

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/3/2024 2:26:59 AM

First name: Dave

Last name: Beardsley

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Roots:

I lived in Oregon from 1987 to 2014 in the Oregon City and Eugene areas. My family had a Forest Service lease cabin in Blue River, Oregon from the 1950s until sold in 2015. During this time we have seen a drastic change in fire behavior and frequency this paired with a drastic decline in old growth forests.

1994:

I attended the 1994 Northwest Forest Summit in Portland led by the Clinton administration. At that time there was about 9% old growth left. Now there is much less, but I don't know the %.

2004:

I also lived in Oregon when the Bush administration developed the New Perspectives for Developing the National Forest System plan. Bush visited central Oregon at the start of the B&B fire complex. Some say that it stood for "Boys in Black" fire.

Traditional forest management:

The simple fact is that the Forest Service has mismanaged the forest resource for decades which has led to a reduction in old growth, a decline in carbon reserve, a reduction in moisture reserve, an increase in bug damage, destruction of soils by overheating, increase in litter fuels, High density monoculture regrowth, heavy use of pesticide use, and on and on.

Loss of resources:

Raw logs from the northwest forests should not be sold and shipped out of the country. The processing of these logs should be done and the economic gain realized by local communities close to the source of the logs.

Power line fire sources:

Effort and resources should focus on converting exposed power line to underground. High winds, record heat, old infrastructure have lead to some catastrophic fires. My family has been directly affected by two in particular: Paradise, CA and Blue River, OR.

Forest oversight:

The Forest needs to be allocated the resources to have more forest rangers. Human caused fire sources such as camp fires, motor vehicle, smoking, etc need to be curtailed.