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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a fifth generation Oregonian with roots in the Willamette Valley as well as eastern Oregon. I care about Oregon's forests and all of the Pacific NW's rain forests because they are critical for our survival in a warming climate, they provide important habitat for a healthy ecosystem and protect our water supplies, health and air quality. Science has shown that we have not been successful in stopping our production of carbon into the atmosphere in order to prevent the worst climate outcomes, but the NW Forest Plan has at least allowed the biggest, most carbon sucking trees to continue doing their important work over the last 30 years. We need this 100 year plan (the NW Forest Plan, NWFP) to continue to work for us.

We know now that 1/3 of carbon emissions comes from logging--more than from any other sector and that our Pacific Northwest forests store more carbon per unit than any other forests in the world. We need to stop killing trees if we want clean water, clean air, good health, salmon, fewer fires and smoke.

Forest service employees are certified smart people--scientists--who know the realities and understand what greenhouse gases are doing to our health and well being. The Forest Service should not "up the cut" at the expense of what Oregonian's value. It doesn't make economic sense and is not sustainable.

Your proposed NWFP amendments would open too much land containing mature and old growth forests to logging and create too many loopholes that would allow logging in reserves meant to be protected.

I would like to see stronger protections for mature and old growth forests because they protect water quality, provide species habitat and carbon storage.

As you might recall, several years ago, Multnomah County sued a long list of oil and gas companies for speeding carbon into our air, which impacts the health and safety of our residents. I'm wondering whether industrial logging companies will be sued next, for their role in destruction of our first line of defense for climate change: our forests.