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Bureau of Land Management
Western Oregon Plan Revisions Office
333 SW 1st. Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97208

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Dear Sir,

December 28, 2007

I am in strong opposition to the Bureau of Land Management's Western Oregon Plan Revision. This plan is a return to the old and destructive ways of the past, when Oregon's forests were removed with little regard to the consequences to the qualities of water, air, wildlife, and true economic stability. The Northwest Forest Plan was produced with sound science and public input. The present move is hardly sound science or in the public interest. On the contrary, this plan is blatantly pro timber industry move with the not-so-subtle help from their partners in the White House. The Western Oregon Plan Revision was an out-of-court settlement between the timber industry and the Bush Administration. The timber industry sued over the 1994 Northwest Forest Plan, claiming that BLM forests should not be included under this agreement. The Bush Administration chose to settle in 2003 and bowed to the terms of the timber industry. This settlement was a sly method of changing policy for Oregon forest management to the detriment of many for the profit of a few.

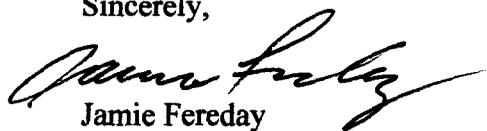
The WOPR does not adequately analyze the economics of increasing the cut on BLM lands. The plan calls for building 1,000 miles of new roads, a practice that has been shown to be a burden to all taxpayers if not the watersheds. The WOPR does not adequately analyze fire and fuel reduction. The BLM proposes to thin half the acreage that it proposes to clearcut. Then, there is the ever-present issue of global warming and CO₂ sequestration. The WOPR doesn't address this.

I am a teacher and volunteer in my community. I have been a volunteer for the Coos Bay BLM office for the past three or four years, doing bat surveys within BLM forest tracts. I see plenty of logged hillsides in very steep terrain, knowing that riparian buffers are important to mitigate the damage uphill. The preferred alternative of the WOPR would reduce riparian reserves by 57%. I have seen very little old growth here in the coast range. The stands that do exist are the last cultures of wildlife species on the edge of extinction. The preferred alternative of the WOPR would reduce old-growth reserves by 47%. The WOPR should be challenged in courts for its violation of the Endangered Species and Clean Water Acts.

It is frustrating that the information gained on how our ecosystems work from countless hours spent by devoted scientists is utterly ignored. It is more than frustrating; it should be criminal.

I urge you to take steps to change this management policy crime. Stop the WOPR!

Sincerely,



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