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Title:

Comments: Dear USFS review team - what a gem each of our forests & a treasure they are as a whole and contiguous ecosystem. I'm sure your advisors & scientists would concur. It is with this in mind write to express my sadness & disagreement with the proposed changes to the Forest Olan Revision # 301397.

With less than 20% remaining old growth forests in the contiguous US and perilously minimum roadless areas, I write to URGE you, admonish USFS to protect OUR remaining Blue Mountain bio reguon. There are several critical reasons you must do so:

1. The city of Pendleton relies completely on the Umatilla NF surface waters for its drinking water. Clean water in appropriate quantities depend on fully intact & functional forests. Agriculturalists throughout our region are entirely dependent on surface waters both for irrigation and for groundwater replenishment.
2. Fish & wildlife depend completely on clean healthy surface waters in healthy forest habitats that meet water quality standards, and which logging operations and roads destroy. Consult and abide by existing or improved plans PLEASE.
3. Fires are much less damaging in areas that are NOT logged to a 'dry side' standard. Opened, roaded areas are hotter, drier and more susceptible to human-caused (80%) inflammation.
4. These are OUR lands, publically owned & funded, for multiple use benefits NOT simply harvests for money that will be exported, misused and wasted by a profit oriented administration. Citizens have rights to and benefits from these lands in greater numbers than the corporations that stand in line to extract for their commercial enrichment. Once gone, these forests many never return.
5. Protection and conservation of ALL and each NF is imperative for plant and animal movement, habitat that provides food, breeding grounds, shelter and resiliency in times of plenty and of critical climate change. The Forests of the Blue Mountains are extremely important in the archipelago of forests stretching from east of the Rockies to the Pacific coast line.
6. As our climate changes the remaining natural forest systems that clean our water, provide temperature mitigation, emit oxygen and humidity to our atmosphere, hold carbon in soils, stems and roots, support diverse species critical to future lives including our own.
7. The above comments point to a No Action Scenario as the best option for the national forests in quwstion. First, do no harm, leave no trace and always leave it better than you found it.

Thank you.