From: O"Reilly, Katie
To: ODF_DL_Board of Forestry
Subject: HCP Board Decision
Date: Thursday, October 01, 2020 11:51:02 AM

Hello,

I'm writing to urge the Board of Forestry to move forward with the Western Oregon Habitat Conservation Plan. By finalizing the administrative draft of the HCP and moving into the NEPA process, the board can help protect imperiled species including specific salmon and steelhead runs and endangered Marbled Murrelets and Spotted Owls. As an ornithologist (who has worked on Spotted Owls and learned a lot about Marbled Murrelets from decades of presentations at Pacific Seabird Group meetings), I am particularly concerned with the steady decline of Marbled Murrelets and the increased threats Spotted Owls face now that Barred Owls are moving in. They need every bit of help we can provide them. I'm also mindful of the need for the timber industry to have a sustainable predictable harvest so I see this as a reasonable compromise. From a conservation perspective, I would of course prefer to save much more habitat for these iconic species of the great (GREAT!) Pacific Northwest. Thank you for your work on this plan and I look forward to the completion of this plan.

Cheers, Katie

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