

Jim & Liz Robinson
1795 Houston Road
Phoenix, Oregon 97535

1692

December 31, 2007

RECEIVED

JAN 07 2008

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

Dear BLM:

Please consider our comments which follow on the draft Western Oregon Plan Revisions concerning the O&C lands. We have lived in southern Oregon for 40 years, and we have seen both the good and the bad on the O&C lands. BLM has done some good work in managing second-growth stands, but there has been too much destruction of old-growth forest. Salmon and steelhead runs have dwindled, and water quality has suffered.

The WOPR draft is deficient in its wilderness recommendations, proposing only five units out of 146 BLM inventoried. We have seen the Wild Rogue Addition, and it is very deserving of wilderness protection. We want BLM to recommend more wilderness in the final plan, including Wild Rogue, Whiskey Creek, Williams Creek, Reuben Creek, Wellington Mountain, Clackamas Wilderness, Coast Range Wassen Creek, and Bull of the Woods – Opal Creek Addition.

We are opposed to the WOPR alternatives that would shrink the old-growth reserves now in effect under the Northwest Forest Plan, both Late-Successional Reserves and Riparian Reserves. BLM's proposal turns over half the reserve acreage to logging, meaning more destruction of old growth and riparian habitat that sustains our fish runs. That would be a mistake.

If BLM really believes the O&C Lands Act requires more logging, you should propose a change in the law. The Secretary of the Interior has the authority to propose a change, and Congress can make the final decision. We believe Oregon has far more to gain by protecting these old growth forests than by logging them as proposed in the draft plan.

Sincerely yours,


