

Dear Columbia River Gorge Commission,

Please accept the following comments on the draft revised Management Plan for the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

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The Management Plan's policies and guidelines for protection of are woefully out of date and do not present the best available science. There is not a single mention of climate change in the entire plan or any policies to lessen the impacts of climate change. The draft revised Management Plan must include climate actions to better protect the scenic, natural, cultural, and recreation resources of the Gorge, stop urban sprawl, and protect forests from human-caused wildfires.

Climate Change

Thank you for taking the first step toward addressing climate change by creating a "Climate Change" chapter in the Management Plan and proposing the future development of a climate action plan. However, climate adaptation and mitigation policies are necessary now to fulfill the purposes of the National Scenic Area Act and protect fish, wildlife, sensitive plants, and human health in the Gorge.

Please make the following changes to the draft Climate Change Chapter:

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Regards,
Janet Kimball
8051 28th Ave NE
Seattle, WA 98115

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Marshall C. Goldberg
3080 SW Raleighview Dr
Portland, OR 97225

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91 Wood Pl
Bloomingdale, NJ 07403

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Regards,
Debra Smith
14561 SE Garland Ln
Milwaukie, OR 97267

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Regards,
Michael Wilson
1405 SE Taylor St
Portland, OR 97214

Dear Columbia River Gorge Commission,

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20009 106th Ave NE
Bothell, WA 98011

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marguery zucker
1966 Orchard St
Eugene, OR 97403

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3300 Vensel Rd
Mosier, OR 97040

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3525 Red Cedar Way
Lake Oswego, OR 97035

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203 S Palater Rd
Portland, OR 97219

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Laurel Turner
11333 SE Powell Ct
Portland, OR 97266

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White Salmon, WA 98672

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18880 SW Hart Rd
Beaverton, OR 97007

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826 N Blandena St
Portland, OR 97217

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1644 SE Rex St
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Regards,
Linda Curry
253 Crescent Dr
Kelso, WA 98626

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Carol Clark
3221 NE Schuyler St
Portland, OR 97212

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Zach Wagner
7829 N Denver Ave
Portland, OR 97217

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Reduce urban sprawl!
Protect habitat!

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Suzan Heglin
5660 SW 6th Ave
Camas, WA 98607

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Clint Landeen
380 S Holly St
Canby, OR 97013

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Tika Bordelon
1400 Hubbell Pl
Seattle, WA 98101

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3712 NW Sandpiper Dr
Woodland, WA 98674

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Derek Gendvil
9030 W Sahara Ave
Las Vegas, NV 89117

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tina doran
3405 SW 12th Ave
Portland, OR 97239

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11338 SW 91st Ct
Tigard, OR 97223

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9329 NW Old Skyline Blvd

Portland, OR 97231

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Grant Fujii
5906 N Depauw St
Portland, OR 97203

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3712 SE 9th Ave
Portland, OR 97202

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316 E 13th St
The Dalles, OR 97058

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4050 SW Bancroft St
Portland, OR 97221

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6405 N Burrage Ave
Portland, OR 97217

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2335 NE 24th Ave
Portland, OR 97212

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31 NW 22nd Pl
Portland, OR 97210

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7314 N Williams Ave
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258 A St
Ashland, OR 97520

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4304 SE 103rd Ave
Portland, OR 97266

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1089 W Yapoah Crater Dr
Sisters, OR 97759

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631 NW 18th Loop
Camas, WA 98607

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1500 SW Park Ave
Portland, OR 97201

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Haris wolfgang
60 Wheatherstone
Lake Oswego, OR 97035

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mary n

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Vancouver, WA 98683

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255 N Forest St
Bellingham, WA 98225

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Portland, OR 97202

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Port Townsend, WA 98368

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Ray Donheiser
PO Box 662
Condon, OR 97823

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Jacob Meyer
908 Sun Tillikum
North Bonneville, WA 98639

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921 NW 115th Cir
Vancouver, WA 98685

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5602 SE Lexington St
Portland, OR 97206

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203 S Palater Rd
Portland, OR 97219

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Kat Grammer
4330 Dog River Rd
Mount Hood, OR 97041

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George Cummings
3816 NE 17th Ave
Portland, OR 97212

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ed moye
70 W 30th Ave
Eugene, OR 97405

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1915 NE 70th Ave
Portland, OR 97213

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4343 NE 49th Ave
Portland, OR 97218

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Portland, OR 97201

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44 Eagle Crest Dr
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Wood Village, OR 97060

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Camas, WA 98607

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Portland, OR 97211

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Portland, OR 97213

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Nora Polk
6405 SE 62nd Ave
Portland, OR 97206

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8125 NE Wygant St
Portland, OR 97218

