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BLM

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To Whom it May Concern:

From what I gather, the Western Oregon Plan Revisions as proposed by the BLM is a stinker of an idea. I don't know all the particulars of the plan and am not an expert in how to maintain healthy forests; I just spend as much time in our forests as possible. The beauty, diversity and peace found in untouched forests is stunning and humbling. One can only appreciate these qualities by spending time there. Preferably alone. The forest is a living, breathing entity. Many humans don't seem to understand or appreciate nature or our connection to it. I am completely distressed that for the Bush administration, money is always the bottom line. I understand that Bush and friends would add over 1000 miles of new logging roads, 140,000 acres of clear cuts (have you ever seen what a clear cut looks like)? and a sevenfold increase in old-growth logging on 2.6 million acres of federal forests. For shame! When will we ever learn?

Just go to a college biology class to discover that all of nature is inter-related. Mess with one part and it will affect all the other parts. Even the rich folks will eventually be affected when the planet is so poisoned that even they can't live on it. Maybe that is why some of them are paying to take trips into space. They can trash the planet and move to another one to destroy. I don't understand the attitude of those who think humans were put here to take and take and take without putting anything back. Studies indicate that healthy forests are not created by just planting stands of trees to replace what is robbed from the environment through over-zealous logging practices. Healthy forests take time to develop-but no time to destroy. In the newspaper today, mention was made of the forest devastation caused by hurricanes Katrina and Rita. So little attention is paid to

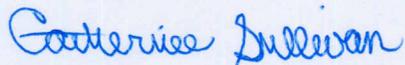
the importance of the trees that they have hardly been mentioned. But millions of trees were wiped out. That will affect the planet greatly.

I do understand the importance of a healthy economy in making life better for humans. I have to live and work to support myself and I hope I will have money for retirement. But I also recognize that I have to have balance in my life. I have to retreat to the forest to renew and reconnect with nature of which I am a part. Healthy forest management will require balance also. I support the idea of thinning pre-existing plantations and cutting small diameter trees in areas where it would not damage water quality and habitat.

If forests and all of nature got more respect, we wouldn't be in the position we are in today. A balance needs to be struck between caring for our environment and our need to make a living. All the money in the world can't buy a healthy planet. Well, I guess it could if we weren't spending most of our resources on war and thinking up ways to make the rich folks richer. I mourn over the mess we are leaving for our children and grandchildren if they survive our pathetically stupid and disrespectful ways.

Please stop destroying the forests.

Truly yours,



Catherine Sullivan