From: David Schott
To: ODF_DL_Board of Forestry
Subject: HCP shouldn"t put our jobs and local services at risk
Date: Tuesday, September 01, 2020 11:00:34 AM

Dear Members Board of Forestry,

We have great examples of what happens to forests where management disappears. Our federal forests in southwest Oregon have become unbelievably overgrown and unhealthy.
What now occurs is that millions of board feet die every year due to too many trees fighting for limited moisture and nutrients. The standing overgrown timber is much more susceptible to insect infestation and catastrophic fire. Without sound forestry management the state forests will fall to the same ravages that are devastating in our federal forests. Our state forests need to be managed on sustained yield rotations. These forests can be thinned periodically to the benefit of everyone.

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.

Please make sure that you endorse a plan includes things like effective reforestation tools, controlled burns, and smart, science-based forestry.

Please 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.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

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