From: Tom Partin
To: ODF_DL_Board of Forestry
Subject: Don"t make the problem worse
Date: Monday, August 31, 2020 7:10:14 AM

Dear Members Board of Forestry,

I understand that you're in the process of making a Habitat Conservation Plan for our state forests that could impact western Oregon communities for decades to come. This is an immensely important decision, and I'm writing today to ask you to make sure that this plan ensures reasonable and reliable timber harvest. These Forests were replanted by the citizens of Oregon following the devastating Tillamook fires that occurred back in the 1930's and 40's. These Forests were to be managed to provide revenues back to the counties and to provide jobs for the local sawmills and communities. This needs to be strongly considered as you develop the HCP.

The Oregon Department of Forestry has already reduced harvest levels to the point where there is not enough revenue to manage and protect our state forests. What's more, the Oregon Department of Forestry faces severe cash problems and the current plan would make it more reliant on our public tax dollars to stay afloat. Why would you consider a plan that dramatically decreases harvest and makes these problems worse?

Please protect our rural communities that rely on harvests from state forests for critical forestry and mill jobs.

Don't make a plan that decreases active management of our forests, putting jobs at risk and increasing the risk of catastrophic wildfires that put the health of firefighters and communities in peril.

Now is not the time to reduce harvest, cut jobs, and decrease revenue from state forests.

I appreciate your help.

Sincerely,

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