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Bureau of Land Management
Western Oregon Plan Revisions
PO Box 2965
Portland, OR 97208-2965

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Dear BLM:

These comments are submitted on the draft Western Oregon Planning Revisions (WOPR). My brother-in-law grew up in Oregon and saw a great deal of the "Oregon & California" lands. My six children (ages now 8 to 12) love wild country, and we all hope the last old-growth forests of Oregon will still be wild when they grow up and explore our beautiful land for themselves.

We urge BLM to increase the wilderness recommendations in the plan. You only recommended five out of 146 areas you inventoried for wilderness values. My sister and her husband hiked in the proposed Wild Rogue Wilderness Addition earlier this year and found it excellent. BLM should include Wild Rogue in the final plan, plus Reuben Creek, Williams Creek, Whiskey Creek, Wellington Mountain, Clackamas Wilderness, Bull of the Woods – Opal Creek Additions, and Coast Range Wilderness Wassen Creek.

We oppose the WOPR alternatives that would shrink the reserves of old-growth forest in the Northwest Forest Plan. There is a logical balance in that plan between protection of some remnants of old-growth forest in Late-Successional Reserves and Riparian Reserves and logging of other lands in zones classified as "Matrix." Those reserves should be kept intact.

BLM should concentrate logging and silviculture in areas already disturbed, as in the Matrix areas under the existing plan. That will yield a continuous supply of timber products, and it will also allow the reserves to yield their other values uninterrupted. The Forest Service is already moving in that direction; it's high time for BLM to do so.

Thank you for considering our thoughts. We wish you well in this planning effort.

Sincerely yours,

Betsy Shade MD