

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/14/2025 8:38:30 PM

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Comments: Dear Forest Service Director and staff,

I live in the Pacific Northwest where we have some of the oldest living life forms on this planet. I write on behalf of those life forms and for humans. The forests are not tree farms. Forests need habitat for nonhuman life forms that are an essential participant in ecological balance. We need oxygen to survive. Do not cut the planet's lungs to build things we can make out of other materials. Do not side with greed and profit.

For 30 years, the Northwest Forest Plan has protected Oregon's mature and old-growth forests and the wildlife that depends on those forests for survival. It largely halted the unchecked clearcutting that threatened to destroy our forests and drive species to extinction - and that ignited the timber wars.

Now the U.S. Forest Service is proposing an amendment to the Plan that prioritizes and accelerates logging, and puts our forests, fish, wildlife, clean water, oxygen and climate at risk.

Alternative B (the Proposed Alternative) and Alternative D options in the Draft EIS would extend the threshold on logging from 80 year stands to 120 in moist forest and 150 in dry forest. This is unacceptable and would conflict with the foundational objective for the forest plan to adequately protect endangered and sensitive species like the Marbled Murrelet, Northern Spotted Owl, and Humboldt's flying squirrel that depend on closed-canopy mature and old-growth forests for survival. We urge the U.S. Forest Service to retain the threshold at 80 years.

DO NOT SELL OUR FORESTS TO GREEDY TIMBER COMPANIES! They belong to all of us, not just the rich and powerful.

Celeste Colasurdo