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Department of
Agriculture

Forest
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Date: December 3, 2007

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Subject: Western Oregon Plan Revision

To: Ed Shepard, State Director, Bureau of Land Management

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Revision of the Resource Management Plans of the Western Oregon Bureau of Land Management Districts (WOPR). Forest Service staff have read the document and participated in numerous meetings of your cooperator group.

Our first comment is to extend compliments to your planning team and District participants for the quality of the analyses and the process involved. Considering the scope and scale of this effort, your Draft EIS is impressive. At various work sessions and meetings, Forest Service staff have provided comments on technical aspects of the analyses directly to your planning team.

The Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management are interdependent in management of much of the federal lands in Oregon. In planning for management of ecological processes that operate across administrative boundaries, we acknowledge the complexity of developing plans for BLM managed lands that are intermingled with or in close proximity to National Forest lands.

Forest plan revisions for National Forests in western Oregon are still five to ten years in the future. For purposes of WOPR planning we suggest your analyses assume that neighboring National Forest system lands will continue to be managed under current applicable law, regulation, and land management plans.

As our agencies move forward with land management plan implementation projects, I hope both agencies will continue to seek opportunities to collaborate on project scale planning and operations.

 LINDA GOODMAN
Regional Forester

