BIRCH Kevin R

From: Rex Storm [rstorm@oregonloggers.org]
Sent: Monday, March 05, 2007 4:06 PM
To: BIRCH Kevin R
Subject: RE: FFAC Seeking Imput on Forest Issues

Kevin,
Keep me on your list... Although you've not heard from me, I'll do better in the future.

The past four weeks, I've been out of the office on other projects all but parts of two days.

Anyway, in tardy response to your question of 2/14, I offer the following thoughts:

- Vision statement as written is not helpful; and rather confounding for an already confusing subject. Singling-out fish & wildlife implies a biased for them and a bias against non-listed resources. State of Oregon technically has jurisdiction over fish & wildlife, the feds have the habitat. Lack of community or economic mention in the vision is discriminatory. "Generations" implies people, rather it would be stronger to say what's meant.

In all honesty, there are far more than 10 "pressing problems." Most pressing problems on federal forestlands:

Current plans, policies, administration, regulations fail to encourage the following:

1. Prosperous rural communities near federal forests
2. Expand forest products manufacturing infrastructure
3. Timely active management to address detrimental forest ailments
4. Effective use of taxpayers dollars; waste is the "norm"; waste timber, waste $, waste habitat...
5. Reliable outputs of multiple-uses: timber, forage, water, minerals, recreation, special uses

Current plans, policies, administration, regulations create the following dysfunctional problems:

1. No action favored over action; infeasible situations; complete risk aversion
2. Absence of 'balance of harms' [prohibition against short term risk to achieve long term greater gains]
3. Non-merit personnel performance system; reward based on inaction; "ologists" have veto power
4. Myopic to workforce crisis; no plan to transition to future workforce, as exodus accelerates
5. No intention to intensively manage a portion of forest

Stated differently, there are ten things missing from federal forest management:

1. Sufficient road access to manage multiple uses; professional discretion/authority to build/manage roads
2. Reliable & predictable timber and fiber supply
3. Rapid restoration after damages to recover value, reforest, pay for restoration, and restore habitat
4. Professional discretion/authority to harvest any tree—large, dead, dying, small, green, etc.
5. Urgency to restore overcrowded, unhealthy, or dangerous forests to a sustainable thrifty condition
6. Aggressive firefighting and pest/disease attack and deterrence
7. Promotion of an expanded forest products manufacturing infrastructure
8. Contribution to prosperous nearby rural community economies
9. "Perimeter forests" managed to respect adjacent non-federal neighbor values

10. A plan to transition to the needed future workforce [from existing exodus].

The end.

"Business services for OR forest operators since 1969"
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-----Original Message-----
From: BIRCH Kevin R [mailto:KBIRCH@ODF.STATE.OR.US]
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2007 10:46 AM
To: freimark@twsnw.org; Chris Jarmer; CRAIG M PATTERSON; Dick and Wayne; dh@oregonwild.org; jw@oregonwild.org; jf37m@aol.com; Linc Cannon; Mary Scurlock; mike@ofic.com; Rex Storm; SHIBLEY Gail R; sash@audubonportland.org; tpartin@afrc.ws
Cc: BIRCH Kevin R; Bob_Progulske@fws.gov; CHASE Jeri; CLEM Cathy M; powers.david@epa.gov; FERBER William E; FITZGERALD Marianne; GERMOND Jon P; griddell@orlocalgov.org; Hobbs, Stephen; KRAHMER Rod W; Lisa E Freedman; LORENSEN Ted L; michael_haske@or.blm.gov; rcf@fishercs.com; WALKER Ann M; YOUNG Robert
Subject: FFAC Seeking Imput on Forest Issues

All,

The Federal Forestlands Advisory Committee is developing a vision and set of key goals that need to be achieved on federal forest lands. As part of its work, the committee needs to identify the strengths and weaknesses of federal forestland management approaches and emerging issues, and develop recommendations on how to address those issues. The committee will collaborate directly with the Board of Forestry to develop a guidance document, which will include specific policy steps necessary to achieve the vision that has been crafted.

Below are a first draft vision statement and a list of the core concepts that the committee would like to work into a vision for federal forestlands.

Oregon's forests are a legacy, a resource and a refuge, loved and celebrated by our citizens, inhabited and nourished by thriving fish and wildlife, and managed with humility, wisdom and resourcefulness to sustain the health and well-being of present and future generations.

-- heritage and honoring the past

-- stewardship and responsibility

-- active management

-- managing for sustainability

-- scientific understanding and credibility

-- connection of people with the land