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November 3, 2007

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

Re: BLM Western Oregon Plan Revisions

Dear BLM:

I have attended the local BLM presentation on WOPR and read the Draft EIS. Like so many other Bush administration assaults on the environment, this proposed (mis)management of nearly 2.6 million acres of federal forests under the Western Oregon Plan Revisions (specifically the "preferred alternative #2") will dismantle the protections of the landmark Northwest Forest Plan.

This industry driven proposal would clearcut 110,000 acres of Oregon's old-growth (120+ years) and build 1,000 mile of new logging roads every decade while creating over 100,000 miles of new Off Highway Vehicle Emphasis Areas. The public has spoken repeatedly on its preference for conservation of its public lands. Instead, WOPR proposes increasing old-growth clearcutting for a short-term economic fix.

The "No Action" alternative which I prefer, would continue support of the Northwest Forest Plan, though marginalized by the EIS, provides:

- no loss of botanical populations with lowest risk of invasives
- meets needs of aquatic and riparian species
- increases habitat over the ten year period
- increases large wood contribution needed for fish populations
- provides greatest decrease in fire fuels
- keeps the largest percentage of wilderness characteristics

And, with emphasis on salvage instead of new clearcutting, thinning of second growth forests could provide several million board feet of marketable lumber while safeguarding communities from wildfire, providing jobs and protecting what remains of our nation's dwindling ancient forests.

The WOPR puts water quality at risk and would destroy some of Oregon's most special places. We need to protect remaining old-growth forests, focus active management of BLM lands in already logged-over areas, and create job opportunities in restoration thinning projects that benefit watersheds and generate wood products without repeating past mistakes for short term economic gain and take into consideration the importance of our forest in climate control.

Sincerely,



Allan Peterson 807 Beach Street, Ashland, OR 97520

CC:

Senator Ron Wyden

1220 SW 3rd Ave., Suite 585, Portland, OR 97204

Senator Gordon Smith

121 SW Salmon St., Suite 1250, Portland, OR 97204

Rep. Peter DeFazio (D-4th)

405 East 8th Ave. #2030, Eugene, OR 97401

Rep. Greg Walden (R-2nd)

843 East Main Street, Ste 400, Medford, OR 97504

Rep. Earl Blumenhauer (D-3rd)

729 N.E. Oregon St., Suite 115, Portland, OR 97232

Rep. Darlene Hooley (D-5th)

315 Mission Street SE #101, Salem, Oregon 97302

Rep. David Wu (D-1st)

620 SW Main, Suite 606, Portland, OR 97205