

## Oregon Board of Forestry

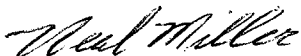
Gentlemen:

A few years ago, when Giustina Land and Timber Company was planning to spray a section of their forestland across from our rural home, I met with their chief forester at the site. He explained the business model Giustina uses in their harvesting operations: clear-cut, spray, re-plant, and spray again. The forester admitted to me that this practice sometimes had to be repeated two or three times because of the high clay content in the soils and the semi-drought conditions in this area, conditions that are destined to get worse due to climate change.

I pointed to our 135 acre parcel across the road and told the forester that we have been selective cutting our timber since we purchased the property in 1988, generating a reasonable but steady cash flow. We have never have to spray or replant, yet we sustain a healthy mixed-age growth of Douglas Fir and our forest sustains a wide variety of plant and wildlife. I suggested that the forester consider this business model because it is certainly less expensive than the spray-and-re-plant model he was advocating. Speaking as a businessman, it made sense to consider a more profitable model. The forester became immediately defensive and would not even discuss the matter. His response was, "This is our business model, and this is what we do."

Since moving to our property south of Eugene, this area has become much more populated and many of the families have children. In that respect it differs from more remote timber properties where timber companies have used the same business model for decades. The use of pesticides in populated areas such as ours has been proven to cause serious health problems. I therefore urge the board to consider this selective cutting alternative in areas where families live in close proximity to timber lands.

Sincerely,



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