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Comments: I urge the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to approve a final Plan that prioritizes wildlife, climate, and ancient forests over logging. For 30 years, the Northwest Forest Plan has protected Oregon's mature and old-growth forests, halting the clearcutting that threatened forests and endangered species like the Marbled Murrelet and Northern Spotted Owl.

Now, the proposed amendments in Alternatives B and D would extend the logging threshold from 80 to 120 years in moist forests and 150 years in dry forests. This is unacceptable, as it would harm species dependent on closed-canopy forests. I strongly urge the USFS to retain the 80-year threshold.

The DEIS incorrectly suggests that logging moist forests will reduce fire risk. Scientific evidence shows that allowing these forests to grow and develop canopy closure is the best way to enhance fire resilience. Fire management should focus on high-risk zones near human infrastructure, not on logging healthy forests.

The DEIS also fails to address carbon sequestration effectively. USFS must prioritize longer forest rotations, protecting mature and old-growth trees, and enhancing forest complexity to maximize carbon storage.

While the DEIS includes some Tribal engagement, these considerations should be advanced independently of the alternatives, especially B and D, with a more thorough analysis of the impacts on Indigenous communities.

Finally, the DEIS's focus on increasing timber supply ignores the higher economic value of outdoor recreation, clean water, and healthy fisheries. The final EIS should prioritize these sustainable opportunities.

I respectfully urge the USFS to approve a final Plan that protects our forests, wildlife, and climate. Thank you.