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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Re: Comments on Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision #64157

The following are comments on scoping for the Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision:

I am opposed to the agencies' proposal to weaken protections for forests and riparian ecosystems in the region by removing existing enforceable standards.

The Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision must instead include strong, enforceable, and mandatory standards that protect wildlife, clean water, carbon, and ecosystem integrity. I request that the agency develop an alternative based on such enforceable standards, and specifically include standards that protect mature and old-growth forests, complex early seral forests, wetlands, seeps, and riparian areas from logging, roads, grazing, mining, and other stressors.

These standards would protect carbon stocks, roadless areas that provide important wildlife habitat and act as climate refugia, and clean air and water that would otherwise be compromised by extractive activities.

Stronger protective standards, rather than increased logging, should be the underpinning of the Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision.

Sincerely,

Carol Valentine  
Selma, Oregon