

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/17/2025 11:51:10 PM

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Comments: As a member of the public, I strongly endorse ALL of the Coast Range Association's comments on the DEIS.

Much of the natural world has been devoured by civilization (to our detriment, as we're seeing now), but here in the Pacific Northwest there still exist some of our natural world's most astonishing manifestations. The pockets of old growth that are left of course, but even a relatively young, but mature and naturally regenerated forest is astonishing in its own way.

Being in the midst of a healthy forest, be it eighty years old or several hundred, is an experience like no other - the sense of vitality is so powerful. Life engenders and supports life, and if we want life to continue (ours and that of future generations), we need to care for life - and that includes the life of our forests.

So please, don't open up the late successional reserves to commercial harvest. All the 'valid' and 'objective' arguments I could make are already being made and supported by conservation organizations such as the Coast Range Association and Oregon Wild, in addition to concerned individuals. I stand with them all and say thank you!

Commercial interests will ALWAYS have profit rather than the health of the forest system as their priority. We have the option of not allowing profiteering to inform the way our public forests are managed - let's use it. There's always a way!