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December 27, 2007

Mr. Edward Shepard
Western Oregon Plan Revisions
Bureau of Land Management
P.O. Box 2965
Portland, OR 97208

Dear Mr. Shepard:

I am writing you in support of the Preferred Alternative 2 as the management alternative for the Revision of the Resource Management Plans for Western Oregon. This alternative does not quite meet the requirements set forth by the O & C Act because the forested land is not managed for the dominant use of timber production as stated in the Act, but in my opinion is the best management alternative presented.

To help prevent our forests from being destroyed by wild fire, the timber reserves set aside for the owl and other listed species need a network of fuel breaks, roads and other forest management techniques. Active forest management is important for the protection of the listed species and their habitat.

For us in Jackson and Josephine Counties it is important that we maximize the amount of land in timber harvest. We not only need timber for our local wood products manufacturing facilities, but our local county governments also need the revenue generated by harvesting. The government made a commitment to local counties that timber sale revenues would generate at least an amount equal to the funding that was provided to local counties through the Secure Rural School and Community Self-Determination Act on a yearly basis.

Please consider my concerns as you prepare the Environmental Impact Statement and chose the final management plans. Our economy depends on the BLM making scientifically sound decisions on the management of our federal forests.

Sincerely,



Kathy Sperle
Eagle Point, Oregon