Comment: #446982.

To: USFS, Wallowa-Whitman District.

During the 1967 drought in northern Idaho, no rain fell between June 22 and September 10, and the Sundance fire burned 56,000 acres of timber between August 23 and September 2.

By October, fourteen salvage timber sales were already approved by USFS and in progress on the Sundance burn. Forty-nine million board-feet of timber were lost to the Sundance fire on federally-managed lands, but thirty million board feet of usable timber was recovered before winter snow blocked access to the burn. It was a successful rapid-response salvage effort, which is completely different than watching it rot.

The Sundance salvage sales created a yield. All the plants, fungi, birds, reptiles, mammals, and fish are all still there today. They were not killed off by the fire, the salvage work, nor the restoration work. Thus, the salvage timber sales created a *sustainable* yield.

Fire-killed timber has an expiration date. Ponderosa Pine will blue in the first spring, and Douglas Fir, Western Larch, Lodgepole, and Grand Fir will begin to stain, split, or spiral at the end of the first summer. After that happens, the timber has little or no value. Thus, post-fire salvage managers need to act quickly.

Two 2025 Executive Orders (14225 & 14308) instructed DOI/BLM and USDA/USFS to implement policy for NEPA exclusions to speed up fuels reduction and post-fire salvage logging, and use the revenue for restoration work, and to remove regulatory barriers to forest management. USFS and BLM complied. The comment you are reading is a criticism of the 2026 USFS proposal for post-fire salvage logging and restoration work on the McCully, Anthony, and Olive Lake burns.

Why did the current administration feel it was necessary to issue those executive orders? Because for the last 35 years, a small cadre of vocal, well-funded faux-conservationist orgs has succeeded in forcing our public land management agencies into a paradigm of Minimal Use, Sustained Waste, or MUSW. These extremists have successfully challenged and altered nearly every forest management action proposed by USFS for nearly 30 years. In so doing, they have trained USFS to abandon hope for effective management in favor of proposing watered-down management actions that placate the faux conservationists while accomplishing next to nothing in terms of effective grand-scale forest management.

So our public forest acreages today are effectively unmanaged, our logging and milling industries have been killed off, we all pay exorbitant prices for imported lumber, and we all sit and stare every day at an ugly, citizen-owned, non-productive, disease-ridden, fire-prone, weed-infested, 200-million acre national forest resource that *could* be intelligently

managed to balance ecological concerns with economic value and sustainable yield, but isn't.

Isn't because the faux conservationists handcuffed and then retrained the public land management agencies a long time ago, and no one is doing anything to resolve that fundamental problem.

Last month, after our big fires, the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest took advantage of the new Executive Orders and resultant new internal policies, by immediately proposing a post-fire salvage logging and restoration plan with a decision date of October 2027, which is after the trees will begin to stain or split, after the noxious weeds will attack more meadows, and after snowmelt and thunderstorms will move scorched earth into streams.

In 1967, USFS took action in weeks.
In 2026, USFS used new rapid-response policy tools to propose action that may start after a year.

Essentially, nothing has changed.
We are still stuck in a non-management paradigm, watching our immense, immensely enjoyable, ever sustainable, incredibly valuable public national forest resource go to ruin and waste.

This is happening because NWFA and Eastside Screens and NEPA and faux conservationists were always bad and are still bad.

Until we collectively change those laws and stand against those interveners, the resource will continue to waste and die, along with our industries, our local economies, and every other American value or strength that is hated by leftists.

There are 350 million people in America, and almost none of them want to rape the land. USFS and BLM employ over 40,000 citizens. None of them want to rape the land.

Leftist, faux-conservationist environmental alarmism is horse puckey.

We need to get back to MUSY - Multiple Use, Sustained Yield.
If you didn't know, MUSY is the Executive and Congressional mandate imposed on USFS and BLM.

Not MUSW. MUSY.

Yield is yield. Yield is not waste.

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