

1664

RECEIVED

January 2, 2008

JAN 07 2008

I wish to comment on the proposed BLM Western Oregon Plan Revision.

I cannot support an increase in timber harvest on public land based on reducing habitat for endangered species, damaging watersheds and clear cutting old growth. Any timber harvest plan on BLM land must protect resources for all citizens and future generations. The WOPR fails to do this and I suggest you revise the plan to better represent the needs and wishes of Oregonians, not just the timber industry. In particular I suggest that:

- BLM reduce the amount of old growth harvest. Old growth trees (particularly trees over 100 years old) are a vital part of Oregon's environment.
- forest land subject to clear cutting on BLM land be reduced by at least 20%. Mandated alternative forestry techniques will engender innovation and reduce the negative impacts of clear cutting.
- the number of 'habitat tree's left standing in clear cut timber stands be tripled.
- tree buffers along rivers and streams be increased by at least 30% of current levels to better protect waterways and provide for the habitat needs of riparian species.
- habitat for spotted owls be maintained at current levels or, if necessary for the survival of this indicator species, increased.
- habitat for marbled murrelets be increased by not less than 15%.
- no more than 400 miles of new roads built on BLM lands and increased enforcement of 'best practices' to reduce silting of waterways.

Timber management practices that reduce the impact on the environment will undoubtedly require changes in the timber industry. It is past time for that industry to confront the realities of reduced resources, greater public awareness and the need to protect our forests. The Bureau of Land Management must work for all Oregonians and not continue to be a public paid representative of extractive industries.

Thank you,
John M Morris
Florence, OR