From: SUSAN NEUKAEMPER
To: ODF_DL_Board of Forestry
Subject: Worried about our state's economy
Date: Thursday, September 03, 2020 12:00:20 PM

Dear Members Board of Forestry,

This plan will inflict economic pain on rural communities, and data indicates the plan goes way beyond what is needed to protect sensitive species.

Board members need to endorse a management plan for our state forests that protects both the environment and communities with reliable timber harvests. Our forests provide family-wage jobs for more than 60,000 Oregonians. We've proven we can manage our forests for the greatest benefit, which includes clean water, wildlife habitat and sustainable wood products.

Without balanced management, including reasonable timber harvest, our forests are more susceptible to mega wildfires and devastating diseases. Without timber harvest, our communities lose funding for local services.

That's why I'm writing to ask that you protect Oregon's forest industry and 60,000 family-wage jobs Oregonians need now more than ever.
Why would the Board of Forestry even consider a state Habitat Conservation Plan that does not reflect any concern or understanding of rural county's financial condition or needs?

Please remember the mill workers who count on fiber from state forests. Please remember that rural communities in western Oregon rely upon the revenues from timber harvests to fund schools, libraries and other critical services. Please do the right thing.

Let's manage our forests with our children and grandchildren in mind - making sure our forests and the communities nearby will be healthy and thriving decades from now.

Sincerely,

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