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Oregon Timber Access
P.O. Box 1339, Medford, Oregon 97501
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September 27, 2007

RECEIVED

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

Re: Citizens for Sustainable Forests and Communities

Gentlemen:

There are so many changes that need to occur in the management of the BLM that it's difficult to know where to start.

We definitely need to increase our harvestable amount of timber to at least 960 million.

The most important part of a successful sales program is to eliminate any possibility to protest a timber sale. The opposition knows by now that there is no point in buying a sale if it can't be awarded because of a frivolous protest from somebody that knows absolutely nothing of the timber and land process. If you don't change this, nothing else will be of any benefit.

We need to open the roads that were cross-ditched several years ago under the Clinton administration that only made it more difficult to access areas for fire suppression.

We also need to plan our logging program to cable yard ground that is above the steepness allowed for ground base (40%) using 20 acre clear cuts, replanting within 12 months. The ground based areas to be thinned using mechanical equipment that is best suited to remove the majority of limbs and tops as possible, skidding them to the landing, to be burned. With a plan to fund our counties and city financial needs. There is no excuse to ask Congress to fund when we can take care of this ourselves, like our founding fathers had planned.

The BLM and USFS pay no property taxes yet the Federal Government owns over 50% of the land base in Oregon.

We cannot sit idly by letting our timber mature and rot, causing waste, property damage and fires, that is reducing our national assets on an annual basis.

I have lived and worked in the Pacific Northwest my entire life and I am not satisfied with what has taken place in the last twenty years using animals as the scapegoat then letting them burn up in the process during wildfires. Is this type of thinking stupid or a very well-laid out plan to destroy the Pacific Northwest? Whatever the case, it must not continue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gene Pollman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and "P".

Gene Pollman, President
Oregon Timber Access