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Bureau of Land Management
Western Oregon Plan Revisions
P.O. Box 2965
Portland, OR 97208

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my opposition to the Western Oregon Plan Revision alternatives outlined in the current DEIS. After reviewing the document in detail, I find the alternatives described within to be an unacceptable means for increasing timber harvest, as they rely too heavily on the logging of riparian buffers and old-growth forest. As an avid steelhead fisherman I am troubled by the impact these logging proposals would have on anadromous fish habitat. While I understand the need to increase timber production on the O&C lands, I would like to believe that it could be done without the dramatic negative impact on our streams. The proposed alternatives would reduce riparian buffers drastically, decrease streamside shade and increase water temperatures, and increase the amount of silt that enters our streams and rivers. All of these factors are detrimental to anadromous fish survival.

As a former logger and lifetime resident of timber-dependent counties in Oregon, I would dearly like to see the BLM come up with a more sustainable plan for increasing timber production on O&C lands. We need a plan that will produce a stable stream of jobs and income, without the "boom and bust" of former timber management plans. I believe that we can come up with a plan that can accomplish this without seriously degrading our already damaged fish habitat. I ask that the BLM look at new alternatives for increasing timber production that focus on the thinning of secondary growth plantations (which reduces fire risk). I also ask the BLM to explore sustained yield models which includes a range of timber harvest rotation periods, resulting in each watershed or sub-watershed containing tracts of different forest stages including late-succession reserves. We need to focus on plans that provide a reliable supply of timber AND minimize the impact on our anadromous fish.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



William Unrath