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Comments: I urge you to reject any proposal that increases logging in Oregon at the expense of mature forests, wildlife habitat, clean water, and climate resilience.

Our public forests are essential for storing carbon, protecting drinking water, supporting recreation, and providing habitat for countless species. Forest management should be guided by the best available science and prioritize protecting communities from wildfire-not expanding industrial logging or weakening long-standing environmental safeguards.

Please protect mature and old-growth forests, maintain protections for large trees and roadless areas, and pursue forest management strategies that strengthen the health and resilience of our public lands for future generations.

Public lands give Oregon and the western states unique character and possibilities that are not available in many other places. It takes a very long time for the forest to come back from logging even when it is left to recover. I am one of many people in this state who spends extensive time in the wilderness every year. You need to understand that the ecological diversity and the found beauty of these spaces is very easily damaged and in practice will never truly recover after being damaged.

Also I should point out that wealthy and civilized countries tend to protect their land and natural resources, and third world countries are the ones who focus on rapidly extracting natural resources to sell to richer countries. As an international provider of lumber and forest products the Pacific Northwest and the US have been easing into this model.