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417 17th St
Hood River, OR 97031

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1825 Fairmount Ave S
Salem, OR 97302

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20420 Marine Dr
Stanwood, WA 98292

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JL Angell
2391 Ponderosa Rd
Rescue, CA 95672

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Barbara Branham
3070 SW Garden View Ave
Portland, OR 97225

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320 Columbia Dr
Lyle, WA 98635

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185 NE Snohomish Ave
White Salmon, WA 98672

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Port Orchard, WA 98366

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Mern Blagg
1410 Z St
Vancouver, WA 98661

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Patricia Always
10511 W Kingswood Cir
Sun City, AZ 85351

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1103 SE 21st Ct
Gresham, OR 97080

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Portland, OR 97218

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6281 SE Deering Ct
Milwaukie, OR 97222

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Maxine Sheets-Johnstone
330 King St
Yachats, OR 97498

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Polly Wood
408 Cascade Ave
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308 E Republican St
Seattle, WA 98102

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2132 W 14th Ct
Eugene, OR 97402

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3322 NE 127th Ave
Portland, OR 97230

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3398 SE Waverleigh Blvd
Portland, OR 97202

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4019 SW Hillisdale Ave
Portland, OR 97239

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2398 Hillside Ln
Lake Oswego, OR 97034

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Mabsie Walters
2405 NE 25th Ave
Portland, OR 97212

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5914 SE King Rd
Portland, OR 97222

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2141 NW Walmer Dr
Portland, OR 97229

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Nancy McKimens
6508 SW Barnes Rd
Portland, OR 97225

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5035 N Depauw St
Portland, OR 97203

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926 SE Sellwood Blvd
Portland, OR 97202

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2014 NE Brazee St
Portland, OR 97212

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michael Ryan
2891 SW Fairview Blvd
Portland, OR 97205

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2744 NE 26th Ave
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101 W 2nd St
The Dalles, OR 97058

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3506 SE 15th Ave
Portland, OR 97202

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Deborah Ferrer
900 W 18th St
The Dalles, OR 97058

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Portland, OR 97203

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Teresa Allen
6184 N Fork Rd
Deming, WA 98244

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2545 S Terwillinger Blvd
Portland, OR 97201

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Lois Bancroft

50 Moore Rd

White Salmon, WA 98672

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12111 NE 4th St
Vancouver, WA 98684

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305 NE 80th Ave
Portland, OR 97213

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6134 NE Alameda St
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Portland, OR 97212

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1027 Columbia St
Hood River, OR 97031

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9916 NE 39th Ave
Vancouver, WA 98686

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111 Alder Springs Rd
Lyle, WA 98635

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Beaverton, OR 97008

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38835 Historic Columbia River Hwy
Corbett, OR 97019

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Rachael Pappano
330 River Rd
Mattawamkeag, ME 04459

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Marianne Brevard
880 Methodist Rd
Hood River, OR 97031

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Vancouver, WA 98686

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1538 Pine St
Lake Oswego, OR 97034

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3587 SE Grant St
Portland, OR 97214

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Steve Erickson
720 Cherryview Ln
White Salmon, WA 98672

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185 NE Snohomish Ave
White Salmon, WA 98672

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601 State St
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204 Ridgelawn Dr
Athens, AL 35613

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1260 NW Naito Pkwy
Portland, OR 97209

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White Salmon, WA 98672

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435 E Exeter St
Gladstone, OR 97027

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2611 SW Georgian Pl
Portland, OR 97201

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Vancouver, WA 98660

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1760 Markham Rd
Hood River, OR 97031

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Vancouver, WA 98683

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812 W 8th St
The Dalles, OR 97058

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Portland, OR 97215

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3914 SE Licyntra Ln
Milwaukie, OR 97222

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826 SE Morgan Rd

Vancouver, WA 98664 <<http://admin.phone2action.com/email/open/leg/372592/90340521>>

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5410 SW Westdale Dr

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Regards,

Diane Craig

8525 SW Davies Rd

Beaverton, OR 97008 <<http://admin.phone2action.com/email/open/leg/372592/90357753>>

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Mary Hayden

18347 S Redland Rd

Oregon City, OR 97045 <<http://admin.phone2action.com/email/open/leg/372592/90372035>>

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Robin MacRae

1221 SW 10th Ave

Portland, OR 97205 <<http://admin.phone2action.com/email/open/leg/372592/90386599>>

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David Grant

211 Stanford Ave

Medford, OR 97504 <<http://admin.phone2action.com/email/open/leg/372592/90392879>>

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Miyoung Kwak

3129 NW Chapin Dr

Portland, OR 97229 <<http://admin.phone2action.com/email/open/leg/372592/90393151>>

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Regards,

Julia Bergren

11540 SW 43rd Ave

Portland, OR 97219 <<http://admin.phone2action.com/email/open/leg/372592/90394056>>

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Regards,

Carole Onasch

3306 SE 76th Ave

Portland, OR 97206 <<http://admin.phone2action.com/email/open/leg/372592/90416496>>

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Regards,

Kelly O'Hanley

6134 NE Alameda St

Portland, OR 97213 <<http://admin.phone2action.com/email/open/leg/372592/90421571>>

Dear Columbia River Gorge Commission,

The Columbia River Gorge is one of Oregon's treasures, something I encourage all visitors to see and experience. The Management Plan should help protect the Gorge for what it is, and help ensure it can be enjoyed by future generations.

