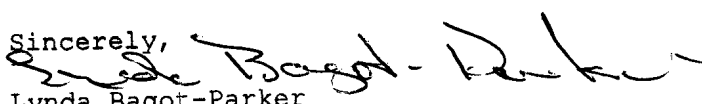
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How ironic that, at a time when public consensus for old growth protection and the choice of second generation thinning has never been more protective or stronger. Bush agencies want to clear cut forests older than our nation and to turn complex ecosystems into tree plantations, which would leave our communities more susceptible to forest fires and wildfires.

Please, stop this insanity, protect the remaining old growth forests, focus active management of BLM lands in already logged areas, create job opportunities in restoration projects that benefit everyone by generating wood products and industry, and do this without adding to previous misjudgments and mistakes. Perhaps Bush's BLM can find some desert land for their proposed environmentally devastating orv facility.

A final note, I LOVE my home within the beautiful and majestic Temple of God's forest; and that home is being threatened by these greedy and obnoxious plans intended to take every tree with any monetary value, destroying the very essential protections our lands need just because they can if they hurry. Daily, I am surrounded by awesome beauty and a silence from most of man's noxious noises. Don't allow BLM, Bush or any of his henchmen/henchwomen to destroy my home, our national treasures which are guardians of the land, water, and air.

Sincerely,


Lynda Bagot-Parker
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Cc: Oregon Congressional Committee

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