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First name: Loma

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Blue Mountains Revision Team,

My letter to House committee on Natural Resources and Sub committee:

Loma M. Wharton

September 28, 2026

Committee on Natural Resources

1324 Longworth House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

RE: Fix our Forests Act HR 471 2025-2026:

Dear Chairman Westerman, Rep. Paul Gosar (R-Ariz) and all other members of the House Committees on Natural Resource:

This "Fix our Forests Act HR471 2025- 2026" bill establishes requirements for managing forests on federal land, including requirements concerning reducing wildfire threats, expediting the review of certain forest management projects, and implementing forest management projects and other activities.

This HR 471 was not needed because back in 2012 your committee on Natural Resources recommended the "Apache County Forest program as the cure for 'disease' of growing wildfires", after Doyel Shamley's testimony to your committee, U.S House of Representatives - Natural Resource Committee Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands.

Oversight Field Hearing on "Explosion of Federal Regulations Threatening Jobs and Economic Survival in the West" - Elko, Nevada - March 12, 2012, and as the Cronkite News herein attached for each of your review states very clearly by Rep. Payl Gosar, R-Flagstaff, that Apache County's process must be a partnership with forest management, drought and insect infestations, contributing to catastrophic wildfires. (See Cronkite News herein attached).

It is clear Apache County's process works, because 4 counties around Apache implemented the same process, and a total of 10 counties in the Western States have implemented it too, all with much success, and still enforce today.

I have also attached a copy of the General Accounting Offices Codes paper for Legislative Authority/Jurisdiction over Federal areas within the States, Codes used in Type of Jurisdiction and citation to legislative Authority Columns, with the Multi-County Install Agriculture Forest Service for Oregon lands, Codes 1 through 5, attached herein.

All Federal Jurisdiction lies at Article 1, Section 8, Clause 17 - Forts, Arsenal's, Magazines, Dockyards and other Needful Buildings.

As this document shows in order for your Federal Agencies to have jurisdiction over county lands in each of the Western States, there must be a State Statute, A Federal Law (Statutes-at-Large) Acceptance or Recordation, Money changes hands and Title are issued[hellip]. therefore, at this document also shows Federal Agencies have #4 Proprietorial Interests Only.

It is my recommendation that all of you Representatives of the Natural Resources Committee, and Sub Committees, reading this letter, get this Process recommended, back in 2012, in the Cronkite Report implemented in each county in your state, and to All Western State in the Union, now!!!

Help all the Western Counties in America, Stop these dangerous wildfires!! In fact, I suggest you contact Doyel Shamley and put him in charge of educating each county of each State in the Western States, so that our lands can be safe and prosperous as the other 10 Western Counties using Apache Counties process have done for over 14 years, and your committee's recommendation herein the attached Cronkite Report[hellip] Please contact Doyel Shamley at

<https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.countystrong.org%2F&data=05%7C02%7Csm.fs.bluesforests%40usda.gov%7C2a87d08b0a794a55a49108df1b20db33%7Ced5b36e701ee4ebc867ee03cfa0d4697%7C1%7C0%7C639259500114883227%7CUnknown%7CTWFPbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUslIYiOilwLjAuMDAwMCIsIIAiOiJXaW4zMlslIkFOljoiTWFpbCIsIldUljoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=mtjBN52lz0dMZq%2FBewPUlfeihnWGI7BYr0ybSRmZj8l%3D&reserved=0> asap.

I have also attached a letter from Kevin Goodrich recommending bringing criminal, if not harsh civil, penalties against each of the Agency Environmentalists groups listed in his signed letter, dated September 7, 2026.

These Environmental Groups, and their Agents, used their well-documented records of proven economic destruction of citizen Rights and Private Property and over the years.

I suggest you reference that alarming facts presented in the well documented pages of each Group listed in Kevin Goodrich's letter. (Attached herein.) It's time Chairman Westerman and all other Representative of the House Committees on Natural Resources to do your Constitutional Duty and show each State and County in the Union you stand by your Oath of Office, (if you have one) to protect and defend our County Private Property Rights, and Get the Apache County Process implement in each county Now!!

Thank you,

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Loma M Wharton

want a signed letter with the documents attached call me or email me. The packet goes out Monday the 28th

Eastern Oregon's national forests face serious threats from severe wildfire, insects, and disease. We are already losing too many forest acres to these threats, and we need to do more active management to improve forest conditions and reduce wildfire risks before more forests are lost.

The Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision is an important opportunity to change that direction. The new plans should give professional land managers the flexibility to manage the Malheur, Umatilla, and Wallowa Whitman National Forests based on current science and actual conditions on the ground.

I support Alternative 2 because it provides the best path toward more active management. According to the Forest Service, it would reduce the risk of high severity wildfire more than the other alternatives and improve forest conditions at the fastest rate and greatest scale.

I also support removing the Eastside Screens and the 21 inch diameter limit. Professional land managers should be able to decide which trees should be retained or removed based on forest conditions and the needs of individual projects. The plans should also manage for a full range of forest conditions, including young forests and early seral habitat as well as older forests.

Eastern Oregon also needs the mills, logging contractors, and skilled workers who make active forest management possible. We continue to lose this infrastructure, and without enough timber from federal forests, it will become even harder and more expensive to get needed work done.

The final plans should also provide greater flexibility to manage Roadless areas and forests near streams and waterways. These lands face wildfire, insect, and disease threats too, and managers should be able to reduce hazardous fuels and improve forest conditions when treatments are needed.

Please adopt Alternative 2 and approve forest plans that allow more active management across the Blue Mountains. This is an important opportunity to improve the health of our national forests while supporting the communities and forest products infrastructure needed to care for them.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Loma Wharton