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Comments: Attention: Blue Mountain Forest Plan Revision #64157

To Whom it may Concern

This is a process we have never heard of by the USFS. What is the process Need for Change public comment? We, the public have already commented and are now ready for the Draft ESI to be put into print so the normal process can be completed from it to the final ROD. This new Need for Change is a waste of our time and the expenditure of the government on new public meetings and comment periods that has already been done. I for one would like to know why this step needs to be taken when the USFS just completed the public comment period just over a month ago.

Once again, I will re-send the comments that were sent to you and relabel them for the reason not to make Revision #64157 within the Blue Mountain Forests.

It seems that the USFS has a set goal and that is to make all public lands within Northeast Oregon closed to the majority of public land users. It is not just outdoor recreation but those working the land to continue using a natural renewable resource that is being selectively closed forever. If anyone is within a motorized vehicle for working the land or enjoying the forested lands within these lands will be selectively removed in favor of Wilderness, Wilderness Study Areas, Set aside lands for future Wilderness, Wilderness Study Areas, Protecting possible old growth trees, Not allowing mature trees to be removed from the forest, (current law reads trees knowingly are 200 years or older) Removing grazing from these areas, Removing all Motorized activities from the forest within these new defined areas, removing and closing roads that the USFS choose with total disregard for the elderly, sick, disable, having no ability to continue using these lands once the roads are closed and removed. This latter is a run on sentence for sure, but we cannot understand why the USFS is champion any of these.

It would be a cause the USFS should abandon in favor of keep all lands open as they currently are for the majority of the users either for recreation or working the lands. Closure to the majority is not managing the land for all of us. The run on sentence above will close the lands to most of us forever and ever this is a fact. Why are you doing it then cannot be understood.

We all understand that fire management is needed desperately on public lands. Grazing is the most important first step in removing the tinder that will start and enable most fires to kindle. Creating wilderness, wilderness study areas, pretending to close old growth forest etc. will allow the existing unmanaged forest to continue to load up with fuel as no one will be allowed to do any forest management at all. Not for disease, drought, insects or removing the dead and dying from any of the closed areas forever. This is just wrong and the USFS should not allow this to happen. Protecting our public lands from fuel laden forests should be your priority. Without roads

there cannot be forest management. Why are you not making sure everyone at your meetings understands this. If the lands are closed; the roads have to be closed, removed or allowed to be consumed natural by the forest. It is very apparent that at each public meeting the USFS is not emphasizing the importance of managing the forest over creating closed lands. Why does the USFS not stand up for management rather than closures.

The Need for Change is quite simple. We need the USFS to stop forcing public lands to be closed to all currently using them for recreation. We need the USFS to stop closing public lands from those working the lands within the set parameters that already exist. The need for motorized vehicles to access all parts of this massive forested public lands needs to be emphasized at public meetings. We want the USFS to value our input and include all the men and women of America to access all the forested lands within Blue Mountain Forests. The USFS has protected these lands completely for generation without Wilderness, WSA, OGT, MTOG etc. (which results in lands closed forever to the majority). We strongly believe you can continue without a single closed road, working and promoting working the lands without closing a single acre of land to motorized travel. Public lands opened and managed for all to enjoy as it currently is by non- and motorized public land users.

Respectfully submitted by Randy Drake, Oregon State Director of the Pacific Northwest 4-Wheeldrive Association, Member of Deschutes County 4-Wheelers