Dear BLM,

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JAN 11 2008

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I am highly concerned with the proposal known as WOPR. As a citizen of Oregon, I am distressed at the prospect of destruction of much of what is left of our old growth forest, and the impact this will have on quality of life for animals and humans alike. These are irreplaceable resources that once destroyed, will be lost to all future generations. On 18% of old growth forest in the Pacific Northwest remains. WOPR would increase the rate of logging in Oregon by 700% over the next ten years. This short sighted plan for short term economic gain begs the question: what will we do when we have nothing left to log? And what kind of world will we be living in if that comes to pass, which it very well could unless we change our tactics and our attitudes markedly.

There is a better way. 50% of BLM forests have been clear cut in the past 100 years, then converted to overcrowded tree plantations. Thinning these smaller trees — which benefits forest growth by allowing the remaining trees more room to mature to full size — could furnish over 2 billion board feet of commercially valuable timber.

With this letter, as with my ballot, I cast my vote for a world we will all want to live in. Now it's up to you to cast yours. Think of your children, siblings, younger cousins. What kind of world do you want them to play and live in?

Please stop WOPR!

Sincerely,

Oriel Israel

P. S

please write back to me regarding this highly important issue.

Ariel Israea
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