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Bureau of Land Management, Western Oregon Plan Revisions Office
333 SW 1st Ave., Portland, Oregon 97208

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JAN 11 2008

CC: Senator Ron Wyden 1220 SW 3rd Ave., Suite 585, Portland, Or 97204
Senator Gordon Smith 121 SW Salmon St., Suite 1250, Portland, OR 97204
Rep. Greg Walden 843 East Main Street, Ste 400, Medford, Or 97401
RE: BLM Western Oregon Plan Revisions

Dear BLM,

January 9th, 2008

I am writing to express my dire opposition to the Western Oregon Plan Revision. I care deeply about Oregon's forests, and I see this plan as a major step backwards for Oregon's natural resources, environmental quality, economy, and recreational opportunities. I am horrified that even in this year of 2008, our leaders are still even considering logging old growth forests. In fact, science and the majority of the public believe that preserving all remaining old growth forests is important for our future. Thinning overgrown forests of small diameter trees is one thing, because it is reasonable to restore forests long-ago (or recently) damaged by over-logging and to protect communities from wildfire. However, please stop attempting to cut any old growth forests.

I am a thirty-one year old mother of two. I want to be able to take my kids camping and hiking in healthy old-growth forests. I want their children to know the wonder of ancient trees. People in my generation sincerely want decisions about public land to be made with emphatic consideration of long term environmental health. By the time we are the ones in charge, we will be left with environmental crisis and degraded public land if the BLM doesn't heed the many comments I know have been sent to you in opposition to the WOPR.

George Bush is hugely unpopular at this time. There are many reasons for this, but one of the reasons is because people are disillusioned with his lack of understanding about vital environmental science urging Americans to take a new course of action in natural resource management. The current Bush Administration plan is antithetical to modern understanding of ecosystems and of the critical role healthy forests play in our economy, our quality of life, and our future.

I do not support this proposal to mismanage and degrade nearly 2.6 million acres of federal forest. Let's support Oregon's long-term economy by creating new jobs in forest restoration and thinning small diameter trees for fire reduction. I care about salmon, clean air and water. I care about maintaining quiet ancient places on our earth. I care about healthy ecosystems, unscarred by roads, logging debris, and compacted soils.

I hope these public comment periods really do make a difference. I would like to be notified about how many public comments you received on both sides of this issue, and exactly what impact the public comments can have on this process. I would like to believe that public opinion is carefully and strongly considered, given that it is our land, and you are our stewards. Please tally me as a strong NO! vote for the WOPR.

Sincerely,
Jessica Ruediger
111 N. 4th Street
Talent, Oregon 97540

