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Series/Staff Member: Kathleen (Katie) McGinty
Subseries: *Correspondence*

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[J - September 1993] [Loose]

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 23, 1993

The Honorable William J. Jefferson
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Jefferson:

Thank you for contacting me regarding your interest in the Executive Order on Recycled Goods. It was good to hear from you.

President Clinton and I are committed to the protection our nation's environment in a way that leads to strong and sustainable economic growth. Recycling continues to be one of our highest priorities.

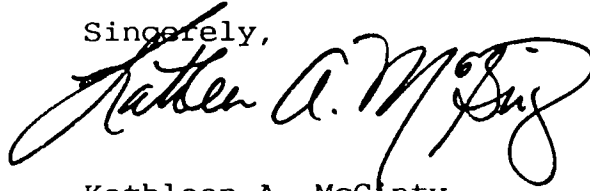
As you know, the Federal Government is the nation's largest customer of products and services. Harnessing this market to entice investments in "green" business practices and technologies is the main focus of the Executive Order. This Executive Order will strengthen the previous Federal Agency Recycling Order of October 1991 by requiring a revision of procurement guidelines for recycled products, establishing new content standards for recycled printing and writing paper, and encouraging federal agencies to set procurement goals for recycled products. These steps will create the proper incentives for businesses across our country to begin to produce environmentally sound products. As public concern for our natural environment increases, we in the Federal government need to take every step to ensure that the products and services we use help preserve and protect this national heritage.

The executive order will specifically require federal agencies to procure printing and writing paper containing postconsumer material. This will begin to create more stable markets for recyclable paper which is collected in towns and cities across the country. In addition, this provision will allow us to preserve natural resources and remove pressure from overflowing landfills.

I certainly appreciate learning your concerns about the implementation of this executive order, and specifically the paper bleaching process. Rest assured that this Administration is committed to the increased use of recycled and recovered materials, and we believe that this Executive Order will adequately address the important issues you raise.

Again, thank you for sharing your thoughts with me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kathleen A. McGinty". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kathleen" being the most prominent part.

Kathleen A. McGinty
Director, White House Office on
Environmental Policy

KAM/avl

WILLIAM J. JEFFERSON
2ND DISTRICT, LOUISIANA

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
428 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-1082
(202) 225-6636

WELDON J. ROUGEAU
CHIEF OF STAFF

DISTRICT OFFICE:
1012 HALE BOGGS FEDERAL BUILDING
501 MAGAZINE STREET
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130-3394
(504) 589-2274

COMMITTEE:
WAYS AND MEANS
SUBCOMMITTEES
OVERSIGHT
SOCIAL SECURITY

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-1082

August 11, 1993

Kathleen A. McGinty
Executive Assistant to the President
Director, Office on Environmental Policy
Old Executive Office Building
17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

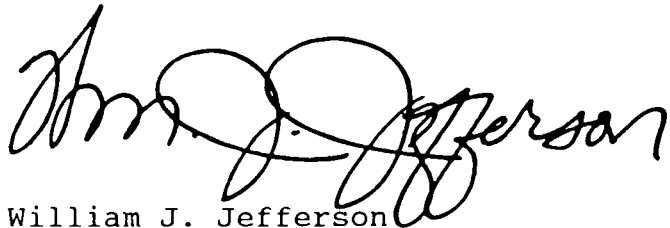
Dear Ms. McGinty:

It is my understanding that the Administration is drafting an Executive Order on Federal recycling that would include provisions on "environmentally preferable" products and services and "totally chlorine free" paper. I question the prudence of the inclusion of either provision in an Executive Order.

These matters involve important considerations that cannot be appropriately handled by Executive Order. Questions are presented regarding the scientific justification for action, the environmental benefits to be gained and the economic consequences of such actions. All sides should be heard on this debate. An Executive Order would not allow such a dialogue. It would be in effect a comprehensive regulatory program. The action would be one without Congressional authorization, public participation or evaluation of the complex scientific issues involved and without consideration of the social and economic impact of such a sweeping change. It is my understanding that even within the environmental community, there is no clear position regarding the advisability of either policy.

