From: Mary Graybeal
To: ODF_DL_Board of Forestry
Subject: Don"t make the problem worse
Date: Thursday, September 03, 2020 3:10:09 PM

Dear Members Board of Forestry,

I cant believe you have overlooked and learned what's happened to the state south of Oregon. Mismanagement of forests and land have caused wildfires, loss of habitat and dangerous conditions for animals humans, and landscapes. Oregon has done a great job managing until this group and legislators and people in charge of Forest lands. I'm trying to be kind in this letter, but its difficult not to say to wake up to reality and we are not California! Healthy logging practices not only keep our chance of wildfires down, but creates new habitat for the animals. Go take a look at forests that used to be managed many years ago and then when the thing was to leave everything laying there. The cleaned up habitat had new trees, grass and food for the wildlife. Not to mention the employees that will.lose there job because it's not the thing to log and manage forests anymore. Just sickening!

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.

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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