

July 18, 2022

Duane Bishop, Acting Forest Supervisor
Willamette National Forest
3106 Pierce Parkway Suite D
Springfield, OR 97477

VIA: <https://cara.fs2c.usda.gov/Public//CommentInput?Project=61749>

RE: 2020 Fire Affected Road System Risk Reduction EA

Dear Public Lands Steward:

I am writing to ask that you please limit post-fire roadside logging to only those trees that truly pose a significant hazard. I am thankful that you have significantly curtailed your original post-fire roadside logging proposal, but concerns remain about the necessity to log along 250 miles of roads in the Willamette National Forest alone.

Instead of assuming you must cut, please consider retaining temporary road closures on low usage, remote roads while the forest recovers. The forest carbon stored in burned trees is much better left in the forest than released by logging and milling the trees, further contributing to the climate crisis. Burned forests provide essential habitat for many wildlife species. Creating disturbance through logging these forests introduces non-native invasive plant species and delays post-fire recovery. Sensitive post-fire soils are damaged by heavy logging equipment, making the impacts of wildfire much more severe for the forest and the species dependent on the habitats the forest provides.

Please ensure that it is public agency scientists making site-specific decisions on which — if any — trees truly pose a hazard, instead of delegating that authority to logging company workers who have a perverse incentive to deem trees dangerous and thus removable. Please also retain large “hazard” trees nearby for use in aquatic and riparian habitat restoration, instead of selling them for short term gain.

Additionally, I ask that you reopen the vast majority of the forest to public use. All other forests that burned in the 2020 Labor Day fires have reopened, and the delay in providing public access to the public forest you steward is hard to comprehend or justify.

Sincerely,

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Molalla, Oregon

Cyndi Anderson
Brownsville, Oregon

D Stirpe
Oregon

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Eugene, Oregon

Diana Robin
Eugene, Oregon

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Colorado

Gabriel Scott
Eugene, Oregon

Fred Felter
Springfield, Oregon

Rowan McClelland-
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Arcata, California

Victoria Wingell
Portland, Oregon

Mike Horner
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John Herberg
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Meredith Allen
Eugene, Oregon

Melania Padilla
Devon, Pennsylvania

Martin Fisher
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Regan Fisher
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Maryann Staron
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Dylan Plummer
Eugene, Oregon

Hallie Brennan
Eugene, Oregon

Heather Cross
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Eugene, Oregon

Martha Brinson
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Mpls, Minnesota

Letitia Noel
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Mackenzie Stout
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Randall Gicker
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Bow, Washington

Frances Dunham
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Matt Stevenson
Portland, Oregon

Tri Sanger
Portland, Oregon

Bill O'brien
Beaverton, Oregon

Gene Blick
Tigard, Oregon

Chris Casper
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Jordan Longever
Dorchester, Massachusetts

Christine Stewart
Escondido, California

Christa Knittle
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Patricia Hathaway
Eugene, Oregon

Susan Haywood
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Sandy Wilson
Wilsonville, Oregon

Shalynn Pack
Junction City, Oregon

Scott R Bowler
Sisters, Oregon

Carol Wild
Cave Junction, Oregon

Yaikya Aguiar
Mcminnville, Oregon

Terrie Williams
Vidor, Texas

Shelley Spalding
Elma, Washington

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Eugene, Oregon

Joni Zimmerman
Newberg, Oregon

Virginia Mendez
Hollywood, Florida

Andrew Fletcher
Oregon

Victoria Eells
Gold Beach, Oregon

William Dearstyne
Salem, Massachusetts

Arjen Hoekstra
Eugene, Oregon

Pam Driscoll
White Cloud, Michigan

Susanna Defazio
Sisters, Oregon

Jay Richards
Bend, Oregon

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Eugene, Oregon

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Michael Fisher
Albany, Oregon

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Dundee, Oregon

Jon Sobotka
Corvallis, Oregon

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Salem, Oregon

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Eugene, Oregon

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Cameron Derbyshire
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The Dalles, Oregon

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Chuck Clusen
Arlington, Virginia

Joan Walker
Big Pine, California

Marianne Edain
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