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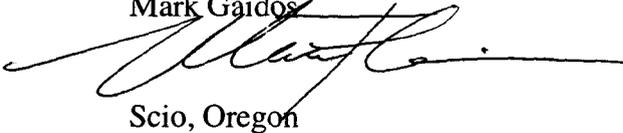
Bureau of Land Management
P.O. Box 2965
Portland, Oregon 97208

Re: Western Oregon Plan Revision

Dear Sirs,

I have reviewed, with considerable interest, the WOPR and feel compelled to at least make one observation for your consideration. As the owner/operator of a small private forestland in Linn County, I have witnessed the high levels of harvesting being conducted on neighboring industrial forestlands. This harvesting has greatly accelerated in the last several years, leaving only the immediate BLM O&C lands with any appreciable stocking of older-growth timber. As a consequence, local watershed quality has significantly deteriorated over the area, causing seasonal stream flows to cease earlier each dry season, and winter run-off to rise in intensity, increasing erosion and silting. Although I am very much in favor of managing the O&C lands for sustainable timber harvest, I would urge the BLM to also consider the overall impact of clear-cuts in areas where O&C lands represent the last remaining fragments of older forests. In these areas, perhaps a more targeted thinning program for fire suppression would be in order. This would preserve at least some uneven-age stand diversity for both water quality and wildlife habitat purposes.

Respectfully Yours,
Mark Gaidos



Scio, Oregon

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