

To the Board of Forestry,

Our forests, and the inhabitants need protection from the timber industry. For too long I have heard when asking about egregious acts by the timber giants, "They can do whatever they want." The state needs to take on a leadership role in protecting wildlife and old growth stands in Oregon's forests. Habitat conservation is vital. We are not the only ones using the forests, and already too much habitat has been lost.

Our leaders need to diversify income streams from our forests so that a disproportionate , 98%, of income isn't based on constant clear cutting. Business as usual is not sustainable and hampers innovative solutions for this natural resource.

As the climate heats up, the forests of the Pacific North West are incredibly important in balancing carbon pollution.

I include a true story from a visitor from Tibet. Please consider that our forests, like Tibet's could disappear and make changes to the Forest Practices Act to protect the forests, not decimate them.

Thank you for your consideration.

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'The monk, clothed in gold and red robes, sat on the couch in front of the picture window in tears

He had come to the house with eight other monks to bless the passing of my friend's husband. The monks had been away from Tibet for months, traveling in a big Ford van, creating sand mandalas, blessing babies, homes and transitions of all sorts.

The other monks moved into the bedroom and started to chant. My monk had been so affected by the trip

from Tillamook out the Miami Foley that at first he did not join them.

"Why do they do that?" he asked, genuinely and deeply curious. "Why do they cut down all the trees?"

We talked about logging, clear cuts, spraying, economics. We expressed our own concerns about the process.

The monk stood up, intending to join his brothers. With tears shining in the corners of his eyes, he looked

at each of us before leaving and said quietly, "We have no more trees in Tibet. They have all been cut down."