

January 7, 2008

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BLM
Western Oregon Plan Revision Office
333 SW 1st Ave.
Portland, OR 97208

Re: BLM Western Oregon Plan Revision

Dear BLM:

I have grave concerns about the changes the Bureau of Land Management is considering for the federal forests under the Western Oregon Plan Revisions. The BLM changes will damage the protections of the Northwest Forest Plan, resulting in a decline of water quality as well as a degraded habitat for wildlife and plants. It will also renew the old conflicts and controversies that were thought to be long settled.

It alarms me that the preferred BLM proposal calls for cutting over 100,000 acres of Oregon's old growth, building over 1,000 miles of new logging roads, and creating over 100,000 acres of new Off Highway Vehicle areas. All this at the expense of roadless areas, threatened species, water quality, and non-motorized recreation. The BLM proposal also ignores the world wide climate changes as cutting old growth forests increases the amount of carbon in the atmosphere. It just does not make sense to me to increase ancient forest clear cutting for a short term economic gain. I believe that these old forests should be protected and treasured.

A better alternative would be for the BLM to promote thinning of second growth forests, safeguard communities from wildfire, and protect what remains of the ancient forests. By focusing on previously logged public lands, timber is provided to local mills while conditions for fish, wildlife, and local communities are improved.

It is disappointing to me that at a time when the public is calling for old growth protection and second growth thinning that the BLM is proposing to clear cut these old forests and turn complex ecosystems into tree plantations susceptible to destructive wildfire. Please protect the remaining old growth forests and focus instead on managing already logged lands.

Sincerely,



Michael Reidy
2163 Harris St.
Eugene, OR 97405