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Comments: To whom it may concern:

My name is Molly Cox and I am a resident of Eugene, Oregon. My concerns regarding the Northwest Forest Plan Amendment have to do with the alternatives' impact on Old Growth, response to Fire Risk and response to Climate Change.

I believe we need to preserve trees 80 years or older so that more forest can become old growth and we can gain the benefits that old growth forests provide (i.e. - carbon sequestration, moisture capture and cooling, etc.) Every year for the past 20 years, as I recall, there have been large wildfires in the states along the west coast, resulting in people losing their homes, forests burned, and poor air quality for everyone. But this is not the forests' fault. Climate conditions conspire to make the fires worse: hot and dry air, low humidity, and high winds. A lightning storm or a human caused spark or all it takes to create a fire inferno. Climate change is exacerbating the problem, and we need to be proactive to prevent such catastrophic fires. BUT cutting down more trees is not the answer. If we continue to reduce canopy cover, it will only make things worse.

So, after reading a large part of the plan, I think the following:

1. I like Alternative C the best as a revision, but limiting "treatment" to as little as possible. Keep the 80 years instead of 120 years as old growth should continue.
 2. I think including the Tribe's input and indigenous practices should be done, as it was not incorporated in the previous plan. Allowing tribal access for ceremonies and gathering forest materials sounds appropriate. Improved beaver presence should be allowed in the NW forest.
 3. "Extensive" treatment, I.E. Clearcutting, should be avoided as much as possible. Eliminating canopy cover will result in more arid conditions, and all it takes is wind and a spark to set the forest on fire.
 4. Look at Carbon Sequestration as a value for the forests instead of just timber production.
- Forest Stewardship should be what's best for the forest's health, and timber production should be a low priority.

Respectfully,

Molly Cox