I encourage you to delete the provisions on "environmentally preferable" products and services and "totally chlorine free" paper from the Executive Order. Your consideration is appreciated and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Wm. J. Jefferson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

William J. Jefferson
Member of Congress

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 29, 1993

Mr. Jon Jett
3200 Hightower Trail, N.E.
Conyers, GA 30207

Dear Mr. Jett:

Thank you for contacting me regarding the proposed drinking water reservoir at Big Haynes Creek. It was good to hear from you, and I apologize for the delay in my response.

As you know, I share President Clinton's commitment to the preservation of the environment in a way that leads to strong and sustainable economic growth. I certainly appreciate your bringing this information to my attention. I am forwarding copies of your correspondence to the Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency for their review and response to the specific issues that you raise.

Again, thank you for letting me hear from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathleen A. McGinty". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "M" and "G".

Kathleen A. McGinty
Director, White House Office on
Environmental Policy

KAM/avl

JON JETT

3200 HIGHTOWER TRAIL, NE, CONYERS, GA 30207
(404) 922-2329

CERTIFIED MAIL P 357 510 319
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

July 19, 1993

Ms. Kati McGinty
White House Environmental Liaison
Old Executive Office Building - Room 360
Washington, DC 20501

Re: CORPS OF ENGINEERS PERMIT 199100788
PROPOSED DRINKING WATER RESERVOIR
BIG HAYNES CREEK
CONYERS, ROCKDALE COUNTY, GA
1977 CLEAN WATER ACT, SEC 505

Dear Ms. McGinty:

It has been suggested by the Office of the President and the Office of the Vice President, that you may be able to help in our urgent need for proper regulatory adherence regarding the captioned project.

The county, in which we reside, is proceeding outside the parameters of the project as permitted. The attached lists the flagrant violations.

A leaking, unlined landfill is within 1200 feet of the reservoir pool. The unnecessary destruction of one of the few pristine, old growth wetlands in north Georgia is imminent. The destruction of the last unspoiled vestige of the historic Hightower Trail, traversed and encamped by the CREEK and CHEROKEE American Indian tribes, is imminent. And personally, the proposed blasting will deplete our water supply. (We are never to be supplied drinking water by the county, although we live on the shoreline of the proposed lake.)

We are only requesting of the E.P.A. and the Corps of Engineers a new series of public hearings to present voluminous new data pertaining to this project.

We are a rural and below average median income area of this county. We have no large resources to legally intervene.

Although we are attempting to utilize Section 505 of the 1977 Clean Water Act, we need the assistance of our government. Could you please help?

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jon Jett".

Jon Jett
Rockdale Environmental Concerns

cc: Mac McClarty
White House Chief of Staff

Senator Sam Nunn

Colonel Wayne Boy, U.S. Corps, Savannah

Mr. Ray Cunningham

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 2, 1993

Mr. Jim Jacobson
1336 N.W. Jefferson Street
Roseburg, OR 97470

Dear Mr. Jacobson:

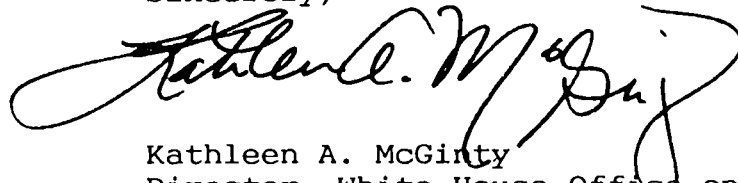
Thank you for contacting me regarding your concerns about the problems facing the Pacific Northwest.

President Clinton and I are committed to the preservation of the environment in a way that leads to strong and sustainable economic growth. The President and I believe that the Forest Conference was a significant step toward the resolution of the problems facing the Pacific Northwest. After the conference, three working groups were established to work on developing a Forest Management Plan. These working groups included a team working on ecosystem management assessment, a team focusing on labor and community assistance, and a team working to improve the relationships among federal and state agencies in the region and to eliminate impediments that block coordinated action.

