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January 7, 2008

Bureau of Land Management (BLM)  
Oregon Plan Revisions Office  
333 SW 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue,  
Portland, Oregon 97208  
Re: BLM Western Oregon Plan Revisions (WOPR)

Dear BLM:

The United States BLM is charged with the care and management of public lands. A small amount of that land is Oregon wilderness and forest land, including some of our nation's oldest and best still standing, living trees. The BLM has now decided that, for them, the best way to manage these magnificent forests is to cut them down. It seems the strategy is to clear cut, eliminate and destroy these lands and thus minimize their management of nearly 2.6 million acres of federal forests under the WOPR. The BLM is proposing changes which will unravel and destroy protections of the Northwest Forest Plan, adding hugely to global warming by destroying the larger, older, more protective trees that aid the cycling of more oxygen over all the Earth. This greedy, irresponsible, and reckless change will lead to water pollution, degrade habitat, destroy fisheries, force more human/wildlife conflict, etc. Compounded by the proposed expansion of off-road vehicle recreational trails, this course of action will reduce Oregon to a desert. The WOPR is environmentally, economically and culturally poisonous to the entire Pacific Northwest. Along with the beauty of our national treasures-those sustaining forest lands-we are also losing our property values, which are already depreciating due to the proposed destruction of Oregon.

WOPR would place half of the public lands managed by BLM, which also includes most of our best old-growth forests, into 'timber management areas', set to be clear cut every 80 years. The preferred alternative desires to clear cut 110,000 acres of Oregon's old growth (120+ yrs), and to build 1,000 miles of new logging roads every decade while creating over 100,000 miles of offroad vehicle recreation emphasis area, which here and for confusion sake the gov't has chosen to call it OHV (off highway vehicle), all at the expense of our neighborhoods, our quiet, our cleanliness, while further threatening species, increasing destruction of our water sheds, and allowing reckless, noisy, drunk-driven vehicles to destroy and eliminate non-motorized recreation. And, this idiotic proposal comes at a time in which Americans are finally beginning to 'get it' about global warming and the responsibility of every government, including all of it's' agencies, and every individual to heal and protect our Earth.

Most Americans want and assume that federal management includes the thinning of second growth forests while guarding the old growth to safeguard communities from wildfire and protect what remains of our nation's ancient forests. Many Oregon forest managers are already focusing on preciously logged public forestlands, many of which are

overgrown and in need of thinning. They provide wood to local mills while actually improving conditions for fish and wildlife and keeping saws out of precious old growth forests.

Instead, wopr has already begun to re-fan the flame of controversy regarding the destruction of our national treasures for a short-term financial remedy which puts water quality at risk and destroys some of Oregon's most special places. It is our duty to protect these awesome, American treasures, our precious old growth forests on public land.

At a time when public consensus for old growth protection and the choice of second generation thinning has never been more protective or stronger; Bush agencies want to clear cut forests older than our nation and to turn complex ecosystems into tree plantations, which would leave our communities more susceptible to forest fires and wildfires.

Please, stop this insanity, protect the remaining old growth forests, focus active management of BLM lands in already logged areas, create job opportunities in restoration projects that benefit everyone by generating wood products and industry, and do this without adding to previous misjudgments and mistakes.

Please make the right decision here, the decision that our children and grandchildren will be happy about years from now. A very important part of our future is in your hands.

Sincerely,

~~Patricia~~ Bloom  
PO Box 501  
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Cc: Oregon Congressional Committee

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Rep Greg Walden (R-2 <sup>nd</sup> ) 5 <sup>th</sup> ) 843 E. Main St., Medford, OR 97504	Rep Earl Blumenhauser (D-3 <sup>rd</sup> ) 729 NE Oregon St., Portland, OR 97232	Rep Darlene Hooley (D- 315 Mission St SE, #101 Salem, OR 97302
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