



OREGON SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS

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Brian Amme, Project Manager
BLM PO Box 12000
Reno, NV 89520-0006

EMC0625

Dear Mr. Amme,

1 Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) proposed draft *Vegetation Treatments on BLM Lands in 17 Western States Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement* (PEIS) and the accompanying *Programmatic Environmental Report* (PER) which recommends banning the use of herbicides on up to 5.1 million acres of public lands.

2 The Oregon Society of American Foresters (OSAF) has about 1000 members, including foresters, scientists, administrators and educators who make substantial contributions to the management of public and private forest lands throughout Oregon. As such, we believe OSAF members are key stakeholders in public policy decisions that affect forest management.

3 Regarding the use of pesticides, OSAF members work for many different employers and hold a variety of professional viewpoints, but collectively we "support the careful use of pesticides that are registered for forest use. Pesticides are an important tool in Integrated Pest Management to help meet forest management objectives by controlling harmful forest pests including unwanted, competing vegetation" (see the attached position statement).

4 With increasing problems and challenges on BLM lands such as rapidly expanding invasive species and reforestation of large areas burned by wildfire, professional foresters need this key option in order to develop effective forest management strategies.

Sincerely,

Lena Tucker

Oregon Society of American Foresters - 2006 Chair

Enclosure: SAF position statement