As you know, President Clinton recently announced his Forest Plan for a Sustainable Economy and a Sustainable Environment, based on the analytical work of the three working groups. I believe that the Forest Plan is scientifically-sound and legally responsible and will provide a sustainable harvest. This plan also includes a new economic assistance program that helps local workers, businesses and communities in strengthening the region's economy by creating family-wage jobs, offering new economic opportunities, and ensuring the region's long-term economic health.

Again, thank you for sharing your concerns with me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathleen A. McGinty". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping "K" and a long, trailing "y".

Kathleen A. McGinty
Director, White House Office on
Environmental Policy

KAM/avl

July 26, 1993

Kathleen McGinty
Office of Environmental Policy
Old Executive Office Bldg. Rm. 358
Washington, D.C. 20501

Dear Ms. McGinty:

While the Administration considers the nearly-gone old-growth forest ecosystems, I hope you will focus some of your attention on the invaluable SISKIYOU Forest bioregion!

Perhaps you are aware that most of our remaining ancient forest areas are fragmented in a tragic patchwork pattern. Good biologists and forest scientists know that the larger the preserve, the better for the preservation of biodiversity. You must know that the larger the preserve, the more chance the life there can survive forest fires and other threats to extinction.

The Siskiyou Forest region is the ONLY area remaining on the west coast that can be protected by a large "Ancient Forest Reserve." But now, less than half the Siskiyou wildlands are protected! We must do something to save as much of this area as possible intact, before the remaining unprotected 284,000 acres of roadless lands are cut and devastated.

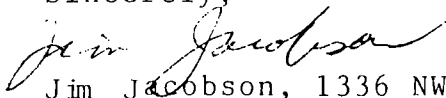
The Siskiyou region is the best west coast region to begin recovery of carnivore species such as fisher, wolverine, wolf and even grizzly bear. We need the full half-million acres of Siskiyou bioregion protected as a unit. The only logging that should be allowed in this area is perhaps some limited helicopter thinning to reduce the threat of large and raging destructive fires.

Please, I urge you, take under serious consideration the plan submitted by the Siskiyou Regional Education Project for the creation of a large, intact Ancient Forest Reserve in the Siskiyou National Forest. Help prevent any more road building or cutting in the region!

I have hiked and traveled through the Siskiyou area and I have enjoyed swimming in the Illinois and Rogue Rivers. It is an incredible, almost fantasy world that must be protected for current and future generations. Did you know that the Siskiyou region is on the list of "should be" saved areas by the United Nations, known as "World Heritage Sites?" Yes, here is another area where the Clinton Administration could go down in history as one of the greatest--by ensuring that the U.N. follows through and designates the Siskiyou region as a World Heritage Site as soon as possible! One final point: Scientists have recognized the Siskiyou as one of the most biologically diverse and most valuable wild areas in North America.

Please let me hear from you regarding your plans to protect this magnificent Siskiyou region!

Sincerely,



Jim Jacobson, 1336 NW Jefferson St. Roseburg, OR 97470

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 2, 1993

Ms. Judith Jones
356 Island Circle
Sarasota, FL 34242

Dear Ms. Jones:

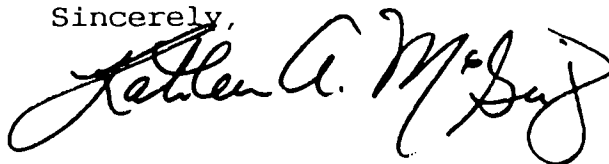
Thank you for contacting me regarding your concerns about the problems facing the Pacific Northwest.

President Clinton and I are committed to the preservation of the environment in a way that leads to strong and sustainable economic growth. The President and I believe that the Forest Conference was a significant step toward the resolution of the problems facing the Pacific Northwest. After the conference, three working groups were established to work on developing a Forest Management Plan. These working groups included a team working on ecosystem management assessment, a team focusing on labor and community assistance, and a team working to improve the relationships among federal and state agencies in the region and to eliminate impediments that block coordinated action.

