I was appalled to learn of the proposed actions of the BLM in the western Oregon forests. There are too many details to list here regarding the myriad of destruction that would be created by your outrageous WOPR Alternative 2 & 3 proposals. I am concerned about the impact these proposals will have on the climate, since our reliance on the forests (particularly Old Growth) directly relate to shaving any chance to have clean air & clean water; and of course the effect on the other species, both plant and animal, that we selfishly it is our obligation to maintain habitat for the other species we share the planet with- including the connecting corridors so crucial to the wildlife (especially pertinent to the lower elevation Old Growth that you are charged with managing).

I am shocked and disappointed to know that the BLM would even propose such a horrendous plan for the very land you are charged with “managing” as stewards is rather absurd. Economics is clearly influencing this system, but your proposal clearly shows that your agency does not come close to understanding the depth of loss that will occur if your proposal is allowed. The damage would be both immediate and insidious and more importantly, irreversible (whether or not the land is or was “designated” O&C). No amount of revenue in board feet is worth the health of the planet. This is non-negotiable. We cannot afford such short-sightedness.

Mills have geared themselves to handle smaller trees from thinning stands of reprod (that are becoming more and more of a fire hazard and need to be thinned); and, in a time when we have learned so much about how we as a species have affected our planet, please, as “managers” of public land, make decisions with integrity and good conscience and insightful planning. Do not cut anymore Old Growth or Riparian Forests. We are fighting for clean water and clean air for ourselves and for the flora and fauna that we depend on! We are symbiotic in many ways.

Please, decision makers, do not blind yourself to the consequences of your actions, and take a stand for what you know is right and smart. Plan for future generations and protect the little we have left for the environment’s sake, since we know that the planet’s health directly affects our health and only humans can make a plan to live sustainably with all the other species.

Very Sincerely,

[Signature]

Paula Yabionski

CC: Oregon Congressional delegation, Senate & Governor

Note to politicians: We need incentives for forest restoration & conservation!