

Clear-cutting is morally repugnant. Stop it now. The air and water are public goods. The forest is a public good. The world, the people of the world and the people of Oregon need those forests right where they're standing. If harvesting must be done, then reduce it to 0.5% of the total marketable timber on any parcel and in 200 years Oregon will not only be the richest state in the nation but we will also be the largest harvester and processor of old growth timber in the world. Bring back the stump tax and make it huge - but then credit most of the tax back when the logs are processed here. Clear cutting our forests is stupid, it's repugnant and its wasteful. Older forests are better at carbon sequestration and the highest economic value per acre is in large old trees and forests. Our replanting laws are weak and dumb. The forests were not meant to be one species. It's ruining one of the greatest eco-systems in the world and will lead to bankruptcy. Mono-crop foresting makes us more vulnerable to wildfires and all but guarantees devastating destruction from pests and disease. Please don't listen to those rich-ass lobbyists who are trying to tell you that the rape of the mountainsides is good for Oregon's economy. It's bullshit. And don't listen to those fools who misquote the most random-ass broken studies that try to tell you that Clear-cutting, the way its done now-a-days, is, down-right good for the fish and the people. Clear-cutting increases turbidity, lowers stream flows and rises the temperature of the water all the way to the sea.

Also, ban herbicides. They are very poisonous to fish and amphibians. Also their application is morally repugnant. We are almost literally agent-oranging ourselves so that multinational corporations can make more money. We have no place for that in our forests.

Thank you,
Mick Taylor
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