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The BLM management, et al:

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These continued attacks on our natural resources are not fiscally responsible. Deep abiding principles I was taught by my Republican parents were "don't spend the principal" and "save - save - save". Where is the 'saving' in cutting down more old growth? Our forests need to be used judiciously to provide for continued growth, not whittled away with continued 'spending'.

The argument that the rural communities need the constant flow of old growth doesn't wash. There is a finite amount of old timber. If only the 'interest' on timber were used, it would be responsible, but the principal is being wasted for a minority's benefit.

People living in the rural areas who have lost employment from the excessive cutting of our forests, lose on many fronts. They risk their health to feed the mills. They lose natural resources for the future of their families. They are paid just enough to keep working with not much protection for their future.

When I lived in Wallowa county, the Joseph mill was shut down after all the big trees were taken because the mill was designed for big old trees. Once the big trees were cut down, it was no longer profitable for the owners and they took their mega profits and left. The workers didn't have it so easy, their assets were tied to that land -their home.

Eventually other millionaires bought the 'unprofitable' mill, retooled it and cut the next level of trees until they were gone. The 'new' owners then abandoned the mill and town - to go race their horses and ski at resorts and frolic in tropical waters - as the season dictated -because they didn't live in Wallowa county. But the people in the County, were again left with unemployment and cold winters and no more trees to cut down for the mill.

The people in the 'rural' areas are not the main beneficiaries of these gluttonous proposals to remove our 'old green gold'. The locals may have temporary incomes, however, the owners have massively increased wealth and the rest of us have a diminished forest.

There is no future in cutting old growth.

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