

To: Bureau of Land Management

1043

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Subject: Comments for Western Oregon Plan Revision (WOPR)

NOV 14 2007

We feel that the changes proposed in WOPR will unravel the protections put in place by the NW Forest Plan, and will lead to water pollution, degraded habitat, ruin "quiet type" recreation important to OR's tourist economy, and the ability to produce a reliable small diameter wood supply to keep our mills working. We need economic diversification and to adjust to a timber industry based on restoration thinning. Forests supply ecological services that are vital to OR's healthy future, as well as that of its citizens.

We are particularly opposed to any "Off Highway Vehicle Emphasis Areas". ORVs/ATVs ruin the wetlands and wildlife habitat, and prevent bird-watching, hiking, fishing, camping. This kind of activity is not appropriate for the future of outdoor tourism in OR.

The WOPR ignores environmental protections, the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act, & other laws protecting our forests & streams. Stay out of our Old Growth forests!

The WOPR proposes to inflame the controversy by increasing old-growth clearcutting for a short-term economic fix. The WOPR puts water quality at risk and would destroy some of Oregon's most special places. We should protect our remaining mature and old-growth forests on public land, not clearcut these natural treasures.

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.

Sincerely,

Stephen & Patti Graves
Signature(s)

Date November 8, '07

Stephen & Patti Graves
Printed name(s)