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Bureau of Land Management, Western Oregon Plan Revisions Office  
333 SW 1st Avenue  
Portland, OR 97208

Dear BLM:

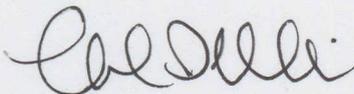
I urge you to oppose opening more old-growth forests to logging through the Western Oregon Plan Revision. These forests are a national treasure and an important defense for an environment that is already under the threat of catastrophic change.

The Bush Administration would place half of the public land that the BLM manages – and most of our best old-growth BLM forests – in “Timber Management Areas” to be clearcut every 80 years. The Bush Administration’s preferred alternative proposes to clearcut 110,000 acres of Oregon’s old-growth (120+ years) and build 1,000 mile of new logging roads every decade while creating over 100,000 miles of new Off Highway Vehicle Emphasis Areas – all at the expense of roadless areas, threatened species, water quality and non-motorized recreation. Shockingly, the proposal ignores the role that these forests play in regulating the climate.

It is disappointing that at a time when public consensus for old-growth protection and second-growth thinning has never been stronger, the BLM is proposing to clearcut forests older than our nation and turn complex ecosystems into tree plantations most susceptible to severe wildfire.

Please protect remaining old-growth forests, focus active management of BLM lands in already logged-over areas, and create job opportunities in restoration thinning projects that benefit watersheds and generate wood products without multiplying past mistakes.

Respectfully,



Michael S. Marcin, M.D.

cc: Oregon Congressional delegation