From: Larry Cribbs
To: ODF_DL_Board of Forestry
Subject: Habitat Conservation Plan
Date: Thursday, September 03, 2020 8:27:53 PM

Dear Board Member Board of Forestry,

After years of involvement in forest management I have endured year after year of listening to, and suffering from, those that think the way to do better is to do less... Nothing could be further from the truth. Please listen to true forest managers, treat the forest as a living entity that requires management for its own sake and not just for some imagined benefit to some other species. So much of todays management is simply based on "I think, I want, I feel" instead of forestry and economics. With the Blue Mountain Forestry Institute and its Foundation, involvement with the Pacific Northwest Research Station, through the Grande Ronde Model Watershed, Economic Developement and Chamber of Commerce I have worked to ge6t sanity and common sense into the management equation. Sometimes it has worked but often it does not.. I understand that you're in the process of making a Habitat Conservation Plan for our state forests that could have an impact on 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,
Larry Cribbs
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