

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/7/2025 4:47:45 AM

First name: David

Last name: Tvedt

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To the Forest Service regarding the Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision

I have spent a lot of time in the Blue Mountains of eastern Oregon and really value the forests and landscapes there. I strongly think your revised Forest Plan needs to contain robust, enforceable standards that have measurable objectives that will protect old-growth and mature forests, wildlife connectivity, roadless areas, and streams and water quality. In your current draft plan, you don't have many spelled out enforceable standards and this gives way too much discretion for damaging activities to be implemented. You can change your current draft plan to include more protective standards that are enforceable.

I want the Forest Service to keep and even strengthen the protective standards for large trees that have been in place for the last 30 years. Large trees are more resistant to wildfires and provide many ecosystem benefits that younger trees don't. Close all the loopholes for logging larger trees and have protective standards that are enforceable.

Additionally, the Blue Mountains contains essential habitat for numerous threatened wildlife species that need protection. Your final plan needs to prioritize protections for wildlife and their habitats and provide large habitat blocks and habitat connectivity. Additionally, large carnivores and native wildlife should not be being killed on public lands in order to cater to private interests on nearby private land. All this needs protective standards that are enforceable. The Forest Service needs to also have enforceable standards for protecting fish and stream and water quality. Livestock grazing on public land has caused a lot of damage to stream and water quality, along with other fragile habitats and it needs to be reduced and these habitats protected.

Your final plan needs to not include justifying logging for community fire safety. Logging is a false solution to community fire safety. Emphasizing "hardening" homes and buildings, and emergency preparedness, have way more justification for providing increased community fire safety. Also, "salvage" logging after a fire harms important wildlife habitat and should not be done on public lands.

Finally, we need more Wilderness designation in the Blue Mountains. Your current draft doesn't recommend any new areas and the area already has too many roads that can't be adequately maintained. Wilderness protection facilitates protection of the above listed concerns, while additional roads add to the harms, including even more wildfire risk from increased user access.