



SISKIYOU PROJECT ^{1677.1}

Protecting the Siskiyou Wild Rivers region for future generations

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January 2, 2008

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Edward W. Shepard
State Director Oregon/Washington
US Department of Interior
Bureau of Land Management
PO Box 2965
Portland, OR 97208

Regarding: DEIS for the Revision of the Resource Management Plans of the Western Oregon Bureau of Land Management Districts

Dear Mr. Shepard,

The Siskiyou Project is a network of people dedicated to protecting in perpetuity the Siskiyou Wild Rivers region of southwestern Oregon, its plants, forests, fish and wildlife.

We recognize that the BLM's interpretation of the 1937 O & C Act is not compatible with our conservation vision for public lands within the Siskiyou Wild Rivers area. We previously informed BLM (2 page letter dated 8/29/06 from Siskiyou Project to former BLM State Director Elaine Marquis-Brong) that we are developing a legislative campaign that will provide protection, restoration and sustainable economic policies in the Siskiyou Wild Rivers area. This legislation will affect current and planned policy changes for BLM lands in southwest Oregon.

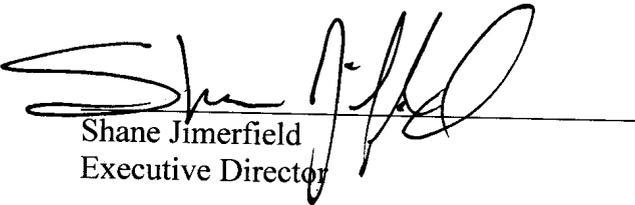
We recommend that you select Subalternative 1 (DEIS p. 102). This alternative was designed to be responsive to the majority of the public who wish to have older forests removed from commercial logging. Subalternative 1 allows no regeneration harvesting (clearcutting) until thinning opportunities are exhausted (DEIS p.580). We would like to have seen this alternative more fully analyzed, and wish that it truly reflected the will of the people by eliminating old-growth forest logging once and for all on BLM lands throughout western Oregon.

Our second choice for selection would be the No Action alternative which is the current Northwest Forest Plan. Attached are technical comments prepared by our staff ecologist, Richard Nawa, in support of the No Action Alternative.

We also request that you remove all OHV emphasis areas from the alternatives. Most of the O & C lands are small one-mile-square parcels checker boarded amongst private property. People who live in these areas do not want loud, high impact development, as proposed in the WOPR, destroying their way of life and tranquility. OHV emphasis in these areas is simply incompatible with land ownership patterns surrounding BLM lands.

I look forward to meeting you soon to share with you our vision for public lands management in southwestern Oregon. Perhaps this spring when I am in Portland we could meet.

Sincerely,



Shane Jimerfield
Executive Director

Enc: Siskiyou Project Technical Comments for WOPR DEIS, Siskiyou Wild Rivers Brochure, Siskiyou Project Brochure