

WA State Director Edward ...
Western Oregon
Bureau of Land Management
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I have lived and farmed in the Applegate Valley all of my 70 years. This is my home and I am the third generation here and my children and grandchildren are four and fifth generations in this beautiful valley I love. We grow crops, harvest them and plant them back to be a future crop. It is good for the soil and good for the crop

In the thirties through the sixties we had cattle allotments that kept the underbrush and tall dry grasses under control to prevent wildfire in our National Forests. Most of the underbrush and small trees were thinned to make our forests healthy. The large old growth trees were harvested, like an agriculture crop, to make room for the new trees that produced oxygen and promoted clean air as they grew into a new crop of trees to be harvested twenty years down the road. Our environment was perfect with fish in the streams, and healthy deer in the forests. Life was good.

In 1975 we had to lock our doors as a new breed of humans migrated to our valley. They claimed everything belongs to them and we have no right to use and take care of our Natural resources. They brought with them violence, marijuana, drugs, lawsuits and control over our natural resources zeroing in on our beautiful National Forests that we took such pride in caring for.

Now, our once beautiful National Forests are a travesty. They are overcrowded, diseased, and ugly, showing the lack of care. Some of my neighbors timber land that connects to our National Forests are experiencing disease and dying trees that are contaminating their privately owned forests because of the lack of care on national forest land. The disease and insects are rapidly spreading to private land.

If we are cursed with a lightening storm similar to the one that set off the Bisquit Fire, a few years ago, this whole Applegate Valley will erupt in flames. And forever be lost.

When are the enviros going to wake up? It soon will be too late if you, The Bureau of Land Management does not take the "Bull by the Horns" and clean up this mess.

Give us back our healthy forests,

I vote to adopt PLAN number TWO. Lets get this show on the road and cleanup the mess we call our National Forest. Make Oregon and my beautiful Applegate Valley beautiful and productive again with a healthy forest we can be proud of.

I realize I am writing from my heart and perhaps my letter will not be considered because I am not scientific enough. But, everything you have read, here, is the truth and I hope you will read it and consider everything I have said.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to be heard.

Connie Willson Young

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YOUNGS FARM

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