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82166 Lost Valley Lane
Dexter, OR 97431
January 8, 2008

Mr. Ed Shepard, State Director
USDI Bureau of Land Management
Western Oregon Plan Revisions
PO Box 2965
Portland, OR 97208

Dear Mr. Shepard:

We wish to express our support of your Option 2 in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the revision of the Resource Management Plan of the Western Oregon Districts that was released on August 10, 2007.

Active management of our forests is the only way we can achieve a combination of goals to meet our society's needs, a combination including environmental protection, wildlife habitat, wood resources for daily use, jobs, and county support. We appreciate the thought and the work you and your staff have put into this plan and how you have tried to address so many different issues.

Federal lands need to do their share in generating revenues for the governments where they are located. There is no reason that this cannot be done responsibly, sustainably, and with protection for both the environment and wildlife habitat. We have confidence in the BLM to do this.

We believe that the planned riparian management areas with the 25 foot no-harvest inner zone and active management-outer-25-100 foot zone are adequate for protection and will achieve the goals of riparian management much quicker than a no-touch 100 foot zone would.

We support the full array of silvicultural tools to achieve objectives, including both thinning and clear cutting. Using the full array of harvesting tools will not only allow use of the timber resource but will promote habitat diversity and thus a wide array of wildlife species. Our forests should cover the range from newly-harvested to old growth and with a full range of native species and stand densities.

Active management can reduce both fire susceptibility and severity, and we support these goals. We also feel that active management, including salvage to recover wood value and aggressive reforestation should be used in post wildfire recovery.

We would also like to encourage the BLM to prevent aggressively the spread of noxious weeds in Oregon. These invaders are spreading across the west, displacing our native plants, reducing productivity, reducing wildlife habitat, and spreading to neighbors. All tools should be used to control this huge problem.

Finally, we would like to encourage you to use practical and as-simple-as-possible prescriptions, contracts, and work plans to make this important plan both economically feasible and rapidly implementable.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Stephen L. Cafferata, CF
Wylda B. Cafferata

Handwritten signature of Stephen L. Cafferata in black ink, written over a printed name and title.