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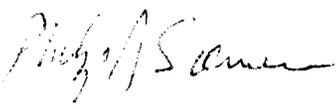
Bureau of Land Management,  
Western Oregon Plan Revisions Office  
333 SW 1st. Avenue  
Portland, Oregon 97208

I object to all of the alternatives offered in the Western Oregon Plan Revision, because they are inferior to the current lawfully-implemented plan and because they are based on faulty analysis of the plans' economic impact. The "preferred option" is the worst of them.

All the alternatives would increase federal subsidies to the production of timber from public lands. Even with the current subsidies, the market for finished lumber products has been so weak that many sales do not draw bids. This is due to weak demand for new construction, which has become much weaker recently in spite of the boost to demand lingering from Hurricane Katrina *etc.* No reputable or official economic forecast foresees increased demand for many years.

Increasing subsidies have the net effect of reducing the economic benefit to the public from the sale of our timber assets. It is unwise and poor stewardship to sell off our assets at bargain prices in a weak market. Instead we should hold on to them as their value rapidly increases, both in producing timber and fish, and in supporting the outdoor recreation. Fish and recreation are important economic activities with rapidly increasing demand and therefor increasing value to the public owners of the forests. Instead of accommodating and enhancing these valuable economic sectors, the proposed plan revisions will inhibit their growth, or even cripple them as we have seen with fisheries in recent years' departures from the current lawfully-implemented plan.

A careful and thorough economic analysis has not been done. Such an analysis would show the fiscal irresponsibility of adopting any of the options in the Western Oregon Plan Revision.



Philip J. Siemens

cc: Senator Ron Wyden  
Senator Gordon Smith  
Congressman Peter DeFazio