From: Virginia Read
To: ODF_DL_Board of Forestry
Subject: Worried about our state's economy
Date: Tuesday, September 08, 2020 4:53:27 PM

Dear Board of Forestry,

I'm an Oregonian and I'm worried about our state's economy.

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 counties' 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.

Misguided "environmentalists" have already ruined the Western Lane County area by restricting logging, and therefore fire lanes of harvested timber and logging/ forest service roads, and causing fires like the ones at Sweet Creek. Mapleton and Florence lost hundreds of jobs when mills had to shut down due to lack of available timber in the area. Please don't repeat this folly!

Thank you,