As you know, President Clinton recently announced his Forest Plan for a Sustainable Economy and a Sustainable Environment, based on the analytical work of the three working groups. I believe that the Forest Plan is scientifically-sound and legally responsible and will provide a sustainable harvest. This plan also includes a new economic assistance program that helps local workers, businesses and communities in strengthening the region's economy by creating family-wage jobs, offering new economic opportunities, and ensuring the region's long-term economic health.

Again, thank you for sharing your concerns with me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kathleen A. McGinty". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kathleen" being more prominent and the last name "McGinty" following in a similar style.

Kathleen A. McGinty
Director, White House Office on
Environmental Policy

KAM/avl

356 Island Cir.
Duravota, G.P. 34242
August 26, 1993.

Mr. James Lyons
Assistant Secretary for Natural Resources
and Environment

USDA
Room 2123 North Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Lyons,

This letter is to comment on the President's proposed plan for the Ancient Forests of the Pacific Northwest. I commend the President for trying to reach a middle ground on a controversial issue. I'd like to see the plan strengthened in its key elements and it can serve as a model on how to manage an ecosystem and balance it with a sustainable economy. We need a permanent ancient forest reserve system with no salvage logging and thinning with high viability standards for the ecosystem and the salmon. Also of importance is the elimination of raw log exports. Also the forests east of the Cascades and in Sierra Nevada of CA. need to be protected. Finally we need a plan based strictly on scientific principles, with a margin of safety for future data.

I supported this President and hope he is soon labelled "The Environmental President".

cc: Kathleen
McIntire

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 7, 1993

Mr. Carl A. Jennings
President, Chemicals Division
BASF Corporation
100 Cherry Hill Road
Parsippany, NJ 07054

Dear Mr. Jennings:

Thank you for contacting me regarding your interest in the Executive Order on Recycled Goods.

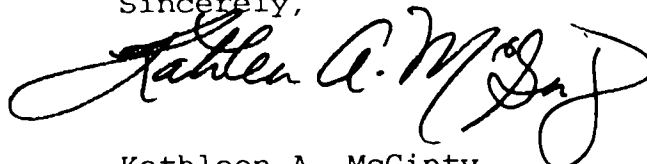
President Clinton and I are committed to the protection our nation's environment in a way that leads to strong and sustainable economic growth. Recycling continues to be one of our highest priorities.

This Executive Order will require federal agencies to begin procuring printing and writing paper containing postconsumer material. The purpose of this policy, among other things, is to provide an incentive for pulp and paper mills to use recovered materials, not just virgin materials, to make paper. This will provide markets for paper recovered from the municipal solid waste stream and ultimately result in substantially lower prices for recycled papers containing recovered materials.

I certainly appreciate learning your concerns about the implementation of this Executive Order. I believe that the Executive Order will adequately address the need for increased use and procurement of recycled and recovered materials.

Again, thank you for sharing your thoughts with me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathleen A. McGinty', written in a cursive style.

Kathleen A. McGinty
Director, White House Office on
Environmental Policy

KAM/avl

Carl A. Jennings
President
Chemicals Division

August 5, 1993

Ms. Kathleen A. McGinty
Deputy Assistant to the President
Director, Office on Environmental Policy
Old Executive Office Building
17th and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Ms. McGinty:

I am writing about the draft Executive Order on Federal Recycling. The draft contains two areas of great concern to BASF Corporation. These are the governmental identification and promotion of "environmentally preferable" products and services and the procurement and market promotion of "totally chlorine-free" paper. BASF strongly urges that both of these extremely controversial provisions be removed from the draft Executive Order.

The above proposals would have major social and economic consequences. We strongly object to the use of an Executive Order to establish a program that would force paper companies to spend billions of dollars to switch to "totally chlorine-free" technologies. This threatens the ability of an industry to compete domestically and internationally. Furthermore, there would be major losses for U.S. chemical producers.

