

1659

To: (503) 808-6630

From: Pops

Date: Sat Jan 5 08:07:04 CST 2008

RECEIVED

JAN 07 2008

Subject: **Western Oregon Plan Revisions DEIS**

Sheets to follow: 2

Please accept these comments

Martin Steitz  
21853 Iden Avenue Place North  
Forest Lake, MN 55025  
[msteitz@hupc.org](mailto:msteitz@hupc.org)

January 3, 2008

Bureau of Land Management  
Western Oregon Plan Revisions Office  
333 SW 1st. Avenue  
P.O. Box 2965  
Portland, OR 97204

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Western Oregon Plan Revision (WOPR). Home to some of the most spectacular forests in the country, the low mountains of the coast and southwest Oregon are covered by rain-drenched coniferous forests that offer scenic views and provide some of the most productive salmon habitat in the lower 48 states. These public lands are enjoyed by the young and old alike who seek out the towering old growth, clean water and abundant recreational opportunities that Oregon's western forests provide to its visitors and should remain protected under the Northwest Forest Plan.

BLM has the opportunity to be a good neighbor to the citizens of Oregon state and protect the valuable resources that exist in western Oregon's public forests. However, WOPR does not demonstrate BLM's responsibility as a steward of its lands, but rather a degeneration of management that ignores the values of stewardship and land preservation. To properly manage the many resources of the western Oregon public forests, BLM should:

- Preserve the rare, remaining old growth and protect key watersheds to help restore the endangered Pacific salmon instead of reverting back to 1970s forest management style of old growth logging;
- Look at all of the values of our land: water quality, recreation, timber, wildlife and wilderness rather than just the value of currency in exchange for old growth logging;
- Manage our land to protect the quality of life these special places provide us and the economic advantage provided by living close to and enjoying these public forests.

BLM's alternatives, as presented in the WOPR DEIS, do not reflect the values held by most Oregonians and Americans for protecting what is special about our public lands. I request that you develop a supplemental DEIS that seriously considers and evaluates an alternative that protects all remaining old growth forests and keeps the late successional reserves and aquatic protections currently in place with the Northwest Forest Plan intact.

In addition, this supplemental alternative should expand and maximize recommendations for protecting areas for their wilderness qualities and give utmost consideration to wilderness proposals, such as the Wild Rogue proposal submitted to BLM.

Please protect remaining old growth forests, focus on restoration management of BLM lands and develop a supplemental DEIS that reflects the values of good stewardship.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin Steitz". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Martin Steitz