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Organization:

Title:

Comments: As someone who migrated from the east coast many years ago, the Pacific Northwest has become a very special place for me. What I've fallen in love with specifically - the beaches, rivers, sand dunes, rugged coast line, mountains, the amazing wildlife, and incredible beautiful wonderful glorious forests - are in danger of being torn apart now with the proposed changes to the Northwest Forest Plan by the Forest Service. These amendments will have a negative effect on so many aspects of the PNW for generations if followed through with: from the people that live, thrive, cherish and enjoy all the benefits of Old Growth and Mature forests - to the abundance of wildlife that inhabit these forests and depend on these trees for survival and everyday life.

Environmental protection of these forests is vital to continued prosperity for this entire region and the Northwest Forest Plan has done a tremendous job managing the PNW wildlife, water and old-growth forest for decades. Increased logging to these areas can only have negative consequences for endangered and threatened wildlife, will only take away from a clean environment and healthy air and water. As someone who often frequents the amazing rivers Oregon has to offer, logging these areas would seriously diminish and alter these areas and that experience. People of the PNW take pride in this region and the incredible ecological and biological resources it provides, and our voices should be heard. As such any changes to the NWFP should maintain or increase environmental protections, not hinder or detract from them. Studies show that logging old growth and mature forests only increase biodiversity loss and climate change, there would be very little benefit to destroying them. The people of the PNW know what the sole purpose of deforestation/logging is: for companies to profit huge off logging federal forests at huge scales, and not what their state purpose is - guarding against forest fires. Using fear tactics to trick a terrified public into the approval of this logging actions is not only wrong, but immoral and unethical. I've fallen in love with the Pacific Northwest for many reasons, and I would like to stay the amazing and incredibly beautiful place that it is for all to enjoy.

Thank you,

Blair Donahue