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Wildlands Ecologist by trade. Have 70 plus years  
experience in Range Management.

I chose to supplement Comments when it wouldn't come  
up, so added stuff on this disc.

My encomiums to those who did such a splendid job at  
wreaking this document on the public.

Plants, Fungi, Endangered species.

I find no authority for you to protect any plant or  
animal that is not formally listed under the Endangered  
Species Act. Sensitive or 'Rare' plants, especially  
annuals, should not be considered, this is a Green effort  
to stop resource extraction.

In considering leaving old logs, consider the species  
first. Many Oregon trees will not disintegrate within 100  
years of their placement. Only two species will  
disintegrate within the first 25 years. The rot resistant  
logs will only add to the fire hazard.

Wildlife: The snowy plover is 'endangered' only west  
of the coast highway in sand dunes. It is numerous on the  
other side of the highway, too, and is just another Green  
ploy to stop any resource extraction (tourists) from public  
land.

I agree completely that timber harvest on O&C lands  
overrides other considerations. There is plenty of land  
left over for birds, etc. The protection for spotted owl  
nests is a nice gesture but only that since the bird is  
facing extinction as everyone knows by being overrun by the  
barred owl.

No Action

This has been a spectacular failure.

Alternative 1, This continues the failures of the past  
in not per-  
mitting salvage.

Coarse woody debris, i.e. fuel for forest fires.  
Again, determine the species. If it decomposes quickly,  
leave it. If it doesn't decompose rapidly, haul it off. A  
forest littered with old logs is a death trap for tourists  
should a fire start. There is no way a person can escape.  
As Thoreau once noted: "I entered a wild forest, from which  
I fled in terror." Leave coarse woody debris only in rain  
forest portions of the PNW. Snags are really lightning  
rods; none should be left on ridges. See the history of the  
Tillamook fires for verification.

Alt.2 (con't) Roads. Stream crossings large enough to pass a 100 year flood with 30-foot-wide root balls? You got to be kidding. Who could afford that big a bridge? Use low water armored crossings instead.

Alternative 2.

I do not see this as applicable since the whole area will have burned within the next 20-30 years due to lack of funds to do thinning on a rapid enough scale to be effective.

I see no reason not to replant after harvest. I know the Greens hate even-aged stands, but every forest starts that way after fire or insects wipe it out.

The list of 'if's' should be eliminated. Make sales of dead or dying wood mandatory.

I suggest you give a range of ages (90 or 140) since increment borers aren't that accurate due to missing rings or partial rings in dry years. No use giving an opening to Greens who will argue the tree is only 88 years old, not 90.

Alternative 3

Roads. same as in Alt.2.