BASF Corporation is a chemical company. We pride ourselves on the nature of our work, the quality and dedication of our more than 16,000 employees and the many contributions chemistry continues to make in improving the quality of our lives. In 1992, our sales exceeded \$5 billion. Additionally, BASF has spent more than \$2 billion for capital investment in the United States over the past five years.

The draft Executive Order would establish a sweeping regulatory program of the type that Congress has already provided for in Section 6 of the Toxic Substances Control Act. This seems to be unnecessary additional regulation for its own sake. And, this action would be taken without gathering and evaluating the information necessary to understand complex scientific and technical issues.

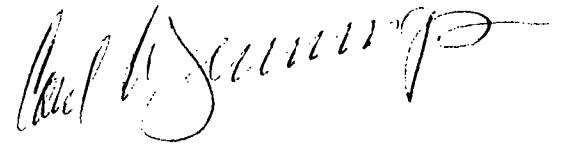
Ms. Kathleen A. McGinty
Deputy Assistant to the President

Page 2
August 5, 1993

Moreover, the draft Order seems to rest on the questionable regulatory premise that the best way to manage potential health or environmental risks associated with the use of a chemical is to ban the chemical's use. This is wrong. No consideration is given to the risk-benefit consequences of such action -- whether the problem can be effectively addressed through less drastic risk management options, whether any real, significant benefits would be achieved, or whether there is a problem at all.

Because of the controversial nature of these provisions and their long-term implications on investment and employment, BASF requests that this issue be addressed in a public forum, either through the legislative process or public rulemaking. If we can assist you in this regard, please contact me directly at (201) 316-3201.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Paul H. Seuring", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

cc: Senator Bill Bradley
Senator Frank Lautenberg
Senator J. Bennett Johnston
Congressman Dean Gallo
Congresswoman Marge Roukema
Congressman Richard A. Zimmer
Congressman John Dingell
Congressman Greg Laughlin

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 21, 1993

Mr. David Johnson
409 13th Street, N.W.
Grand Rapids, MN 55744

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Thank you for contacting my office regarding your thoughts about the proposed Executive Order on Recycled Goods. I appreciate hearing from you.

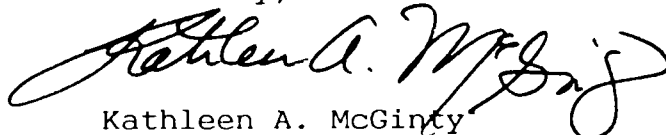
President Clinton and I believe that recycling has to be an important part of our strategy in our efforts to preserve our environment. Through the hard work and initiative of many community and industry leaders, recycling has become almost routine to many people. However, to really make recycling a success, further outreach is needed to encourage both the supply and demand for recycled products.

The President asked that the Office on Environmental Policy work on an initiative to encourage the use of recycled and recovered goods. The draft Executive Order is the outcome of much hard work and consultation with industry and labor representatives, the environmental community, and consumer groups, as well as congressional and agency staff members. This initiative will require the federal agencies to use paper containing recycled materials. This Administration believes that this executive order will stimulate demand for and production of goods containing recycled materials, and increase the incentive for public involvement in the recycling movement.

I certainly appreciate learning your thoughts and concerns about the implementation of this draft Executive Order, specifically with regard to post-consumer content standards and the paper bleaching process. We believe that this initiative will achieve the desired results of spurring our nation's recycling efforts, while also promoting a healthy environment. Rest assured that we are carefully considering all policy options in this very important matter.

Again, thank you for letting me hear from you.

Sincerely,



Kathleen A. McGinty
Director, White House Office on
Environmental Policy

KAM/avl

Ms. Katie McGinty
Deputy Assistant to President
Director of White House Environmental Policy
Room 310 Old Executive Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20501

Dear Ms. McGinty,

I am writing concerning a proposed Executive Order on federal procurement of recycled paper. I understand that the order will require federal agencies to purchase paper that contains at least 15% post-consumer material, rising to 25% by the year 2000, with some papers having an additional requirement of 50% total recycled content. I also understand that the order will require the purchase of chlorine-free paper.

