From: Margaret Mason
To: ODF_DL_Board of Forestry
Subject: Don"t squeeze our rural areas for their livelihoods! Again!!!
Date: Tuesday, September 01, 2020 11:40:12 AM

Dear Members Board of Forestry,

We love our state and our natural environment. We hate the wildfires and subsequent tree graveyards where no logging or other harvest of still viable timber and firewood is prohibited. Oregon has more percentage of National Forest than almost any other state, with little or no harvesting allowed. Don't make Oregon unlivable for those of us who don't work in an office in Portland. Sensible harvesting with reforestation is healthy and smarter and supports our rural communities.

Our state needs a Habitat Conservation Plan that protects family-wage jobs, keeps providing fiber for local mills, and invests in healthy forest management that reduces the risk of catastrophic wildfire. We do not need a plan that puts 10s of thousands of acres off-limits to harvest and forfeits millions of dollars in timber revenues that our communities need. Especially now.

Currently almost all of US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management timberlands are off-limits for harvest, creating conditions that have driven environmentally devastating, uncontrolled wildfires. Don't put our state lands off-limits, too.

Instead, endorse a plan that includes effective reforestation tools, controlled burns, and smart, science-based forestry.

Do the right thing. Please make sure you keep in mind that the long-term impacts of this plan. The future our communities rely on making sure a Habitat Conservation Plan on our state forests protects critical jobs and a sustainable fiber supply. We need our state to do everything it can to protect jobs and provide revenue for the economy.

Sincerely,

Margaret Mason
5245 SW Lynx Ave
Redmond, OR 97756
marky_mason@hotmail.com