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Title:

Comments: I am a field botanist and an Oregon Native. I am very concerned about the revisions being considered for the Northwest Forest Plan. I support the increased inclusion of tribes, but I am very concerned about the rest of the plan. According to an economic study timber harvest is not a net economic benefit to local communities because it brings in less money than other potential uses of the land. Timber harvests are Oregon's leading cause of greenhouse emissions. We are approaching a tipping point with climate change, which could push us to a different stability point (this is a bad thing for life). Another result of increasing logging from this plan is that the temperature of the water would increase and the stream flow would decrease substantially, especially at lower elevations. Trout need cold water, so the increased water temperature and decreased stream flow (which also increases temperature) would substantially decrease trout habitat and put many trout species at a critical level of threat. Forests are important for many reasons, and many of us have a deep connection to them. I would encourage you to consider all external costs when deciding how much logging to allow. When these costs are taken into account trees become very precious and are worth more living or as habitat trees and nurse logs. We all use wood products at some level, but when logging is done it should be at a truly sustainable level and full costs should be weighed. Please do not approve this plan amendment, it would open old growth to logging at a much higher rate with no benefit for local communities.