I support efforts to increase the purchase of recycled paper by the federal government. I believe the EPA guidelines established attainable goals which helped stimulate investment in recycling technology and equipment.

However, I am concerned that the standards in the proposed executive order may be unrealistically high for the basic printing and writing papers, some of which are produced by the company for which I work. As a consequence, companies like Blandin Paper Company may be seriously affected and our jobs jeopardized.

I also question the inclusion of a chlorine-free requirement. Such a requirement has nothing to do with recycled content, and in fact may be at cross-purposes with recycling.

As a member of the Independent Union of Paper Mill Workers, I ask you to recommend to the President that he not sign this executive order.

Sincerely,

Daniel Johnson
409 13th ST NW
GRAND RAPIDS, MN.
55744

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 22, 1993

Mr. and Ms. Karl and Carmen Jungbluth
16819 N.E. 84th Street
Liberty, MO 64068

Dear Mr. and Ms. Jungbluth:

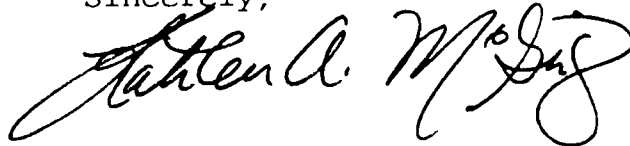
Thank you for contacting me regarding your concerns about the problems facing the Pacific Northwest.

President Clinton and I are committed to the preservation of the environment in a way that leads to strong and sustainable economic growth. The President and I believe that the Forest Conference was a significant step toward the resolution of the problems facing the Pacific Northwest. After the conference, three working groups were established to work on developing a Forest Management Plan. These working groups included a team working on ecosystem management assessment, a team focusing on labor and community assistance, and a team working to improve the relationships among federal and state agencies in the region and to eliminate impediments that block coordinated action.

As you know, President Clinton recently announced his Forest Plan for a Sustainable Economy and a Sustainable Environment, based on the analytical work of the three working groups. I believe that the Forest Plan is scientifically-sound and legally responsible and will provide a sustainable harvest. This plan also includes a new economic assistance program that helps local workers, businesses and communities in strengthening the region's economy by creating family-wage jobs, offering new economic opportunities, and ensuring the region's long-term economic health.

Again, thank you for sharing your concerns with me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Kathleen A. McGinty". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kathleen" and last name "McGinty" clearly legible.

Kathleen A. McGinty
Director, White House Office on
Environmental Policy

KAM/avl

16819 NE 84th St
Liberty, MO 64068

September 2, 1993

Kathleen McGinty
Director, Office of Environmental Policy
Room 350, Old Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20501

Dear Ms. McGinty:

We are writing to comment on President Clinton's plan for the ancient forests of the Pacific Northwest, Alternative 9 in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on Management of Habitat within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl.

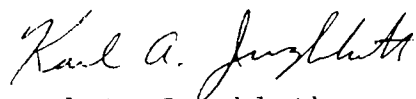
Although we are encouraged by portions of the plan, it must be strengthened to protect fish and wildlife species and provide sustainable Ancient Forest ecosystems in the Pacific Northwest. The proposed Ancient Forest Reserves include a high percentage of the prime old growth forests, but the Reserves **must also prohibit** all logging activities, including road building and salvage operations.

The Allowable Sales Quantity needs to be lowered below 1 billion board feet to ensure sustainable levels for the Ancient Forests. Elimination of raw log exports would make this number more easily attainable, and would provide timber for the mills of the Pacific Northwest.

We are pleased that the plan ensures high viability for the northern spotted owl and the marbled murrelet. However, the plan must also ensure high viability of fish and other wildlife species as stated in the National Forest Management Act. It is also time to protect, not study, ancient forests east of the Cascades and in the Sierra Nevada.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in decisions affecting our public lands. We encourage strengthening of the Ancient Forests plan based upon scientifically sound recommendations by groups such as the National Audubon Society and the Wilderness Society. The plan must also be sufficiently strong to prevent overriding of environmental laws by Congress.

Sincerely,



Karl A. Jungbluth



Carmen L. Jungbluth