

To: Bureau of Land Management

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Subject: Comments for Western Oregon Plan Revision (WOPR)

NOV 15 2007

The WOPR reduces important protections for clean water and Pacific salmon. The fisheries industry is extremely important to the economy of the Oregon Coast. Salem, Corvallis, Eugene and 70 other Oregon communities depend on high quality drinking water originating on BLM land. The WOPR would reduce protections for wildlife populations and diminish habitat for numerous plant and wildlife species. By conversion of moist old growth forests into dry flammable tree plantations, the WOPR will increase the amount of carbon in the air and places communities at increased risk of uncharacteristic fires. Clearcuts could reduce property values and impact quality of life of Oregonians living near BLM lands. I urge a revision of the WOPR.

The WOPR proposes to inflame the controversy by increasing old-growth clearcutting for a short-term economic fix. The WOPR puts water quality at risk and would destroy some of Oregon's most special places. We should protect our remaining mature and old-growth forests on public land, not clearcut these natural treasures.

It is disappointing that at a time when public consensus for old-growth protection and second-growth thinning has never been stronger, the BLM is proposing to clearcut forests older than our nation and turn complex ecosystems into tree plantations most susceptible to severe wildfire.

Please 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 multiplying past mistakes.

Sincerely,

Dorthea Petersen
Signature(s)

Date 11-8-2007

Dorthea Petersen
Printed name(s)