I urge you to adopt the changes recommended by Friends of the Columbia Gorge, especially those related to habitat protection, stream buffers, and restrictions on new residential development, and please prohibit any new fossil fuel infrastructure.

Thank you, and please add my comments to the official record.

Regards,

Chris Eykamp

2101 SE Tibbetts St

Portland, OR 97202 <<http://admin.phone2action.com/email/open/leg/372592/90424612>>

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Adina Parsley

20420 Marine Dr

Stanwood, WA 98292 <<http://admin.phone2action.com/email/open/leg/372592/90426751>>

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Regards,

Kate Evans

2398 Hillside Ln

Lake Oswego, OR 97034 <<http://admin.phone2action.com/email/open/leg/372592/90447435>>

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Regards,

John Edwardsen

4019 SW Hillsdale Ave

Portland, OR 97239 <<http://admin.phone2action.com/email/open/leg/372592/90519268>>

Dear Columbia River Gorge Commission,

Modifications need to be made to the Management Plan for the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area

These include:

Forbid any expansion of the urban growth boundaries. This is a Pandora's box; once cities are allowed to expand into protected land, when will it stop? In 50 years 84 could be a shopping mall corridor from Hood River to The Dalles. If "minor" revisions are allowed, limit these to 10 acres cumulative.

Stop all clear cutting in the NSA. Any other logging allowed must require a 200-foot protective buffer on each side of all streams in the National Scenic Area. Do not allow any conversion of forest lands to residential or agricultural uses.

Specifically forbid any commercial logging of burned forests. The science is clear; such salvage logging is nothing more than an excuse for the timber companies to profit at the forest's expense.

Expand protections for the Columbia River, wetlands, ponds, lakes and wildlife habitat.

Prohibit any loss of wetlands by applying a "no loss" standard to wetlands protections. This standard needs to be applied to the GMA.

Thank you considering these comments.

Regards,
David Michalek
25 Eugene St
Hood River, OR 97031

Dear Columbia River Gorge Commission,

Friends of the Gorge has good comments below with which I agree completely. Please do all you can to preserve this unique jewel of river and valley.

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Regards,
Gisela Ray
10630 SE Clay St
Portland, OR 97216

Dear Columbia River Gorge Commission,

I am an Oregon native who has never forgotten the awe that the Columbia Gorge instilled in me during family outings as a child. Each time I return "home," I revisit the Gorge and feel that same awe again.

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Regards,
Daniel McGuire
28681 Emanuel St
Easton, MD 21601

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Regards,

Walt Mintkeski

6815 SE 31st Ave

Portland, OR 97202

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Regards,
Daniel Jaffee
4723 NE 14th Ave
Portland, OR 97211

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4723 NE 14th Ave
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Prohibit any loss of wetlands by applying a “no loss” standard to wetlands protections. This standard has been applied for nearly 30 years in the SMAs and needs to be applied to the GMA.

Wetland, Pond and Lake Buffers, Page 116:

Western pond turtles are listed as “endangered” in Washington and “sensitive/critical” in Oregon. Western Pond Turtles spend considerable time in terrestrial habitat and usually lay eggs 330 feet (100 meters) or more away from streams, ponds and lakes. The Management Plan only provides a 100-foot buffer for perennial streams and a 75-foot protective buffer for wetlands, ponds and lakes in forest habitat. Improve wetland, pond and lake buffers to protect endangered Western Pond Turtle nesting and rearing habitat by increasing buffers around suitable habitat for the only native turtle species in the Gorge. Increase protective buffers to a minimum of 330 feet. Guideline 2.A., Page 116.

Stream Buffers, Page 117:

To protect habitat for threatened and endangered trout and salmon populations within the National Scenic Area and to adapt to increased stream temperatures and changes to seasonal flows resulting

from climate change, increase protective stream buffers to a minimum of 200 feet in Guideline 2.B., Page 117.

Priority Habitat and Sensitive Wildlife Protection, Page 124:

To better protect at risk species in the Gorge, such as the American Pika, prohibit adverse effects to all Priority Habitats. For example, prohibit mining, logging and development within all suitable habitat for the Pika, especially talus slopes.

