From: sodeb77@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Debbie Gordon
To: ODF_DL_Board of Forestry
Subject: Please vote yes on the State Forest Habitat Conservation Plan
Date: Thursday, October 01, 2020 11:27:09 AM

Dear Oregon Board of Forestry,

Like so many other Oregonians, my first deep connection with the natural world happened in the woods, in our bountiful and beautiful coast range and in the mountains we call the Cascades. I remember being awed as we drove through the devastation wrought by the Tillamook Forest fires which was then, in the 1950's, a fairly recent event. I noticed the complexity of natural life on the forest floor and was in awe of the towering evergreens.

I'm writing to you today in support of the State Forest Habitat Conservation Plan. I appreciate that this balanced approach values our state forests for habitat, recreation, and clean drinking water, rather than prioritizing logging above all else. I urge you to vote yes and continue with the planning process.

As you know, our state forests are incredibly valuable. They provide us with clean drinking water in rivers like the Wilson and Nehalem, which are also important homes for salmon and steelhead. They provide much-needed habitat for endangered spotted owls, and marbled murrelets. They're beautiful and have enormous value for recreation. And, perhaps most importantly, temperate rainforests like those in our state forests are some of the best in the world at sequestering carbon and fighting climate change.

Please continue this process by voting yes on the State Forest Habitat Conservation Plan, so we can protect our state forests for future generations!

Thank you!

Sincerely,
Debbie Gordon
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