From: sunny2008vhs@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Michael Calhoun
To: ODF_DL_Board of Forestry
Subject: Please vote yes on the State Forest Habitat Conservation Plan
Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020 11:24:39 PM

Dear Oregon Board of Forestry,

Hi there,

Im writing to show my support for voting yes on the State Forest Habitat Conservation Plan. I've lived all my life in Vernonia and I can tell you it's very depressing being in the middle of a timber plantation. There is no escape into nature to speak of. Part of my excitement about this conservation plan is it will provide a place for people to experience the outdoors in a natural setting.

One thing I would like to see in the future is conservation for drinking water sources of communities. The sole source for water in Vernonia is Rock Creek, a tributary to the Nehalem. Currently the only protection it has is the pathetically out of date Oregon forest practices act. I find it disturbing that the Bull Run watershed for Portlands drinking water has the highest level of protection yet communities like Vernonia are fair game for pollution. During the winter our water stinks like a swimming pool because more chlorine is used to counteract the sediment flowing down stream from industrial timber.

Does ODF put priorities on the safety of people's water based on population? Are 2,000 residents in Vernonia expendable where as Portland is granted exclusive status not to be polluted by big timber operations?

In future conservation planning please put community drinking sources of water as a top priority for watershed protection beyond the status quo of the last 40 years. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Michael Calhoun
60685 Flack Rd Vernonia, OR 97064-9438
sunny2008vhs@yahoo.com