

WHAT ARE PEOPLE DOING ABOUT IT?

The devastation of the Elliott is something that is constantly addressed by environmentalists and media. For many years, Cascadia Wildlands, CFD and other groups have led hikes, organized letter writing campaigns and raised awareness about the forest. In 2009, Cascadia Forest Defenders blockaded Umpcoos Ridge, a sale slated for clearcut. In 2011, CFD set up three blockades and a tree sit to raise public awareness and stall road construction on the West Fork of the Millicoma. The aforementioned lawsuit was filed in 2012, and settled this year canceling 11 timber sales. CFD has done dozens of actions, hikes and public speaking events to oppose the continued assault on the Elliott. We continue to fundraise and recruit for our fight to return the Elliott to a quiet state of wilderness.



WHAT YOU CAN DO...

Put pressure on Governor Kitzhaber to discourage the privatization of our public lands:
(503) 378-4582

WHO WE ARE

Cascadia Forest Defenders are the last line of defense between the forest and the sawmills. We work to end ecologically devastating logging practices through grassroots organizing and non-violent direct action. We also offer training and resources to other groups working for environmental and social justice.

We are based out of Eugene, Oregon, where we hold weekly meetings.

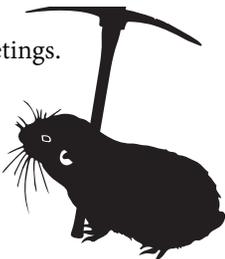
To plug in, sign up on our email list and get the latest updates:

ForestDefenseNow@gmail.com

check out our website:

FORESTDEFENSENOW.COM

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**CASCADIA
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DEFENDERS**

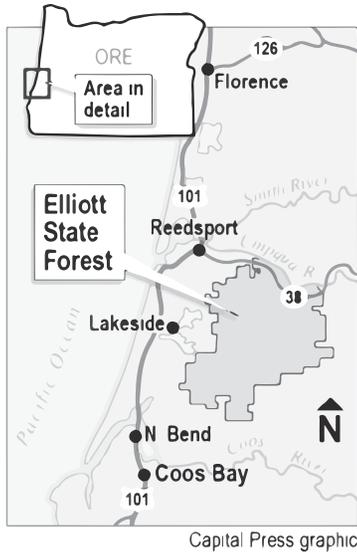
THE ELLIOTT STATE FOREST

WHAT WE ARE LOSING



WHAT IS THE ELLIOTT STATE FOREST?

The Elliott State Forest is a 93,000 acre tract of coastal rainforest. The Elliott is managed by the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) to maximize profits for the Common School Fund. ODF takes its direction from a group of politicians called the State Land Board, comprised of Governor Kitzhaber, Secretary of State Kate Brown, and State Treasurer Ted Wheeler. The Elliott is home to a checkerboard landscape of complex ancient forest, timber farms and clear cuts; showcasing the best and the worst of what our state has to offer.



Located in both Douglas and Coos County south of the Umpqua River.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY 'NATIVE' FOREST?

We use the 'native forest' to describe wild lands and ecosystems that have never been logged. Other terms to describe this are 'native' or 'ancient'. The coast has been even harder hit by industrial logging than other regions of the Pacific Northwest. By some estimates, less than 3% of the coast range has never been touched by logging and remains 'native'.

IS THERE OLD GROWTH?

The short answer is: Yes! While the Oregon Department of Forestry claims that there is no old growth logging in the Elliott, sales frequently contain pockets of old growth. Most trees in the Elliott, however, are "mature growth" trees that grew back naturally after the Coos Bay settlers fire burned most of the forest to the ground in 1868.

HOW MUCH ARE THEY CUTTING?

Up until 2012, companies like Seneca Jones and Roseburg Forest Products were able to cut up to 850 acres a year. That's almost 1% of the forest annually! In 2012 a lawsuit was filed, challenging ODF management practices regarding the endangered Marbled Murrelet. Once the lawsuit began, cutting was halted for a year and a half. The lawsuit was settled out of court in February 2014, canceling 28 timber sales and promising new management practices in regards to endangered species. With the lawsuit wrapped up, its back to business as usual for 2014 onward. We aren't sure yet how much ODF will be allowed to cut, but we will be watching.

WHAT PLANTS & ANIMALS LIVE THERE

The Elliott is home to a variety of native trees, berries, lichen, and fungi. The fauna includes: cougars, bears, elk, mountain beavers, salmon, marbled murrelets (endangered), and spotted owls (endangered).

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE WHEN THEY CLEAR-CUT?

The terrain in the Elliott is often nearly vertical. Companies clearcut on steep slopes, leaving nothing to prevent land from sliding into the salmon - bearing streams. After a clearcut, ODF sprays herbicides to clear the land of anything that might compete with the next crop of Douglas Fir saplings. In the absence of other green life, elk and mountain beavers will eat the saplings. ODF puts plastic guards and live traps around the saplings to 'prevent predation'.

THE STATE NEEDS MONEY FOR SCHOOLS RIGHT?

The Elliott is a tiny, tiny slice of the pie. The whole Common School Fund is worth 1.1 billion dollars. Logging in the Elliott last year contributed a meager \$7.7 million to that pot. CSF dished out 50.5 million dollars to school districts in 2010, which is still pennies next to Oregon's total spending on schools every year. The State's projected spending on K-12 education for the next two years is nearly six billion dollars. The state does need money for schools; the majority of profits from the timber industry, however, go to the timber industry, not to Oregon's school children.

TIMBER COUNTRY NEEDS THE JOBS, RIGHT?

Unemployment is a chronic issue in counties that rely on resource extraction. With the housing market crash and advances in technology jobs in timber are scarce. Timber towns on the coast are looking for more sustainable opportunities that won't leave them trapped in an economic boom-bust cycle. We support sustainable timber practices and state ban on the export of raw logs from private timber lands. Companies like Roseburg Forest Products have laid off hundreds in the last decade which is part of the larger trend within the industry. Two thousand timber jobs have been lost since 2009, alone.

WHAT IS IN DANGER RIGHT NOW?

Despite the successful lawsuit, timber sales filled with old forests are still being cut. Salander Between was cut in January of 2014. We expect more timber sales to be sold now that the lawsuit is settled. Even more alarming, the State Land Board has agreed to permanently privatize portions of the Elliott, and already auctioned off 1,451 acres in a competitive and open bid ending March 28th, 2014. Because of the nature of competitive bid, the only private entities that could afford these sales were timber companies. Scott Timber won the bids of two of the sales and Seneca Jones won the third. The purchase Seneca made is being contested in a lawsuit that argues all lands that were once National Park Lands cannot be privatized. We believe that these plans to privatize are a way for ODF and the State Land Board of Oregon to further evade environmental and economic responsibility.