From: John Brewer
To: ODF_DL_Board of Forestry
Subject: Don"t make the problem worse
Date: Tuesday, September 01, 2020 11:20:33 AM

Dear Members Board of Forestry,

The timber harvest in Western Oregon is a critical part of rural Oregon school finances. Unfortunately rural Oregon has no political voice. The three major cities in this state have total control of our political system. I hope you do not join in this charade. Timber dollars built this state. For over a century it was Oregon s bread and butter. Our smaller communities don't get the level of funding the bug three do. With out timber revenue our schools will suffer. Our children will be punished for the benefit of the big cities. Please dont allow this to happen.

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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