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First name: Laura Last name: Ouellette

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Staff,

I am writing as a concerned citizen. I live in western Oregon. I am appalled to see accelerated loss of habitat in just the last few years. The North West Forest Plan was a bold compromise. It did some good, but is outdated, in this era of global warming, climate change and increasing wildfires, it must be updated.

Science tells us that old forests store carbon, help to provide clean air and water, and tolerate fire better than tree farms. I recently flew home from Vancouver BC, after a light snow. I was dismayed to see that the coast range was largely clear cuts and tree farms. Much of the coast range is in private hands. A recent article stated that the current rate of harvest in the coast range is unsustainable.

I understand that it is hard to regulate private lands, but know that old growth trees are still being harvested on public lands.

Please act on behalf of human, animal and plant life, and develop a plan that values life over profits. Thank you.