Thank you considering these comments and please make them part of the official record.

Regards,
Peter Christ
28818 NE Hancock Rd
Camas, WA 98607

Dear Columbia River Gorge Commission,

On behalf of my grandchildren and their peers and descendants: Thank you for taking your responsibility to protect the Gorge seriously.

Please accept the following comments on the draft revised Management Plan for the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

The Columbia River Gorge is a natural scenic treasure and home to nearly 70,000 people. The Gorge is also home to 800 species of flowering plants, 300 species of birds, five major ecosystems and dozens of species listed as sensitive, threatened or endangered. The Gorge provides essential habitat for 12 stocks of salmon listed as threatened or endangered on the federal and state endangered species lists.

The Management Plan's policies and guidelines for protection are woefully out of date and do not present the best available science. There is not a single mention of climate change in the entire plan or any policies to lessen the impacts of climate change. The draft revised Management Plan must include climate actions to better protect the scenic, natural, cultural, and recreation resources of the Gorge, stop urban sprawl, and protect forests from human-caused wildfires.

Climate Change

Thank you for taking the first step toward addressing climate change by creating a "Climate Change" chapter in the Management Plan and proposing the future development of a climate action plan. However, climate adaptation and mitigation policies are necessary now to fulfill the purposes of the National Scenic Area Act and protect fish, wildlife, sensitive plants, and human health in the Gorge.

Please make the following changes to the draft Climate Change Chapter:

Policy 1. Page 380:

Add a target for completion of the Climate Change Action Plan within one year of the adoption of the revised Management Plan.

Streams and riparian areas. Page 380:

Require a 200-foot protective buffer on each side of all fish-bearing streams in the National Scenic Area, particularly all streams providing habitat for salmon, pending completion of the Climate Change Action Plan. Link this requirement to the Natural Resources Chapter of the Management Plan, Guideline 2.B., Page 117. This standard has been applied for nearly 30 years in the Special Management Areas (SMAs) and needs to be applied to streams within the General Management Area (GMA) of the Gorge. Upon completion of the Climate Change Action Plan, review the 200-foot buffer requirement based on the best available science and improve the buffer protections if necessary.

Other water resources and wildlife habitat. Page 381:

In addition to stream buffers, add a priority to expand protections for the Columbia River, wetlands, ponds, lakes and wildlife habitat. Prohibit the loss or destruction of wetlands. Improve pond and lake buffers to protect endangered Western Pond Turtle nesting and rearing habitat. Improve policies to protect unique low elevation habitat for the American Pika from disturbances caused by mining, logging and development. Link these policies to the Natural Resource Chapter of the Management Plan.

Forest resources. Page 381:

To better provide for the mitigation of climate change through carbon sequestration, prevent the conversion of forest lands to residential and agricultural uses. If agricultural conversions are allowed, require full mitigation for the loss of forest land. Change “should” to “shall” regarding full mitigation for the loss of forest land. Revise Part II, Chapter 2 of the Management Plan to incorporate these changes.

Wildfire and limiting new dwellings in forest land. Page 381:

Climate change is causing increased frequency and severity of forest fires. To protect forest land, reduce the risk of human-caused fires, protect public safety and property and reduce risks to emergency responders, prioritize policies that limit new dwellings on forest lands. Develop policies to prohibit new forest dwellings on productive forest land. Limit new dwellings to Small Woodland zones on parcels that are not eligible for state forest tax assessment programs. Develop new siting and development standards to reduce the risks of fire. Revise Part II, Chapter 2 of the Management Plan to incorporate these measures.

Wildfire and recreation. Page 381:

Add a section to require coordinated temporary closure of recreation sites and trails when there is an extreme risk of fire, such as the conditions that existed when the Eagle Creek fire was ignited in 2017.

Fossil fuel infrastructure. Page 381:

Add a new policy to prioritize limits on the development and transportation of fossil fuels. For example, develop policies to prohibit new, or the expansion of, existing fossil fuel infrastructure development, such as pipelines to transport oil or fracked gas.

Urban Areas, Page 414

The National Scenic Area Act only allows minor revisions to the existing urban area boundaries in the 13 towns within the Columbia River Gorge. There currently is a large surplus of lands set aside for future urban growth. I strongly support new policies to limit urban sprawl by requiring a regional analysis of the development potential in all existing urban areas and defining “minor revision” to be up to 20 acres or 1% of the land area of the urban area, whichever is less. This policy must be cumulative over time.

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Thank you considering these comments and please make them part of the official record.

Regards,
Gregory Monahan
7225 SW 13th Ave
Portland, OR 97219