

January 6, 2008

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

Response to: BLM Western Oregon Plan Revisions

Dear BLM,

I have lived in Southern Oregon for the last 18 years, and have spent many wonderful days hiking and backpacking in the areas covered by your Western Oregon Plan Revisions. I can remember the hard work and compromises that went into the development of the Northwest Forest Plan in 1993, so I was amazed to see that the BLM seems to be ignoring history, science, and the will of the public in a very regressive rush to re-open the forests of Oregon to the devastating clearcuts of the 1980s. The WOPR's focus on clearcutting, its removal of the protections that have been in place for Oregon's old growth forests, the elimination of 23 currently recognized ACECs, and the danger to fish, wildlife, water quality, soils, etc, is truly outrageous.

I agree with the concerns and recommendations expressed in the paper "Scientific Evaluation of the BLM's Western Oregon Plan" by Richard S. Nauman and Dominic A. DellaSala. I particularly agree that based on the flawed and inadequate analysis and poor scientific judgment shown in the WOPR that the entire WOPR should be independently peer reviewed.

At a time when Americans are awaking to the dangers of global warming and are coming to appreciate the invaluable natural heritage that exists in the forests and wild lands of Oregon, it is truly incredible that the BLM is rushing out a 1980's-era resource extraction plan that is optimized for short term greed and is a blueprint for destroying a significant area of our remaining legacy forests.

No more logging in the ancient forests of the Pacific Northwest! Please do not select your preferred alternative. Start over and do it right.

Sincerely,



Tom Mathieson  
4898 Highway 66  
Ashland, OR 97520

CC:

Senator Ron Wyden  
Senator Gordon Smith  
Rep. David Wu  
Rep. Greg Walden  
Rep. Earl Blumenhauer  
Rep. Peter DeFazio  
Rep. Darlene Hooley