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Bureau of Land Management
Western Oregon Plan Revisions Office
PO Box 2965
Portland, OR 97208

Dear Bureau of Land Management,

As a resident of New Orleans I am acutely aware of the importance of protection of our ecological systems and the disasters that can occur when the environment is mismanaged.

I believe the WOPR as proposed fails to meet the needs of the people of Oregon and the level of environmental protection the old growth stands across all ownerships within Western Oregon deserve.

Reducing riparian buffers, shifting to shorter rotations, and managing owl habitat according to a highly dubious Northern Spotted Owl Draft Recovery Plan (2007) is no way to manage our public lands. Furthermore, I am troubled that the WOPR is a process undertaken as a result of a "sweetheart settlement" between the timber industry and the Bush Administration.

Only a planning effort that effectively addresses the role of BLM as a conservator of the old growth ecosystem across all ownerships throughout Western Oregon has any hope of maintaining an environmentally responsible flow of timber from the timber biased Oregon & California Act of 1937.

With 96% of our old growth logged, it is imperative that the BLM act with humility and respect for our remaining old growth ecological systems.

My specific recommendations are:

1. Create jobs by restoring our former clear cuts. And by removing non-native invasive species.
2. Follow the model of the Siuslaw National Forest and do restoration thinning which gets board feet and gives jobs to locals.
3. Use existing roads rather than building more roads to protect the quality of our watersheds. Restore unnecessary roads to natural conditions.
4. Do not log our last remaining old growth which is important for wildlife habitat, water quality, recreation and mitigating global warming.
5. Our BLM forests are valuable for reasons other than timber. People travel great distances to enjoy, recreate and renew in our world famous forests.
6. The BLM needs to thin fire-prone and overstocked plantations on federal lands, rather than logging old growth forest that are resistant to fire.

Sincerely,

Freddy Omar Quiroz
828 Rosal St. #535
New Orleans LA 70116