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JAN 11 2008

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BLM
Western Oregon Plan Revisions Office
333 S.W. 1st Ave
Portland, OR 97204

Re: Western Oregon Forest Plan Revision

Dear BLM office

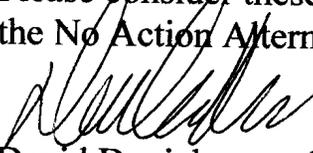
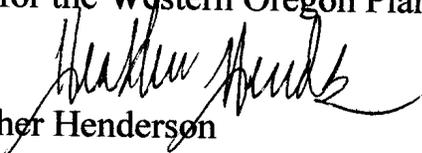
As you are aware the BLM has submitted for public comment, the Western Oregon Plan Revision Alternatives for future management of public forestland in western Oregon.

I strongly support the "No Action" alternative over the three 'revisionist' proposals under consideration for the following reasons:

1. The No Action Alternative provides the greatest protection and conservation of old growth or "late succession reserve" trees. These trees are among the last of the truly great ancient trees of Oregon and are more valuable if conserved for recreational, spiritual, and ecological reasons. In my opinion, there is little to be gained financially from the harvest of these trees; most building needs can be satisfied with smaller timber, and/or laminated materials, that can be harvested from younger generations of smaller trees.
2. The No Action Alternative provides the greatest protection of Riparian Reserves. Logging next to streams will increase water temperatures, water sediment, and destabilization of streamside ecosystems with the potential for even greater erosion damage and loss of recreational potential for these areas.
3. The No Action Alternative provides the greatest barrier to increased clear cutting forestry techniques. While I am not opposed to logging as an industry, I clearly believe that alternatives to clear cut practices are more sustainable and yield better over the long term while leaving a smaller footprint of industrial/human destruction. There are ample examples of this including the experimental work on the Suislaw BLM lands near Cottage Grove and on private lands in the area.

4. The No Action Alternative provides the greatest protection against erosion, landslides, and flooding, because it limits clear cutting forestry practices the greatest. The recent flooding in Chehalis Washington, and landslides on highway 34 in Oregon are directly a result of clear cutting on slopes with high potential for erosion and runoff. How much taxpayer money will be spent to clean up the highway 34 mess verses the revenue generated from the timber sold off that clear-cut site? I would guess that the cost of the cleanup greatly exceeds that of the income from the timber.

Please consider these points carefully. I strongly encourage you to support the No Action Alternative for the Western Oregon Plan Revision.



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