

April 25, 2018

Board of Forestry

Re: Forest Management Plan revision

- Improve conservation strategies including permanent conservation areas.
- Diversify revenue.

For forty-five years I have held in my care a small woodlot of forty acres in the Siuslaw National Forest. One and a half sides of this property abut national forest land, clear-cut in the mid-sixties. The private property owners in our small valley have taken a minimalist approach to the management of "our" forests. It is easy to see how the over logged, over managed forests held by the forest service and private property owners who take the same approach as the forest service compares to those forests under our care. Selective logging, no spraying of herbicides, mixed/diverse forests (including alder with nitrogen fixing bacteria), and restoration of salmon habitat have all contributed to forests that are allowed to flourish.

Oregon's forest lands can flourish if the Board prioritizes: a habitat conservation plan; long term reserves managed to grow old growth, sequester carbon, and protect rare species; and addressing climate change through carbon storage. I want to see science based decisions and management for our state forests that includes monitoring.

Also, alternative revenue or a new funding mechanism is critical. I know my family looks forward to investing in the Elliot State Forest, a commitment the State has also made. Another revenue source for our schools and related to forestry would be a re-evaluation of the forest (and ag) tax deferral program. After educating myself, I questioned this program and its implementation and lack of oversight. I removed my property from its forest deferral status to help better fund schools and my community.

I encourage the Board of Forestry to pursue a Habitat Conservation Plan that provides secure harvest levels and habitat protection. I encourage the Board to diversify its revenue stream. We should all be so lucky to live in Oregon and enjoy the paradise that our forests can be. These forests are needed to ensure global health.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mona Linstromberg', written in a cursive style.

Mona Linstromberg
831 E. Buck Creek Rd.
Tidewater, OR 97390