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Title:

Comments: As a third-generation Oregonian (who just moved out of state because of the absurd and obscene backsliding on environmental issues in Oregon), this "project"-more accurately described as a "profit pit for loggers"-is nothing more than a wolf cloaked in sheep's clothing. While paying lip service to a host of legitimate constituent concerns, the proponents of this clearcut want nothing more than unfettered access to a precious asset: old-growth trees. It's common knowledge that old grow stands are rare and worth a fortune to anyone with a chainsaw and a top-shelf lobbyist. The fact is, old grow stands are nearly priceless assets at this point, and yet, time and time again, we see graphic examples of public officials ignoring their ethical (and moral) duty to protect our environment in favor of securing campaign donations, key committee seats or related beneficial treatment from the underhanded dealings that have become painfully common in not just Salem, but in all 36 of Oregon's counties. This ruse of a "management plan" is nothing more than a thinly veiled attempt to justify a greed-fueled abject raping of our precious natural resources. These profit-hungry charlatans could give a damn about wildlife habitat, preservation of migratory routes, or past decisions to protect this land. They will spin, mischaracterize, and, I believe, affirmatively lie in an effort to justify gaining access to these treasured areas in Oregon, where they will not spot until they have clearcut every inch of highly environmentally sensitive land, all in the (laughable) name of "best forest management practices." It's long past time that we cut the B/S and be honest about what's happening here (and in so many other areas of Oregon): those who profit off of exploiting our environment have to not just be held accountable for the damage they've done, but prevented from doing any more harm. Absent honest, aggressive action on this issue and our children and grandchildren will suffer the ugly consequences of our negligence.