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Organization:

Title:

Comments: to: Regional Foresters Jacque Buchanon and Jennifer Eberlein

My name is Patricia Fischer and I am a member of Oregon Wild, Cascadia Wildlands and Great Old Broads for Wilderness. I have been an advocate for and recreational user of the Willamette National Forest for over 15 years.

Please accept this comment on the draft EIS for the proposed Northwest Forest Plan Amendment.

I want to endorse Amendment A as the federal advisory council that worked hard to make 184 recommendations for this plan is soon going to be disbanded by the current administration before completing their work. The logging goals recently publicized by the administration may make it hard to address all 5 areas of concern in an equitable manner. Already the amendment fails to protect mature and old growth forests vigorously and weakens core protections of the Northwest Forest Plan.

The original plan was a hard compromise which was not liked by the timber industry, environmentalists or tribes. That was surely a sign it was somewhat equitable in addressing varied concerns. The amendment action alternatives will increase the threats to endangered species, threatens old growth forests and does not preserve mature forests so they can become old growth.

Perhaps the general amendment process should be abandoned and the time consuming analysis of the alternatives ended. The Forest Service should allow individual districts to execute scientifically based management programs appropriate to their district in pursuing the goals of the original Northwest Forest Plan.

Thank you for your consideration.