

1955

RECEIVED  
JAN 11 2008

January 8, 2008

Western Oregon Plan Revisions  
P. O. Box 2965  
Portland, OR 97208

Dear Sirs,

I am responding to the article I read this morning on KOIN's web site. I am not an environmentalist, but I care about the forest. I am a hunter, fisherman and avid outdoor recreationalist. (new word) I also recognize the news media and the sensationalism that attracts viewers. I considered the articles source in forming an opinion, but historically your track record would substantiate the article.

The following excerpts I take exception with:

"Under the plan, allowable timber production could rise from 268 million board feet a year now, to 727 million board feet. About half of that increase in available acreage would come from trees 80 years or older."

Is this increase going to be processed in USA mills, or exported as raw logs? Keeping manufacturing jobs in the USA should be a stipulation of any increase, and for that matter any cutting on government lands. If the housing industry is in such a slump where is the market for the additional production?

"One Philomath-area landowner calls it a prescription for "large-scale clear-cutting." "

Large scale clear cutting really irritates the average citizen, and your agency, being one of the caretakers of the countries forest resources, should not callously leave what was once a forest, looking like a war zone. Smaller clear cuts can be just as efficiently managed for profitability and esthetics.

"BLM officials admit that stream buffers, which keep roads and heavy equipment away from sensitive streams, would diminish. But they also claim the actual damage to salmon, steelhead and trout would be minimal. Those buffer zones now can be as wide as 360 feet. The revised plan would drop that to 100 feet, and in some cases to 25 feet or less from fish-bearing streams."

This is an outrage. Twenty five feet is preposterous. Water temperature is critical to the survival of our anadromous fish stocks. Shade is what comes along with a riparian zone besides other obvious wildlife benefits like shelter.

Please allow for these considerations when making your decision. Remember most people will not respond no way, no how, no matter what their views.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Walt Ryder

Salem, Oregon

503 551 3238