Dear Senator Merkley,

Enclosed are several hundred letters from your constituents regarding the proposed Pollalie Cooper Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project on Mt. Hood National Forest. Each letter is the result of a personal conversation we had as we canvassed for Bark, a grassroots organization that advocates for Mt. Hood National Forest to be managed for clean water, wildlife and quiet recreation.

The letters express several concerns about the proposed project, including its impacts on northern spotted owl critical habitat, impact to popular hiking and mountain biking trails, logging and road building in proposed wilderness, and impacts to the Crystal Springs watershed, but this doesn’t capture all we hear in our conversations.

As Bark canvassers, we talk to hundreds of people in Portland and the surrounding communities every day. We hear about peoples’ love of Mt. Hood National Forest and their surprise and concern that industrial logging still occurs on the mountain, especially when it affects beloved places like Cooper Spur & Tamanawas Falls. We hear peoples’ enthusiasm for a Forest Service that is no longer tied to timber output, and talk to them about how you, as a US Senator, could help change the direction for the Forest Service.

While each of these letters may be the same, please know that they all represent an individual who cares about Mt. Hood National Forest, and calls upon you to act on its behalf.

Sincerely,

The Bark Canvass Team