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From: John Krauss
678 Bellewood Dr.
Grants Pass, Oregon 97527

To: Edward Shepard
Bureau of Land Management, Or/Wa

RE: WOPR

Dear Director Shepard,

Having been a lifelong resident of southern Oregon, it is apparent that our local county governments, services, and communities will be in dire straits without the restoration of a BLM program approaching the historic, one billion board feet harvest levels of the 1980's and 1990's. Because the O&C Act mandates that these lands be managed with timber as a dominant use, reserving significant areas for protection of listed species is contrary to this long standing law.

In my opinion, none of the alternatives generate adequate timber and county revenues and the one that comes closest, alternative 2, should be adjusted to produce at least 1 billion board feet of harvest, annually. It seems ludicrous that some modified harvesting could not be performed in the 52 % of the land base set aside for fish, wildlife and recreation, in a manner that would still protect those resources.

In closing, if harvest levels cannot be adjusted upward from the 727 million board feet proposed in alternative 2, this alternative is my preference over the other two alternatives. Regardless though, whether alternative 2 or an alternative with increased harvest levels is selected, it is imperative that timber sales be laid out in a practical manner thereby making them economically feasible for prospective purchasers and at least somewhat insulated from lawsuits and appeals. It is also important that some formula for ongoing funding be established to perpetuate any expanded timber sale program or this whole process will be moot.

Sincerely yours,


John Krauss